



MYRTLE BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES

Subject: Less-Lethal Equipment & Techniques

Number: 273-B

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Rescinds: 208-A Chemical Sprays	Dated: 11-30-2005
220-A Less Lethal Shotgun	05-19-2015
238-G Taser Use	02-17-2011
259-A Pepperball Launching System	11-05-2010
273 Less-Lethal Equipment & Techniques	03-20-2017
273-A Less-Lethal Equipment & Techniques	02-12-2021

Approved By:

I. INTRODUCTION

The Myrtle Police Department is committed to upholding the constitutions and laws of the United States and South Carolina as well as the ordinances of the City of Myrtle Beach. In order to accomplish their mission of protecting human life, protecting property, and maintaining civil order, police officers will always treat individuals with respect and dignity with the goal of voluntary compliance thereby minimizing uses of force as a means to an end. Nevertheless, some individuals will not, in turn, treat officers with mutual respect requiring officers to use force to accomplish their mission. This policy applies to less-lethal uses of force by police officers. The reporting requirements thereof are guided by Policy 206.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. ASP: A baton that is designed to establish control by means of mechanical impact.
- B. De-Escalation Techniques: Typically, these are verbal actions used by officers to calm subjects in order to gain voluntary compliance and prevent, or minimize, the likelihood of the need to use force. Another common technique is for a backup officer to step into the contact officer position in order to redirect a subject's attention from the initial contact officer upon which he or she may have focused his or her anger.

- C. Beanbag Rounds: Beanbag rounds fired from a shotgun are an example of a less-lethal extended range impact weapons.
- D. Hard Empty-Hand Control: Techniques that use empty-handed strikes, such as knee strikes, elbow strikes, and punches, which strike targeted pressure points as well as takedowns to include leg sweeps in order to gain control of a subject.
- E. Hog-Tying: Tethering a subject's hands and feet together behind their back. This technique has been shown to contribute to positional asphyxia resulting in death, and is, therefore, strictly prohibited.
- F. Less-Lethal Equipment: Devices designed to temporarily incapacitate a person with less likelihood of causing serious physical injury or death.
- G. Neck Restraints: These methods establish control through pain compliance and strangulation. Neck restraints are considered deadly force and are strictly prohibited as less-lethal control techniques.
- H. OC Spray: A lachrymatory agent, which irritates the eyes causing tears, pain, and closing of the eyes, used to temporarily incapacitate a subject.
- I. Pepperball Launching System: A non-lethal chemical delivery system that uses high pressure air launchers to deliver projectiles from a distance.
- J. Positional Asphyxiation: A breathing restricted position, which may result in death from suffocation. Officers should be aware that a subject can suffocate when lying on his or her chest, especially after physical exertion, e.g., after resisting arrest, from his or her own body weight, which can be further exacerbated by officers sitting or lying on top of the subject. If a subject ends up in this position after resisting arrest or otherwise, officers should remove them from this position as soon as it is safe to do so.
- K. Serious Injury Force: This is any force that could, when applied, cause a personal injury, which results in death or a substantial risk of death, dismemberment, significant disfigurement, a fracture, the loss of a fetus, or the permanent loss, or significant impairment, of use of a body organ, member, function or system.
- L. Soft Empty-Hand Control: These techniques are not impact oriented, and are used to gain temporary control via pain compliance using pressure points, and joint locks.
- M. Taser: A device used to temporarily incapacitate a subject using electro-muscular disruption technology; in other words, it uses an electrical signal to

temporarily override the central nervous system and directly control skeletal muscles thereby causing an uncontrollable contraction of the muscle tissue.

- N. Use of Force: Force means the application of any physical control technique by an officer in performance of official duties.
- O. Verbal Commands & De-Escalation: The use of verbal communication to calm and control individuals and scenes with the goal of gaining voluntary compliance.

