



JUVENILE FACILITIES MANUAL

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Chapter: Classification and Separation
Section: Use of Force

1357

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Authority: Title 15, California Code of Regulations: Minimum Standards for Juvenile Facilities; Penal Code Sections [835a](#), [3407](#), and [22820](#); and Government Code Section [7286](#)

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Chief Probation Officer

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Date

I. Principle

The Alameda County Probation Department (ACPD) respects and values the sanctity of life as well as human rights and dignity. The powers and authority granted to peace officers by the State of California to use force, when appropriate, represents a great responsibility and such authority will be exercised with care and professionalism. The ACPD's preferred method of resolving conflict and maintaining safety and security at the Juvenile Facilities is through the application of de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques. However, in circumstances where the use of force is the most reasonable option, the ACPD's expectation is that the level of force used will be based directly upon the level of resistance exhibited by a youth and will increase or decrease in relation to the level of resistance. While the amount or type of reasonable force to be applied in any given situation is dependent on the circumstances, sworn staff are expected to use the guidelines contained within this policy which were developed in cooperation with the responsible physician and mental health director, as well as ACPD-approved training, to guide their decisions in a professional, impartial, and reasonable manner.

II. Definitions

Alternative Restraint Device (Prohibited): A restraint device that is utilized in lieu of approved mechanical restraints.

Chokehold (Prohibited): A control hold utilized to temporarily cut off the blood supply to the brain or cause asphyxiation/strangulation, rendering the subject being restrained unconscious. These holds, commonly referred to as "carotid holds" are not authorized by ACPD.

Crisis Intervention Techniques: De-escalation techniques designed and employed to intervene in a youth's negative behavior with non-verbal, or verbal interventions, which are intended to reduce the need to use physical intervention options, while also reinforcing expected behaviors and allowing the youth to self-regulate emotions and begin to demonstrate acceptable behaviors.

Flex Cuffs (Approved): Disposable restraints designed to temporarily restrain a youth. These are typically used during riots or the transportation of large groups of youth.

Force: Any physical contact, coupled with the exertion of strength and/or weight or power, or application of chemical restraint deliberately made by sworn staff towards a youth.

How Use of Force is Evaluated:

Any use of force will be evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable sworn staff as judged from the perspective of a competent objectively reasonable officer faced with similar facts and circumstances and with similar training and experience in the same situation, based on the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the sworn staff at the time, rather than with the benefit of hindsight, and that the totality of the circumstances shall account for occasions when sworn staff may be forced to make quick judgments about using force.

Types of force include:

- *Chemical Restraint*: The application of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) as authorized under Penal Code Section 22820 to control behavior and subdue violent behavior. Reference Juvenile Facilities Manual, Section 1357.2, *Use of Chemical Intervention*, for more information regarding the use of OC spray.

- **Excessive Force:** The use of force greater than that which is objectively reasonable to overcome resistance and accomplish a lawful order.
- **Non-Conventional Force:** Force that utilizes techniques or instruments that are not specifically authorized in policy, procedures, or training. Depending on the specific circumstances, non-conventional force can be necessary and reasonable; it can also be unnecessary or excessive. When using such force, there must be no reasonable alternative course of action to prevent death or serious bodily injury. Such use of force will be evaluated using the objectively reasonable and necessary standard as judged from the perspective of a competent objectively reasonable officer faced with similar facts and circumstances and with similar training and experience.
- **Physical Force:** The force that includes all restraint, control, and physical intervention options available to sworn staff through approved ACPD training.
- **Reasonable Force:** Force used that is necessary and proportional to ensure safety and security of staff, youth, other persons, and the facility, subdue an attacker, overcome resistance, effect custody, prevent escape, defend self or others or gain compliance with a lawful order. As judged, refers to the amount and the type of force that an objective, similarly trained, experienced, and competent youth supervision staff, faced with similar facts and circumstances, would consider necessary and reasonable to ensure the safety and security of youth, staff, others, and the facility.
- **Unnecessary Force:** The use of force when none is required or appropriate.

Hogtie (Prohibited): A procedure whereby mechanically restrained hands and feet are drawn together and secured behind the back. This type of restraint technique is prohibited.

Incident Commander: The first Institutional Supervisor I or II (IS I or IS II) on scene of the use of force incident in charge of giving directives to sworn staff and performing a variety of post incident duties. Note: Since the Incident Commander is the first IS I or IS II on scene, the identity of the person acting as the Incident Commander may change from incident to incident.

Intercede: Includes, but is not limited to, physically stopping the excessive use of force in a manner that does not create further danger or harm, efforts to deescalate the offending sworn staff's excessive use of force, confronting the offending sworn staff, regardless of rank, about the excessive force during the incident, reporting to a supervisor the offending sworn staff's name, location, time, and situation, and documenting such efforts.

