

Excerpted from Comm. Perezvelez's "Policy Language Recommendations" distributed June 11, 2020

### **On use of force Continuum**

1. Direct the department to institute the ICAT training recommendations from the Police Forum in addition to a presentation to City Council on an Use of Force Continuum inclusive of the following six steps: All Instances of Use of Force will be reported to include all action within the incident. Inclusive of any use of force when a person allows him/herself to be searched, escorted, handcuffed, or restrained.
  - a. Officer Presence — No force is used. Considered the best way to resolve a situation. Presence must be non threatening and engaging as needed
    - i. The mere presence of a law enforcement officer works to deter crime or diffuse a situation.
    - ii. Officers' attitudes are professional and nonthreatening.
  - b. Verbalization and De-escalation — Force is not-physical. Usage of Verbal Judo and de-escalation techniques
    - i. Officers issue calm, courteous, nonthreatening commands, such as "Let me see your identification and registration."
    - ii. Officers may increase their volume and shorten commands in an attempt to gain compliance. Short commands might include "Stop," or "Don't move."
    - iii. In instances of an individual under mental health distress , CIT and a Mental Health Crisis Unit shall be utilized.
  - c. Empty-Hand Control — Officers use bodily force to gain control of a situation.
    - i. *Soft technique.* Officers use grabs, holds and joint locks to restrain an individual.
    - ii. *Hard technique.* Officers use punches and kicks to restrain an individual are not authorized unless in defense of a member of the public or as a response to an imminent threat to personal safety (open for discussion).
  - d. Less-Lethal Methods — Officers use less-lethal technologies to gain control of a situation.
    - i. *Blunt impact.* Officers may use a baton or projectile to immobilize a combative person. (Prohibition on over the head strikes or strikes to vulnerable body organs)
    - ii. *Chemical.* Officers may use chemical sprays (e.g., pepper spray) only under exigent circumstances.
  - e. Lethal Force — Officers use lethal weapons to gain control of a situation. Should only be used under exigent circumstances and only if a suspect poses a serious deadly threat to the officer or another individual.