III. TRAINING

- A. All sworn officers, both police and detention, shall be trained in this policy and shall demonstrate competency with its provisions.
- B. No officer shall carry or use less-lethal equipment until they have completed and passed a course of instruction by an appropriate, certified instructor.
- C. The Training Section shall be responsible for maintaining a current use of force training curriculum and records of all training and competency testing for all sworn officers.
- D. Any officer determined to have discharged less-lethal equipment as a result of an accident or negligence will be required to undergo remedial training.
- E. All officers, police and detention, shall receive training in verbal de-escalation techniques in furtherance of our mission of gaining voluntary compliance thereby minimizing uses of force.
- F. Frequent training is the key to consistent and lawful application of less lethal force. Training will be conducted in the following frequency schedule:
 - Taser/Electronic control device Annual training
 - Less lethal shotgun Every 2 years
 - Chemical sprays Every 2 years
 - ASP/Baton Every 2 years
 - PepperBall Every 2 years
 - Weaponless control tactics Every 2 years

IV. TYPES OF RESISTANCE

- A. Subjects may resist detention and arrest in different ways, and their manner of resistance dictates the officer's response. *An officer may use only that force which is reasonably necessary to overcome the level of*

resistance to secure a subject, or to stop a direct threat of harm posed by a subject.

1. Verbal & Non-Verbal Non-Compliance: The subject may express, verbally or non-verbally, his or her displeasure with detention or arrest, and offer no resistance. Examples of verbal displeasure include pleading or proclaiming innocence. Example of non- verbal displeasure are gestures, stances, and mannerisms. The subject may, however, express, verbally or non-verbally, his or her intentions not to comply with detention or arrest thereby showing his or her intent to passively, defensively or aggressively resist. An example of non-verbal, aggressive resistance is a subject assuming a fighting stance.
2. Passive Resistance: The subject does not take action to prevent being taken into custody, but does not cooperate with an officer's commands, such as to stand or to walk to a transport vehicle thereby requiring an officer or officers to lift and to carry the subject.
3. Defensive Resistance: The subject takes physical actions to prevent being taken into custody. The actions include, but are not limited to, locking their arms to prevent handcuffing, fleeing, and locking themselves in a vehicle. Their actions do not present a risk of immediate danger to the officer or others.
4. Aggressive Resistance: The subject takes actions that pose a serious threat or pose some risk of immediate danger to officers or others.

V. TYPES OF CONTROL

- A. Officers are required to assume control upon arrival at a scene whether it's an accident, a civil disturbance or criminal in nature. More often than not this is accomplished via their professional appearance, i.e., citizens' respect for authority, their verbal commands, and even their use of verbal de-escalation techniques. There are, however, times when subjects ignore or resist lawful commands, detention and arrest requiring officers to do more. In those situations, an officer may use only that force which is reasonably necessary to overcome the level of resistance to secure a subject, or to stop a direct threat of harm posed by a subject.

1. Officer Presence:
 - a. Professional Presence: Most citizens respond to visible symbols of lawful authority, such as a uniform, badge, and marked police vehicle. It is, therefore, especially important that plain clothes officers present a visible symbol of authority prior to taking enforcement action in order to prevent, or minimize, resistance to lawful actions and commands.

- b. Verbal Commands & De-Escalation: Clear and calm commands are essential to effectively communicate with victims, witnesses, subjects and innocent bystanders. Certain scenes and certain individuals will require further de-escalation techniques to calm those on scene in order to gain voluntary compliance.
- 2. Physical Control Techniques: Physical control techniques are actions taken by an officer that are purely physical in nature and do not include the use of less-lethal or lethal weapons or equipment.
 - a. Soft Empty-Hand Control: These techniques are not impact oriented, and include pain compliance pressure points, and joint locks.
 - b. Hard Empty-Hand Control Techniques: These techniques include redirection to the ground, and strikes with the hand, fist, forearm, elbow, head, shoulder, leg, knee or foot.
 - c. Control strikes are used to get a subject under control and include strikes targeted to pressure point areas such as the common peroneal (side of the leg), radial nerve (top of the forearm), or brachial plexus (side of neck).
 - d. Prohibited Physical Control Techniques: These techniques include neck restraints and hog-tying and are prohibited as less-lethal control techniques as they have been demonstrated to have potentially lethal outcome.
- 3. Less-Lethal Equipment
 - a. OC Spray;
 - b. Taser;
 - c. ASP Baton;
 - d. Pepperball Launching System;
 - e. Less-Lethal Shotguns.
- 4. Lethal Uses of Force
 - a. Lethal force is any of force that is reasonably likely to cause death or serious bodily harm. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of a firearm, striking the head with an ASP baton, neck restraints or setting a “dead man” roadblock during a vehicle pursuit.