Involved Sworn Staff: The sworn staff directly involved in a use of force incident. This includes those sworn staff who use either a non-physical intervention option or a physical intervention option.

Least Restrictive Alternative: The lowest level intervention necessary to maintain or restore order and security within the facility.

Levels of Resistance: The following outlines the types of resistance that may be encountered by sworn staff. Types of resistance include:

- *Cooperative:* No resistance exhibited; the use of physical intervention techniques is prohibited.
- *Non-Compliance:* Verbal and physical actions indicate the engaged person is not responding to verbal commands but also offers no form of physical resistance.
- *Passive Resistance:* Engaged person responds without compliance or takes physical actions that do not prevent sworn staff's attempts to exercise control of a person or place them in custody.
- *Active Resistance:* Physically evasive movements to defeat sworn staff's attempts at control including bracing, tensing, or pulling/running away. Active resistance also includes verbal responses that indicate an unwillingness to comply with sworn staff's directives and indicate a threat to the safety and security of the sworn staff or others.
- *Assaultive Resistance (threat):* Physical movement which demonstrates an intent and present ability to assault the sworn staff or another person. Assaultive resistance is resistance that is not immediately life-threatening.
- *Life-Threatening Resistance (threat):* Any action likely to result in death,

great bodily injury, or serious bodily injury to the sworn staff or others.

Mechanical Restraints: Devices used to restrict a youth's extremities; acceptable devices include, but are not limited to handcuffs, leg irons, waist chains, traveling belt (leather belt providing a ring for attaching handcuffs), and soft restraints (leather wrist and ankle restraints). Reference Juvenile Facilities Manual, Section 1358, *Use of Mechanical Restraints*.

Medical Assessment: An exam performed by licensed medical staff to evaluate and treat youth involved in physical incidents and document the results of the examination in a report.

Non-Physical Intervention: The use of verbal and non-verbal interpersonal skills to affect and influence persons, such as command presence and verbal directives. A non-physical intervention is not considered a use of force.

Objectively Reasonable: The standard used to determine if an officer's actions are reasonable as evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable officer in the same situation, based on the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the officer at the time, rather than with the benefit of hindsight, and that the totality of the circumstances shall account for occasions when officers may be forced to make quick judgments about using force using the "Objectively Reasonable" standard as defined in *Graham vs. Conner* 490 U.S. 368 (1989).

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC): The technical name for the chemical restraint spray utilized by the ACPD.

Physical Intervention Options: An intervention option that requires force and/or restraint. A physical intervention option is considered a use of force. Whenever a physical intervention option is used, an Incident Report and medical assessment are required.

Positional Asphyxia: Situating a person in a manner that compresses their airway and reduces the ability to sustain adequate breathing. This includes, without limitation, the use of any physical restraint that causes a person's respiratory airway to be compressed or impairs the person's breathing or respiratory capacity, including any action in which pressure or bodyweight is unreasonably applied against a restrained person's neck, torso, or back, or positioning a restrained person without reasonable monitoring for signs of asphyxia.

Positive Behavior Management Techniques: Techniques such as regrouping,

restructuring and/or problem solving used to assist in the development of positive staff-youth relationships and facilitate the youth's acquisition of skills to manage their own behavior.

Prone Containment: When attempting to gain physical control of a youth that has become aggressive, and subsequently and incidentally, the struggle goes to the ground, prone containment is the brief physical holding of an individual in prone position for the purposes of effectively gaining quick control, and/or to optionally apply mechanical restraints, before being moved to a standing, recovery or seated position, based on the specific circumstances.

Prone Torso Restraints (Prohibited): Placing a youth's face and/or frontal part of the body in a downward position touching any surface beyond the time that is objectively reasonably necessary to gain compliance with an aggressive youth in that instance. (Each incident is different, and the objectively reasonable standard will vary based on the unique facts and circumstances of each incident.) This may include holding an individual past the time of immediate struggle that would result in an individual being placed in a prone position while any level of force is applied. A Prone Torso Restraint differs from a Prone Containment in that the former is prolonged in length and may lead to positional asphyxia, while the latter is only a brief and temporary control hold utilized to gain control of an aggressive youth.

Recovery Position: A position in which the individual is placed on their side to allow for lung expansion.

Retaliation: Any adverse employment action taken against an employee because the employee engaged in activity protected under this policy. Protected activities may include, but are not limited to, reporting, or assisting in reporting suspected violations of this policy, and/or cooperating in investigations or proceedings arising out of a violation of this policy.

Retaliation, as it relates to youth, is covered by Juvenile Facilities Manual Section 1361, *Grievance Procedure*.

