

**University of South Florida Police Department
2020 Use of Force Policy Analysis**

<p>Require officers to de-escalate situations, where possible.</p>	<p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-121 Use of Force When feasible, and prior to using force, officers must use proper de-escalation techniques based on the unique facts and circumstances of the current situation to increase the likelihood of a cooperative resolution. Methods include, but are not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employing effective communication and crisis intervention techniques to engage with individuals who are not compliant with orders; 2. Using interpersonal communication to gain a subject's voluntary compliance; and 3. Utilizing disengagement methods, when appropriate.
<p>Establish a Use of Force Continuum</p>	<p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-121 Use of Force Justification for the use of force is limited to the facts known or perceived by the officer at the time such force is used, including levels of resistance, suspect's behavioral cues, the number of officers and/or offenders present, and the availability of other options.</p> <p>Officers shall use physical force only when it is objectively reasonable, necessary, and proportional to effectively overcome an immediate threat or effectuate an arrest.</p> <p>Officers should always try to resolve a situation with the least amount of force necessary.</p> <p>In situations where using force is appropriate, officers should consider the particular facts of the incident. Primary considerations are the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seriousness of the offense; 2. Imminence of any threat; and 3. Level and/or type of resistance. <p>Officers must follow Florida law and are authorized to use only the force necessary to effect lawful objectives in accordance with Chapter 776, Florida Statutes.</p> <p>As soon as compliance is reached, and it is safe and reasonable to do so, officers must use the minimum force necessary to maintain control of the subject.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">Ban chokeholds and all other neck restraints</p>	<p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-121 Use of Force Officers are prohibited from the use of chokeholds, strangleholds, Lateral Vascular Neck Restraints, carotid restraints, or any other tactic that intentionally restricts oxygen or blood flow to the head or neck, unless deadly force is authorized.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Require warning before using deadly force.</p>	<p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-121 Use of Force When feasible, officers shall give a verbal warning and allow an individual time and opportunity to comply before force is used, when such delay will not compromise the safety of the officer or another.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ban officers from shooting at moving vehicles</p>	<p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-121 Use of Force Shooting at or from a moving vehicle is prohibited in all instances except those circumstances when the life of the officer or another person is endangered. Officers shall use appropriate safety measures and shall not intentionally place themselves in harm's way by standing or moving in front of or behind a vehicle, or reaching inside an operating vehicle, unless it is tactically necessary to prevent the loss of life or injury to the officer or others</p> <p>Officers will not purposely and needlessly place themselves or remain in situations of great danger in order to justify the use of deadly force.</p> <p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-152 Less Lethal Weapons The CEW should not be deployed on subjects in physical control of a motor vehicle while the vehicle is in gear unless its use is absolutely necessary due to exigent circumstances and without such intervention there is an immediate threat to the safety of the public or to the Officer(s) that may not be resolved by the application of an alternate method or technique.</p>

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<p>Ban officers from shooting at moving vehicles (Cont.)</p>	<p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-129 Emergency Vehicle Operations & Pursuit Driving Intervention /Forcible Stopping Shooting at or from a moving vehicle is prohibited in all instances except those circumstances when the life of the officer or another person is endangered.</p>
<p>Require officers to exhaust all other alternatives prior to deadly force.</p>	<p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-121 Use of Force When feasible, and prior to using force, officers must use proper de-escalation techniques based on the unique facts and circumstances of the current situation to increase the likelihood of a cooperative resolution. Methods include, but are not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employing effective communication and crisis intervention techniques to engage with individuals who are not compliant with orders; 2. Using interpersonal communication to gain a subject's voluntary compliance; and 3. Utilizing disengagement methods, when appropriate <p>Officers shall use deadly force only as a last resort when reasonable alternatives have been exhausted or are not feasible to protect the officer or other persons from death or great bodily injury.</p> <p>When feasible, officers shall give a verbal warning and allow an individual time and opportunity to comply before force is used, when such delay will not compromise the safety of the officer or another.</p> <p>Officers must base their decision to use deadly force as a defensive tactic on a clear, reasonable belief that the officer or another person, faces imminent danger of death or great bodily harm.</p>

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Duty to Intervene & Report	<p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-121 Use of Force</p> <p>Duty to Intervene</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Officers shall intervene in any observed incident of excessive force and take any steps necessary to cease the excessive use of force.2. If a member becomes aware of an incident involving the excessive use of force, the member shall report the incident to their immediate supervisor to be investigated in accordance with GO II-106: Progressive Discipline & Rules of Conduct. If the immediate supervisor was involved in the incident, the report shall be made to the next level supervisor. <p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order II-106 Progressive Discipline & Rules of Conduct/Ethics</p> <p>Excessive Force: Officers are prohibited from mental or physical abuse of any person in custody or using force beyond that which is necessary to effect an arrest or prevent an escape.</p> <p>Use of Deadly Force Contrary to Directives: Officers shall use deadly force only in accordance with General Orders of the USFPD and shall not violate or exceed statutory provisions governing the use of deadly force.</p> <p>Failure to Report Misconduct: Employees shall report misconduct they become aware of including violations of law, Department directives, and University or Department rules and regulations. Misconduct shall be reported in writing to the employee's immediate supervisor, or the next succeeding supervisor if the reported misconduct involves the employee's immediate supervisor.</p>
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Require Comprehensive reporting	<p>As mandated by the University of South Florida Police Department General Order III-121 Use of Force Officers involved in any use of force incidents shall immediately</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Notify the on-duty shift supervisor or next higher ranking member, in the absence of the shift supervisor, immediately after the incident; and2. Notify the appropriate law enforcement agency if the incident occurred outside of the officer's primary jurisdiction. <p>Officers will submit a written report and accompanying Use of Force Report, as required in the Department's Records Management System (RMS), whenever a member:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Discharges a firearm, for other than training or recreational purposes;4. Points a firearm or CEW at a person;5. Applies force through the use of lethal or less-lethal weapons; or6. Applies any weaponless physical force. <p>Use of Force Report is not required for incidents involving escorting and/or handcuffing a person with no resistance.</p> <p>B. Officers are responsible for sufficiently and accurately documenting the facts and circumstances leading up to and justifying their use of force.</p> <p>C. All reports pertaining to use of force incidents will be reviewed by the involved officer(s) immediate supervisor and an appropriate Subject Matter Expert. The completed review will be forwarded through the Chain of Command to the Chief of Police.</p> <p>D. Each officer involved in a use of force shall complete their own Use of Force Report detailing their own actions. Reports shall be completed before the officer's tour of duty ends, unless otherwise approved by a supervisor.</p>
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