VI. LESS-LETHAL EQUIPMENT & TECHNIQUES

A. Equipment

- 1. All officers that work a uniform street assignment or in the Detention Center, whether a permanent shift or a temporary assignment, such as a

parade detail, will carry a minimum of two forms of less-lethal equipment while on duty.

B. Considerations Before Using Less-Lethal

1. Mental illness is to be considered differently than criminal activity as less force is justified than in a criminal arrest. When an officer's sole justification for the seizure of a subject is preventing harm to the subject, the officer has little interest in using force to effect that seizure.
2. An officer must reasonably believe that use of less-lethal equipment, such as the Taser, the asp, OC Spray, pepperball launching system and less-lethal shotguns, will mitigate the immediate danger, that is, the subject is capable of voluntary compliance to commands.
3. An officer must give the subject warning of imminent application of force. If a subject fails to comply after being warned, in order to forewarn fellow officers and innocent bystanders, an officer, time permitting, must shout:
 - a. "Taser, Taser, Taser";
 - b. "OC, OC, OC";
 - c. "Launching Pepperball"; or
 - d. "Firing bean bag" prior to deploying the less-lethal weapon.

C. Decision to Use Less-Lethal

1. An officer should not use serious injury force, i.e., less-lethal equipment and techniques, to gain compliance from a person, who is exhibiting only minimally risky physical resistance and who is not a serious threat or posing some risk of immediate danger to officers or others and not just the subject, himself or herself.
 - a. Examples of minimally risky physical resistance, which do not justify the use of serious injurious force include:
 - i. An arrestee refusing to enter an officer's car is not a sufficient threat to the arresting officer to justify physically striking the arrestee (*Rambo*);
 - ii. An arrestee pulling her arm away when an officer attempted to grab her (*Smith*);
 - iii. An arrestee yanking his arm away from officer does not justify being tackled (*Goodson*).

D. Consideration After Using Less-Lethal

1. After using less-lethal force, an officer must give a subject time to recover from the pain, an opportunity to gather himself or herself, and an opportunity to reconsider his or her refusal to comply. In other words, before using force, again, an officer must determine whether the subject is now willing to comply.

E. Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray

1. OC Spray is designed to temporarily incapacitate a subject that poses a serious threat or poses some risk of immediate danger to officers or others and not just the subject, himself or herself.
2. Certified police officers and certified detention officers will only carry and use OC Spray issued to them by the department. If a canister of OC Spray is fully depleted or expires, it will be returned to the Property & Evidence Section for resupply.
3. While OC Spray can provide control with minimal risk of injury, certain geographical and environmental conditions can cause unintended, dangerous results. Officers must, therefore, always evaluate the conditions under which they dispense OC Spray, and may not use OC Spray in the following circumstances:
 - a. On a handcuffed prisoner, unless physical control techniques are demonstrably insufficient at lawfully controlling subject aggressive resistance.
 - b. On a person in control of a motorize vehicle, such as a motor vehicle, moped, golf cart or ATV, where it could cause them to crash injuring them or others.
 - c. While detention officers may use the pepper foam in the jail, police officers may not use their pepper spray in medical and detention facilities because it could force an evacuation of the facilities, which are very difficult to evacuate.
 - d. In a flammable environment, where the OC Spray could be ignited to include, but not limited to, after deployment of a Taser, on a subject that is smoking, or where there is an open flame in close proximity, such as a BBQ or lantern.
 - e. At a location where a subject could fall causing serious injury, such as stairs, a balcony, etc.
 - f. On individuals where the results could be exacerbated, such as pregnant women, children under 13, the elderly, and

those with disabilities, acute or chronic, for example, someone using oxygen.