Seated Position: A position in which the buttocks is in contact with the ground or a horizontal surface such as a chair seat, instead of by the lower limbs as in standing, squatting, or kneeling.

Serious Bodily Injury: A serious impairment of physical condition, including, but not limited to, the following: loss of consciousness, concussion, bone fracture, protracted loss (e.g., prolonged injury to an extremity, causing significant

impairment), or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, a wound requiring extensive suturing, and serious disfigurement.

Shackles: Leg irons (larger-sized handcuffs) that join the youth's ankles together.

Show of Numbers: The assembly of enough sworn staff to dissuade and contain a youth's disruptive behavior and to attempt to avoid the use of physical intervention.

Totality of Circumstances: All facts known to the peace officer at the time, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of force.

III. Policy

USE OF FORCE

Sworn staff must only use a level of force that is reasonably proportional to the seriousness of the situation or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance and must not use unnecessary or excessive force.

Pursuant to Title 15, Section 1357, *Minimum Standards for Juvenile Facilities*, this *Use of Force* policy defines staff responsibilities and limitations concerning the use of force. Further, this policy also establishes a process by which instances of use of force are reported, recorded, evaluated and, if necessary, referred for discipline in cases of violations of this policy.

Sworn staff must use the lowest level of force necessary to overcome resistance, subdue an attacker, protect youth, staff, and others from being injured, protect County property from being damaged and/or destroyed, de-escalate a crisis situation, restore order, effect custody, prevent escape, and gain compliance with a lawful order. Sworn staff must only use a level of force that is reasonably proportional to the seriousness of the situation or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance and must not use unnecessary or excessive force. Prior to using any physical force option, sworn staff must use de-escalation techniques, crisis intervention techniques, and other alternatives to the use of force when feasible and safe to do so. If any use of force is needed, it must be carried out in a manner that is fair and unbiased.

All use of force incidents must be evaluated to determine if the force used was appropriate using the "Objectively Reasonable" standard as defined in *Graham vs. Connor*, 490 U.S. 368 (1989).

Staff must never use force against a youth for punishment, retaliation, coercion, treatment, therapy, or discipline.

Staff must only use department-approved techniques and interventions when using force.

Sworn staff may not use any type of force to collect DNA specimens from youth who are required to provide specimens per a court order. Sworn staff must attempt to secure voluntary compliance from the youth. Should the youth not comply with the collection of a DNA specimen, the matter must be returned to court.

MEDICAL EVALUATION

Any time force is used on a youth, the youth must be evaluated by medical staff and referred to the behavioral health clinician as soon as possible.

Any time force is used on a youth, the youth must be evaluated by medical staff and referred to the behavioral health clinician as soon as possible. Notification regarding the circumstances of the use of force must be made to the youth's parent(s)/guardian(s)/person(s) standing in loco parentis as soon as possible. Internal notifications must be made in accordance with this policy. Refer to the "Required Notifications" section of this policy on page 15 for more details.

In addition, IS's are responsible for checking with staff, when safe to do so, after a use of force and/or during the debrief, to determine if staff need any type of medical evaluation or medical attention.

All use of force incidents must be documented in an Incident Report and submitted to an Institutional Supervisor I or II (IS I or IS II) prior to the involved staff going off duty. The IS I or IS II must review all Incident Reports and provide a critique of the use of force incident, as specified in this policy, prior to going off duty.

NOTE

Situations where a youth is compliant and submits to search or escort, are not considered a use of force. Non-physical intervention options are not considered a use of force.

Non-physical intervention options are not considered a use of force (i.e., sworn staff do not place hands on the youth). Additionally, compliant "pat searches" of youth or the non-physical escort of a youth are not considered a use of force. Also, the use of mechanical restraints while transporting youth outside of the secure Juvenile Facility or Camp Wilmont Sweeney (reference the Juvenile Facilities Manual, Section 1358.2, *Use of Mechanical Restraints During Transportation*) are not considered a use of force.

Any sworn staff present during a use of force incident where another officer (internal or external), regardless of rank, is clearly using force beyond that which is objectively reasonable experience must, when in a position to do so, intercede to prevent the unreasonable force. Any sworn staff who fails to intercede may be subject to corrective action or disciplinary action in the same manner as the sworn staff that committed the excessive or unnecessary force, up to and including termination from County service as described in the Administrative Manual, Section 325, *Corrective Action and Disciplinary Action*. Any ACPD staff who observes such use of force must immediately report the incident to a supervisor.

The ACPD will not tolerate any form of silence as it pertains to reporting unnecessary or excessive use of force and will not tolerate any form of reprisal or retaliation against staff who report unnecessary or excessive use of force. Any staff, regardless of rank, sworn or non-sworn, who fails to report unnecessary or excessive use of force or who acts in a manner that fosters a code of silence, may be subject to corrective action or disciplinary action, up to and including termination from County service as described in the Administrative Manual, Section 325, *Corrective Action and Disciplinary Action*.