4. Once OC Spray is dispensed and lawful control over a subject is established, officers will immediately notify their supervisor of the use of force and the need for OC Spray decontamination upon arrival. The transport officer will then, without delay, transport the subject to the jail for decontamination. If a subject exhibits symptoms of distress beyond those normally encountered, such as respiratory distress, anaphylactic shock, or a seizure, or if a subject is injured from a fall or otherwise, officers will initiate first aid and summon emergency medical services.
5. Decontamination involves the non-emergent, yet expedited, removal of the residual irritants of the OC Spray upon a subject's arrival at the jail.
 - a. Upon arrival at the jail, the subject should be searched for weapons and contraband and then moved to a decontamination site without delay.
 - b. The decontamination site should provide fresh water, an irritant remover, such as soap, dish detergent, or baby shampoo, and a clean towel.
 - c. The subject should be instructed on decontamination procedures:
 - i. Wash face and decontaminated areas with water and soap (soap, dish detergent or baby shampoo).
 - ii. Pat-dry the skin, and do not rub.
 - iii. Eyes should be flushed with fresh, cool water. Commercial eyewashes should not be used.
 - iv. Decontaminated clothing should be rinsed with fresh water.
 - d. The subject should be monitored every 10-minutes for 1-hour. If any conditions exist after 1-hour, then emergency medical service should be called to treat and/or transport.

F. Tasers

1. Tasers are a use of serious injurious force and are designed to temporarily incapacitate a subject that poses a serious threat or poses a risk of immediate danger to officers or others. A Taser may be used on someone who is physically resisting arrest and poses an immediate danger to the officer(s) or the public. A Taser should

not be used on someone who is passively resisting arrest or exhibiting defensive resistance behaviors. For example, a Taser should not be used on someone who refuses to get up and comply with an order/arrest.

2. Tasers incapacitate subject by using electro-muscular disruption or Neuromuscular incapacitation technology, which uses an electrical signal to temporarily override the sensory and motor nerves of the central nervous system and directly control skeletal muscles thereby causing an uncontrollable contraction of the muscle tissue.
3. Police officers and detention officers will only carry and use Tasers issued to them by the department.
 - a. Uniform Patrol officers and Detention Officers will be issued one Taser, one holster, one cartridge holster, and cartridges. Other officers will be issued Tasers at the direction of their division captain. Any officer with an issued Taser, will store them at home inaccessible to family members, roommates or others.
 - b. Detention officers may carry a Taser on their person while working the jail provided there are, a minimum of, two detention officers present in the jail. Detention officers carrying Tasers will only enter jail cells when there is at least one (1) additional officer present.
 - c. Detention transport officers may carry a Taser, even absent a second detention officer present, while they are transporting prisoners.
 - d. Officers will perform a function test or spark test, depending on the model, and check the remaining battery charge at the beginning of each shift.
 - i. When the battery drops below a charge of 20% for Taser models using batteries, officers will get a replacement battery from the Taser armorer.
 - ii. Officers issued Taser models utilizing rechargeable batteries will place the battery pack on the charger every 30 days.
 - e. Officers will inspect their Taser and accessories. Any defects or damage will be reported to the Taser armorer for repair or replacement. Additionally, expired cartridges will be given to the Taser armorer for replacement.