Pursuant to the Administrative Manual, Section 117, *Staff Response to Emergencies or Disturbances*, any sworn staff on duty must, if safe to do so, intervene during a verbal or physical confrontation or other disturbances within ACPD buildings (this applies to both Deputy Probation Officers [DPOs] at the Facilities and Juvenile Institutional Officers [JIOs] that may not be at the Facilities). The safety and security of the youth must be prioritized in these situations. The sworn staff response will be based on the individual's training and experience.

Staff are not permitted to post any information regarding a use of force incident on social media or otherwise publish the information by any other means (e.g., blogs, electronic comments sections, news reports, etc.). Additionally, staff are not permitted to speak with the media, unauthorized staff, or other outside entities about the use of force incident, with the exception of individuals with whom the staff have privileged communications (e.g., private legal counsel, including legal counsel provided by a union, or licensed medical health providers). Staff must refer all inquiries from the media to the Chief Probation Officer (CPO), the ACPD Public Information Officer, or their designees.

This policy was developed in cooperation with the Superintendent and responsible physician of the Juvenile Facilities.

IV. Procedures

The procedures contained within this policy outline what intervention options are available to sworn staff and provide guidelines on when to use these interventions. These procedures also contain information regarding what notifications are required after force is used, how to document a use of force incident, and what supervisors, managers, and review committees are required to do to ensure oversight and accountability regarding the use of force.

Preventative Strategies

Sworn staff must consider the following techniques and strategies to reduce the need to use force to resolve an incident.

Sworn staff should on an ongoing basis seek and gain intelligence about potential acts of violence or fights before such behavior occurs. This knowledge may be gained through communicating with youth and staff about unit dynamics and interpersonal conflict between youth.

Sworn staff should continually work to build strong positive relationships through motivational interviewing and routinely seek to gain intelligence on potential conflict as a preventative strategy to minimize or stop violence or fights before incidents occur.

Sworn staff should ask youth questions about relationships between themselves and other youth in the unit, history of conflicts between youth, recent or past violence between youth and the degree to which youth feel safe in a particular unit. These steps should be taken when youth are introduced into a new unit.

Sworn staff who have identified conflict between youth must report this information to the IS I/II and document the conflict in the unit activity log. Additionally, a referral to a behavioral health clinician and mediation strategies should be considered.

Identifying and Responding to Triggers of Conflict

Sworn Staff must continuously observe youth behavior and unit dynamics to identify triggers of conflict before they occur. Staff must look for the following triggers:

- Youth(s) are moving about the unit sporadically without staff's permission

CONTINUOUSLY REASSESS

Staff must continuously reassess the situation to determine if the chosen intervention is still reasonable and necessary.

- Youth(s) appear to be making efforts to divert staff's attention away from supervising the group
- Several youths in the unit appear agitated, irritated, or hostile
- The tone of the unit is unusually quiet or calm, beyond what is typical or routine
- Youth(s) are unusually requesting to remain in their rooms or refusing to participate in programming
- Youth(s) are grouping or congregating by race, or by known gang/group
- Tension is rising in the unit for an unknown reason

When sworn staff observe any of the above activities, at minimum, they must take the following actions:

- Report their findings to an Institutional Supervisor
- When able to do so, share their observations with other sworn staff within the unit
- Document their observations within the unit activity log
- Engage youth directly to assess the situation
- Attempt to mediate any pending or on-going disputes
- Attempt to program the youth involved separately for a short period of time by using a Reintegration Safety Plan; or
- Call the appropriate code response

Intervention Options

Sworn staff are trained to use a variety of intervention options to maintain or restore order and security within the facility. Intervention options may be used by sworn staff to overcome resistance; subdue an attacker; protect youth, staff, and others from being injured; protect County property from being damaged and/or destroyed; de-escalate a crisis situation; restore order; effect custody; prevent escape and gain compliance with a lawful order.

Intervention options do not have to be utilized in any sequence, but the decision on which intervention(s) to use must be based on the "Objectively Reasonable" standard given the circumstances presented to the sworn staff. Sworn staff must also use the Least Restrictive Alternative based on the circumstances presented to resolve the situation and keep the youth, staff, and others safe. Sworn staff must continuously reassess the situation to determine if the chosen intervention is still reasonable and necessary and may, at any time, change intervention options or increase or decrease the level of resistance exhibited by the youth.

PERMITTED RESTRAINT OPTIONS

Restraints and control holds may only be used by sworn staff trained according to ACPD guidelines.

When assessing the situation and determining which intervention(s) to use, sworn staff must consider any known factors that may assist in choosing an intervention option. Such factors may include but are not limited to those contained in the *Factors Used to Determine Reasonableness of Force* section of this policy. Upon considering the factors of the situation, sworn staff are authorized to use the following intervention options.

Reference the *Use of Force Continuum Diagram* (ACPD Form 254) for a visual guide on intervention options.

Non-Physical Intervention Option

Non-physical intervention options are considered less restrictive than physical intervention options. Non-physical intervention options are best utilized when a youth is exhibiting behavior that is disruptive, non-compliant and threatening, but has not yet risen to the point of being an immediate threat to the safety and security of the facility, staff, and other youths. Non-physical intervention options include the following:

- Non-verbal (presence, eye contact, handgesture)
- Verbal de-escalation, dialogue, and counseling; including Crisis Intervention Techniques and Positive Behavioral Management Techniques taught in ACPD trainings
- Notification to a supervisor
- Referral to or request for assistance from the behavioral health clinician/guidance clinic
- Increase the number of sworn staff by requesting assistance (Show of Numbers)

Physical Intervention Options

Though the ACPD trains for and prefers the utilization of preventative de-escalation techniques and non-physical intervention options to resolve the aggressive (verbally or physically), disruptive, and resistive behavior of youth, it recognizes that situations will arise where a youth presents an immediate threat to themselves or others or all non-physical means have been exhausted or are ineffective to gain compliance with a lawful order, related to safety and security, issued by the sworn staff. In such circumstances, the Least Restrictive Alternative may require the use of a physical intervention option. The only physical intervention options or specific techniques permitted are those authorized by the ACPD as established and taught through ACPD-approved

training classes. Restraints and control holds may only be used by sworn staff trained according to ACPD guidelines.

In physically restraining a youth, sworn staff may use only those means reasonably necessary to control a situation. Physical Intervention Options include the following:

- Physical Control: A low-level physical intervention option used to gain control and overcome non-compliance or passive resistance, active resistance. This includes physically maneuvering the engaged person's body, escorting the individual or using a secure grip. This level of force is not intended to cause injury or pain.
- Compliance Techniques: A low-level physical intervention option used to overcome passive resistance and active resistance, depending on the totality of circumstances. These techniques are not intended to cause injury but use body mechanics and leverage to gain compliance and movement. These include control holds and arrest control. Compliance Techniques used on persons exhibiting passive resistance must be objectively reasonable based on the totality of circumstances.
- Defensive Tactics: Techniques and tactics used to overcome active, assaultive, and life-threatening resistance. Defensive tactics used on persons exhibiting active resistance must be objectively reasonable based on the totality of circumstances. These include control holds, arrest control, takedowns, and personal body weapons.
- Non-Lethal Methods: The ACPD authorized non-lethal method is OC spray followed by prompt decontamination, as behavior permits. The use of OC spray is authorized for assaultive and life-threatening resistance. OC spray must only be deployed when other less restrictive options have failed or are insufficient to address **an immediate threat of harm to themselves or another person**. Before deploying OC spray, sworn staff must first exhaust verbal de-escalation and physical intervention strategies (i.e., Natural Response Control Tactics (NRCT)) to resolve the incident. Under the following limited circumstances OC spray may be deployed without first exhausting verbal de-escalation and physical intervention strategies (though these strategies must still be considered and utilized if practical):
 - To quell a riot or major disturbance
 - To resolve a hostage situation

- To secure an object being used as a weapon that can cause serious bodily injury
- Other situations which present an immediate threat to life or serious bodily injury, including defense of one's self.

Reference the Juvenile Facilities Manual, Section 1357.2, *Use of Chemical Intervention*, for more information regarding the use of OC spray.

Once the behavior or circumstances that prompted the use of physical intervention cease, and the youth no longer presents a threat to safety and security, sworn staff must immediately cease the use of the physical intervention or switch to a non-physical intervention option.

Prohibited Actions

Absent exigent circumstances, sworn staff must never do any of the following:

- Prone Torso restraints, as defined in this policy, on the floor, wall, or any surface.
- Use an intervention option as coercion, punishment, discipline, treatment, therapy, or retaliation.
- Deploy OC spray in any of the following manners or situations:
 - When a youth is secured in handcuffs or otherwise secured using physical intervention
 - From outside the door when a youth is in their room
 - When a youth is in their room kicking and banging on the door
 - When a youth simply refuses to go to their room, fails to comply with staff instructions, or is passively resistant or passively non-compliant
 - For the purpose of testing (in a non-training setting)
- Indiscriminately point an OC canister at a youth.
- Use an OC canister as a weapon to hit or strike a youth except in situations where non-conventional force is necessary.
- Use OC spray on a youth when it is known to the sworn staff that a medical provider has diagnosed the youth with a chronic, serious respiratory problem or other serious health condition identified by medical staff (e.g., significant eye problems, known history of severe allergic reaction to OC, or severe dermatological problems), or a youth who is known to have a serious mental health issue, or a youth who is known to the sworn staff to be pregnant.
- Deploy OC in a manner prohibited as outlined in Juvenile Facilities Manual,

Use of PROHIBITED RESTRAINT METHODS

Use of
alternative
restraints
devices,
chokeholds, or
hogtie a youth.