- f. A Taser shall be worn either on the Officer's duty belt or on their outer vest carrier. If worn on the belt, the Taser will be carried on the opposite side of their duty weapon in a cross draw position for the officer to retrieve with their weapon hand, or conventional for the officer to draw with their non-weapon hand. If worn on their outer vest carrier, the Taser holster shall be in cross draw position for the weapon hand only.
4. Taser Use - In addition to the factors outline above, VII. A-D:
- a. Only one officer may use a Taser on a subject at the same time.
 - b. Officers will never aim the Taser at a subject's face, eyes or groin.
 - c. The Taser fires two probes up to a distance of 21 feet, and the probes will penetrate through up to two inches of clothing. Officers will aim at center mass using either the laser sight or the open sights. If the Taser is equipped with laser sights, the top probe will follow the green laser, and the bottom probe will follow the red laser. If the Taser is not equipped with laser sights, the top probe will follow the sights, and the bottom probe will travel at an 8-degree downward angle below the sighted area.
 - d. The Drive Stun application is discouraged unless there are situations in which the probe deployment is not possible. Drive Stun should only be used in situations where it will bring the subject under complete control because it forces the officer into very close proximity to the subject creating a heightened risk of injury to officers.
 - e. The Taser is programmed to give a 5-second electrical current. An officer can shorten this time, but may only extend it as directed below.
 - f. After each cycle of the Taser, the officer will re-evaluate the level of resistance, if any, offered by the subject. If the resistance has stopped or has become passive or defensive in nature, use of the Taser will be discontinued and physical control techniques will be used.
 - g. If, after the initial cycle of the Taser, the subject's resistance continues to pose reasonable risks of injury to an officer attempting to apply physical control techniques, the officer may use a second cycle on the subject or opt for a different method

to control the subject based upon his or her evaluation of the subject, e.g., Taser had zero effect.

- h. If, after the second cycle of the Taser, the subject's level of resistance still poses reasonable risks of injury to an officer attempting to apply physical control techniques, the officer may consider a third cycle of the Taser or opt for a different method to control the subject based upon his or her evaluation of the subject. If the officer opts for a 3rd cycle, he or she should attempt to expand the area of neuro- muscular disruption by touching the conducting area of the device to a large muscle group further away from the location of the probes.
- i. If, after the third cycle of the Taser, the subject cannot be controlled by physical control techniques without reasonable risk of injury to the officer, the officer will utilize a different piece of less-lethal equipment or physical control technique to gain control.

5. After Taser Use & Medical Attention

- a. Once a subject is safely detained, officers will notify Dispatch of the time of the Taser use, and request emergency medical services (EMS). EMS will treat the subject at the incident location unless the subject needs to be moved for his or her safety.
- b. If a subject is injured, officers will render first aid until the arrival of emergency medical services.
- c. If the probes have not penetrated the subject's skin, such as the outer clothing only, any officer may gather the probes.
- d. If the Taser probes have penetrated the subject's skin, then only a Taser certified officer may remove them while wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, such as latex gloves, unless the probes penetrated one of the following areas, then the subject must be transported to a medical facility for removal:
 - i. The face;
 - ii. The head;
 - iii. The female breast; or
 - iv. The genitalia or groin area.

- 6. While Tasers can provide control with minimal risk of injury, certain geographical and environmental conditions can cause, and

certain person may receive, unintended, dangerous results. Officers must, therefore, always evaluate the conditions before using a Taser, and may not use a Taser in the following circumstances:

- a. On a handcuffed prisoner, unless physical control techniques are demonstrably insufficient at lawfully controlling subject resistance or aggression.
- b. On a person in control of a motorize vehicle, such as a motor vehicle, moped, golf cart or ATV, where it could cause them to crash injuring them or others.
- c. In a flammable environment, where the use of a Taser could ignite a flammable substance, such as in a meth lab, after OC Spray was used or anytime the environment or subject could ignite because of the presence of a flammable agent.
- d. At a location where a subject could fall causing serious injury, such as stairs, a balcony, etc.
- e. On individuals where the results could be exacerbated, such as pregnant women, children under 13, the elderly, and the infirm, for example, someone using oxygen.
- f. On subjects exhibiting signs of a medical condition, such as labored breathing, sweating, or signs of distress, visibly under the influence of drugs, or exhibiting symptoms of excited delirium because of a heightened risk of sudden death.
- g. On a person holding a lethal weapon, such as a firearm.
- h. Dual deployment of a Taser and a firearm, i.e., holding a Taser in one hand and a firearm in the other, because of the potential for mixing less-lethal and lethal force.

G. ASP Expandable Baton (ASP)

- 1. The ASP is designed to temporarily incapacitate a subject that poses a serious threat or poses some risk of immediate danger to officers or others and not just the subject, himself or herself.
- 2. After passing appropriate training, certified police officers will be issued an ASP and holster, and will only carry and use the ASP issued to them by the department.