Such techniques
could lead to
positional
asphyxia, great
bodily injury, or
death.

Section 1357.2, *Use of Chemical Intervention*.

- Apply leg irons, waist chains, or mechanical restraints behind the body of a youth known to be pregnant or in recovery after delivery. Sworn staff must also never restrain a pregnant youth in labor, during delivery, or in recovery after delivery by the wrists, ankles, or both, unless deemed necessary for the safety and security of the youth, staff, public, or facility (Penal Code Section 3407).
- Apply a chokehold, carotid hold, hogtie, or any other physical restraint or transport method which impairs swallowing, breathing, or blood flow. Such techniques may lead to positional asphyxia, serious bodily injury, or death. Further, such techniques are prohibited by law under Government Code Section 7286.5.

Sworn staff must exercise extreme caution when utilizing any physical intervention option on a youth known to be pregnant; suffering from a serious medical condition (e.g., respiratory condition, asthma, or other condition that could contribute to the youth sustaining serious bodily injury or death as a result of the use of a physical intervention); taking psychotropic medication; or having a physical, mental, or developmental disability.

Any staff who commits a prohibited action identified in this section may be subject to discipline as identified in Administrative Manual, Section 325, *Corrective Action and Disciplinary Action*.

Required Notifications

Supervisor

If a supervisor is not already on scene, sworn staff must notify a supervisor of the use of force incident as soon as possible.

Medical Staff and Behavioral Health Clinician

In all instances where a physical intervention option has been used or a youth is involved in a physical altercation, involved sworn staff must contact medical staff immediately after the use of force incident has resolved and it is safe to request a medical evaluation. Licensed health care professionals are the only staff authorized to accept a youth's refusal of a medical evaluation after a use of force incident.

In addition, the incident commander must contact the behavioral health clinician

to assess each youth involved in the use of force incident to determine if follow-up counseling is required.

The Incident Commander is responsible for ensuring medical and behavioral health staff have been contacted and will respond.

Sworn staff must document in their Incident Reports if medical was notified.

If medical staff are not available, the sworn staff must immediately inform the Incident Commander. The Incident Commander is responsible for verifying that any youth involved in a use of force incident is evaluated by medical and behavioral health staff as soon as possible as well as notifying the Duty IS II that a referral to medical/behavioral health has been made. Further, the Incident Commander must inform the Duty IS II if an actual medical/behavioral health evaluation has occurred.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/Person(s) Standing in Loco Parentis

The Incident Commander must notify, via telephone, the parent(s)/guardian(s)/person(s) standing in loco parentis of all youth who had a physical intervention option applied to them. The Incident Commander must make a bona fide attempt to reach each guardian of each youth. If the Incident Commander is unable to reach a live person, a voice message may be left. The Incident Commander must relay the following information:

- A brief description of the circumstances surrounding the use of force incident and what type of force was used;
- Any injuries sustained by the youth;
- Medical and behavioral health services provided to the youth or which the youth was referred;
- Any verbal counseling or cognitive exercises/interventions provided to the youth; and
- Contact information for the Duty IS II for any follow-up questions.

The Incident Commander must notate in the Case Management System (CMS) that the parent(s)/guardian(s)/person(s) standing in loco parentis of the youth were contacted before going off duty.

Deputy Probation Officer

The assigned DPO of any youth that had force applied to them or contributed to

the circumstances that resulted in the use of force incident must be notified via email by the Incident Commander. The email must include the time, date and persons involved in the use of force incident, Incident Report number, and a brief description of the circumstances surrounding the use of force event. If a youth does not have an assigned DPO, the Incident Commander must email the information to the supervisor of the Intake Unit. The Incident Commander must notate in the CMS that the DPO was contacted.

Administration

After all use of force incidents, the Duty ISII must notify the Assistant Superintendent via email before going off duty. The notification must include whether referrals to medical and behavioral health were made and if actual evaluations occurred.

Should the Duty ISII suspect a use of force incident may have violated policy, procedures, and/or training standards, but the incident is not suspected of being unnecessary or excessive, they must, in addition to the above, notify both the Superintendent of Facilities and the Superintendent of Camp Wilmont Sweeney (regardless of where the incident transpired) and the Use of Force Coordinator (UFC). The subject line of the email must read, "Use of Force Incident: Urgent".