3. If an ASP or ASP holster becomes damaged or defective, such as bent, cracked, a sharp spur, or loose retention clip, it will be given to the ASP armor for repair or replacement.
4. Officers will use the ASP according to their training:
 - a. Officers will target only major muscle groups, such as the thigh, side of the buttocks, bicep, tricep, forearm, or calves.
 - b. Officers may use the baton to block attacks.
 - c. Unless faced with an immediate lethal threat to themselves or another, officers are prohibited from targeting a subject's head, neck, throat, chest, kidneys, center of the buttocks, spine, clavicle, or groin because of the risk of death or serious bodily injury.
 - d. Officers may position a baton in preparation to deliver strikes on an aggressive subject, but officers are not permitted to overtly brandish the collapsible baton in any manner for the express purpose of intimidation, such as crowd control.
5. After ASP Use & Medical Attention
 - a. Once a subject is safely detained, officers will notify Dispatch and their supervisor of the time of the ASP use.
 - b. If a subject is injured, or complains of injury, officers will summon EMS and will render first aid until the arrival of EMS
6. While the ASP can provide control with minimal risk of injury, certain conditions can cause, and certain person may receive, unintended, dangerous results. Officers must, therefore, always evaluate the conditions before using an ASP, and may not use an ASP in the following circumstances
 - a. On a handcuffed prisoner, unless physical control techniques are demonstrably insufficient at lawfully controlling subject aggressive resistance.
 - b. On a person in control of a motorize vehicle, such as a motor vehicle, moped, golf cart or ATV, where it could cause them to crash injuring them or others.
 - c. At a location where a subject could fall causing serious injury, such as stairs, a balcony, etc.
 - d. On individuals where the results could be exacerbated, such as pregnant women, children under 13, the elderly, and the handicapped.
 - e. On a person holding a lethal weapon, such as a firearm.

H. Pepperball Launching Systems (PLS)

1. incapacitate a subject or subjects, such as riotous crowds, that pose a serious threat or pose some risk of immediate danger to officers or others and not just the subject, himself or herself.
2. After passing appropriate training, certified police officers may sign-out via their supervisor a PLS and holster, and will only carry and use the PLS issued to them by the department.
 - a. PLS may be assigned to police officers who are certified and their vehicles are equipped with a trunk (sedan) or safe in their trunk or cargo area (SUV) where the PLS will be stored.
3. Officers must inspect their issued PLS. If the PLS or holster becomes damaged or defective, it will be given to the PLS armor for repair or replacement.
4. Officers should not deploy more pepperball rounds than necessary to gain control, and may not target a subject's:
 - a. Face;
 - b. Eyes;
 - c. Throat;
 - d. Groin; or
 - e. Spine.
5. Officers will target the center mass of the body, unless the suspect is wearing heavy clothing, then they may target less padded areas, such as, the legs and the arms, or the surfaces around the subject.
6. If an officer is confronted with a suspect that is armed, or suspected of being armed, with an edged or impact weapon, the officer may have deployed the PLS where safe, such as from a safe distance, provided there is, at least, one backup officer armed with a firearm to cover the officer using the PLS.
7. PLS may be used to disperse a crowd that presents a danger to officers or others. If a crowd fails to disburse as ordered, the PLS may be used to saturate the area using care to ensure that shots are not directed at individuals in the crowd.
8. After PLS Use & Medical Attention
 - a. Once a subject is safely detained, officers will notify Dispatch and their supervisor of the time of the PLS use.
 - b. If a subject is injured, or complains of injury, officers will summon EMS and will render first aid until the arrival of

EMS. The subject must be evaluated and cleared by EMS or the hospital, if transported, before he or she is transported to jail.

I. Shotguns Deploying Less-Lethal Rounds

1. Shotguns deploying less-lethal rounds, such as beanbags, are designed to temporarily incapacitate a subject that poses a serious threat or poses some risk of immediate danger to officers or others and not just the subject, himself or herself.
2. Less-lethal shotguns may be assigned to police officers who are certified and their vehicles are equipped with either gun racks or a safe in their trunk or cargo area where the less than lethal shotgun will be stored locked w/ the chamber empty until needed.
3. After appropriate training, police supervisors and officers will only carry and use shotguns and ammunition issued to them by the department.
4. Supervisors will be responsible for inspecting the shotguns, racks, locks and ammunition, and will report any damage or defects to the firearms armorer.
5. Officers will use less-lethal shotguns according to their training to include, but not limited to:
 - a. The primary target area for impact munitions is the lower extremities, i.e., the buttocks and thighs, and the secondary target areas are the abdomen and shoulders.
 - b. Officers will fire within a proximate range of 15-60 feet, to avoid a potential penetrating injury from being too close and a shot from going astray from being too far away.
6. While less-lethal shotguns can provide control with minimal risk of injury, certain conditions can cause, and certain person may receive, unintended, dangerous results. Officers must, therefore, always evaluate the conditions before using a less-lethal shotgun, and may not use less-lethal shotguns in the following circumstances:
 - a. On a handcuffed prisoner, unless physical control techniques are demonstrably insufficient at lawfully controlling subject aggressive resistance.
 - b. On a person in control of a motorize vehicle, such as a motor vehicle, moped, golf cart or ATV, where it could cause them to crash injuring them or others.

- c. At a location where a subject could fall causing serious injury, such as stairs, a balcony, etc.
- d. On individuals where the results could be exacerbated, such as pregnant women, children under 13, the elderly, and the handicapped.
- e. On a suspect that is armed, or suspected of being armed, with an edged or impact weapon, the officer may use a less-lethal shotgun where safe, such as from a safe distance, provided there is, at least, one backup officer armed with a firearm to cover the officer using the less-lethal shotgun.
- f. Inside a range of 10 feet while aimed at the head, neck, chest, spine or groin unless lethal force is warranted.

7. After Use & Medical Attention

- a. Once a subject is safely detained, officers will notify their supervisor and Dispatch of the time of the use of the less-lethal shotgun, and request emergency medical services (EMS).
- b. EMS will treat the subject at the incident location unless the subject needs to be moved for his or her safety. EMS will evaluate, treat and transport as they deem necessary.
- c. If a subject is injured, or complains of injuries, officers will render first aid until the arrival of EMS.

VII. Ingesting Drugs or Contraband

- A. Officers will not use any type of force to include less-lethal equipment and techniques to prevent a subject or prisoner from attempting to swallow or ingest any type of contraband or evidence, nor will officers attempt to forcibly remove items from a subject's mouth.
- B. If a subject or prisoner ingests drugs, contraband, evidence or an unknown substance, emergency medical services will be summoned to transport the subject or prisoner to a medical facility for the primary purpose of treatment.
- C. Officers seeking to recover contraband or evidence ingested, or otherwise secreted in a body cavity, must follow the Constitution, Laws, and Departmental Policies on searches and seizures keeping in mind medical treatment is of a higher priority.

VIII. Uses of Force Against Animals

- A. In the course of performing their duties, officers may encounter aggressive animals. Where such animals pose an immediate threat to the

safety of officers or the public through an attack, officers may use less-lethal or lethal weapons or equipment to prevent or end an attack. Officers should ensure that their choice of a force option does not endanger themselves, other officers or the public, e.g., a Taser should not be used against a canine in a meth lab due to volatile chemicals being present.

- B. In the absence of an Animal Control Officer, officers may use deadly force to euthanize an animal that is seriously or fatally injured when the officer reasonably believes that deadly force can be used without endangering other officers or the public. Officers must first contact their supervisor to review safety conditions and for approval before euthanizing an animal.

IX. Duty to intervene

- A. Any officer who is present in a situation, and who reasonably believes another officer is using force in violation of the law or departmental policy, has a duty to intervene to stop the unlawful or inappropriate use of force.
- B. Any officer, on-duty or off-duty, that witnesses, or learns of an instance of excessive, unlawful or inappropriate use of force by another officer of any agency, has an obligation to report that situation to a supervisor or the Office of Professional Standards as soon as practicable for further investigation.