Should the Duty ISII suspect a use of force incident may have been unnecessary or excessive, they must, in addition to notifying the above, notify the Deputy Chief Probation Officer (DCPO) for the Juvenile Facilities and the Assistant CPO (ACPO) for Juvenile Services. The subject line of the email must read, "Unnecessary or Excessive Use of Force Incident: Urgent".

Any instance of a youth sustaining a serious injury, including a serious injury sustained as a result of the application of force, must be reported to the Assistant Superintendent, the Superintendents, the UFC, and the DCPO as soon as possible. It should be noted that any instance of a youth sustaining a serious injury is considered a Critical Incident, pursuant to the Administrative Manual, Section 133, *Critical Incident Reporting Process*, and therefore must be promptly reported to the CPO through the chain of command.

Follow-up to a Use of Force Incident

Debriefing

Debriefing after a use of force incident can be an effective tool to learn about

the well-being of the youth and staff.

Debriefings can also be a valuable tool in determining what factors may have caused the event, helping to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions utilized, and proactively mitigating future events.

Debriefing is not intended to be a substitute for the normal review and investigative processes. Issues arising from a use of force incident that may foreseeably result in corrective or disciplinary action against any of the involved sworn staff must not be discussed at the debriefing. Behavior that may foreseeably lead to corrective/disciplinary action must be documented in the Supervisor's critique of the Incident Report(s) and discussed with the Superintendent or their designee. Debriefing is an integral part of a program's efforts to reduce the need for force and must occur as soon as practical and safe to do so.

A staff debriefing may occur at any location conducive to dialog and, if possible, should occur prior to the involved staff going off duty. Debriefings do not need to be lengthy in duration so long as the involved staff have an opportunity to comment on and receive feedback regarding the use of force incident. It is the responsibility of the Incident Commander to lead and organize the debriefings. Any additional questions, comments or concerns stemming from the debriefing should be routed up the chain of command to the Superintendent via email from the Incident Commander.

Supervisory staff must recognize and adhere to JIOs rights under the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights (POBR) and their Weingarten rights to representation in these staff debriefings.

If possible, debriefings should include an interview with involved youth to get their perspective regarding the following:

- What happened?
- Why did it happen?
- Are there any injuries?

The interview must be conducted by the Incident Commander after the use of force event has resolved and it is safe to do so. If the youth provided information during the interview, the Incident Commander is responsible for sharing this information during the staff debriefing. Note: This interview is not intended to take the place of any required Brief Intervention Tools as required in Juvenile

Facilities Manual, Section 1354.5, *Room Confinement and Reintegration and Safety Plan*.

The Incident Commander has the discretion to involve other staff in the debriefing if their inclusion will assist in the discussion of the incident (i.e., NRCT instructor, behavioral health clinician, etc.). The debriefing must be documented by the Incident Commander in the incident report critique.

Documentation

Any staff who uses force on a youth must, when safe to do so, immediately report the use of force to a supervisor and submit a completed *Incident Report* (ACPD Form 87) (reference Juvenile Facilities Manual, Section 1362, *Incident Packets*) or equivalent form in the CMS to the IS I or IS II prior to going off duty. Staff must write the Incident Report utilizing their own memory and account of events and should not collaborate with other staff in the preparation of reports. The one exception to this requirement is that staff may contact Central Control to confirm radio communication times (such as when a Code or Supervisor was called). The report must identify the time, date, and location of the incident as well as the staff and youth involved, and any witnesses to the incident. If the following information is known to the report writer, it should be included in the Incident Report, along with any additional information that will assist in evaluating the use of force incident:

- The circumstances giving rise to the use of force
- De-escalation attempts utilized
- The nature and degree of the force used
- Description of the youth's level of resistance
- If OC was used, identify from what distance it was deployed
- Injuries sustained during the use of force
- Aid rendered to the youth after force was used
- If OC was used, the decontamination procedures applied
- Reason for the sworn staff's intervention
- Youth's actions and statements prior to use of force
- What the sworn staff observed at the time, and what the sworn staff did, including all verbal instructions/commands
- A clear and factual rationale for the use of force
- Type and amount of force used to overcome resistance
- A description of the use of force and the results obtained
- Observable injuries

- Time of supervisory notification and to whom
- Time of medical and behavioral health clinician notification and to whom
- Time the parent(s)/guardian(s)/person(s) standing in loco parentis and DPO were notified and by whom
- Time and persons involved in debriefing
- Witness statements
- Evidence collected if applicable, including photos

In addition to the Incident Report, the following forms, if applicable, must be completed by the persons designated below and included in the final Incident Packet (reference Juvenile Facilities Manual, Section 1362, *Incident Packets*, for more information).

- *Participant or Witness Statement* (ACPD Form 90) - To be completed by other youth or persons not employed by the ACPD.
- *Use of Mechanical Restraint(s) Form* (ACPD Form 120) or equivalent form in the CMS - To be completed by the sworn staff who applied the mechanical restraints and signed off by the Assistant Superintendent, and Superintendent, and medical staff.
- *Notice of Injury to Youth* (ACPD Form 88) - To be completed by the sworn staff and medical staff.
- *Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Application Report* (ACPD Form 121) or equivalent form in the CMS - To be completed by the sworn staff who applied the OC spray and signed off by the IS I, IS II, Assistant Superintendent, and Superintendent.

Department of Justice Reporting

In accordance with Government Code Section 12525.2, the ACPD must submit use of force incident data to the Department of Justice (DOJ) annually. Information may be submitted electronically via a web-based data collection system known as URSUS (the DOJ's Use of Force Data Reporting System). In support of this requirement, the Adult Field Services Division submits one (1) entry for all ACPD Divisions (i.e., Adult Field Services, Juvenile Field Services, and Juvenile Facilities).

For the Juvenile Facilities, the DCPO of Juvenile Facilities must submit the following information to the DCPO of Adult Field Services:

- Any incident in which the use of force by sworn staff against a youth results in serious bodily injury or death; and

- Any incident in which use of force by a youth against sworn staff results in serious bodily injury or death.

Right to Grieve Use of Force

Any youth subject to a use of force has the right to grieve the use of force, as outlined in Juvenile Facilities Manual, Section 1361, *Grievance Procedure*.

Unnecessary or Excessive Use of Force

Any sworn staff present during a use of force where another officer (internal or external), regardless of rank, is clearly using force beyond that which is objectively reasonable given the circumstances must, when in a position to safely do so, intercede to prevent the unreasonable force. An attempt to stop such use of force may be made verbally or by application of force, provided that such application of force will not create a substantial risk of death or serious bodily injury to the youth or staff. The safety and security of the youth must be prioritized in these situations. In addition, any ACPD staff witnessing, or having knowledge of, inappropriate use of force is required to immediately report the incident to the Duty IS II. Notification must be verbal and followed up in writing via an *Incident Report* (ACPD Form 87) or equivalent form in the CMS, which must be completed prior to the staff going off duty.

The seriousness of the inappropriate use of force incident may require that staff complete a *Suspected Child Abuse Report* pursuant to the Administrative Manual, Section 113, *Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect*, if abuse or neglect is suspected based on training.

Administrative Review

Each individual use of force incident must be evaluated at both supervisory and management levels to determine if the force used was both appropriate and lawful under applicable laws, regulations, policy, procedures, and training.

Factors Used to Determine the Reasonableness of Force

When determining if applying force is necessary and in evaluating whether a sworn staff has used reasonable force, several factors should be taken into consideration. These factors include, but are not limited to:

- The immediacy and severity of the threat to sworn staff or others;

DUTY TO INTERCEDE

Any sworn staff witnessing inappropriate use of force on a youth must intercede by verbal and/or physical action when safe to do so.

- The conduct of the individual being confronted, as reasonably perceived by the officer at the time;
- Sworn staff/youth factors (age, size, relative strength, skill level, injuries sustained, level of exhaustion or fatigue, and the number of officers available vs. youths);
- The effects of drugs or alcohol on the youth;
- The youth's mental state or capacity;
- The proximity of weapons or dangerous improvised devices;
- The degree to which the youth has been effectively restrained and their ability to resist despite being restrained;
- The availability of other options and their possible effectiveness;
- Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the youth;
- The training and experience of the sworn staff;
- The potential for injury to officers, youth, and others;
- Whether the youth appears to be resisting, attempting to evade arrest by flight, or is attacking the sworn staff;
- The risk and reasonably foreseeable consequences of escape;
- Whether the conduct of the youth being confronted no longer appears to pose an imminent threat to the officer or others;
- Prior contacts with the subject or awareness of any propensity for violence;
- The apparent need for immediate control of the youth or a prompt resolution of the situation; and/or
- Other exigent circumstances.

Level I Review of Use of Force Incidents

All use of force incidents must be reviewed by an IS I or IS II as soon as practical, but prior to the supervisor going off duty. If an IS I or IS II cannot complete their critique prior to going off duty, they must notify the IS I or IS II on the incoming shift to continue the review process until completion. The IS I or IS II reviewing the incident must verify all staff involved in a use of force incident submit/route an *Incident Report* (ACPD Form 87) or equivalent form in the CMS. The review must include a viewing of all available video and audio surveillance.

The IS I or IS II must review each sworn staff's Incident Report for content and accuracy, and to ensure the report contains enough detail related to the use of force incident. If additional information or clarification surrounding an incident is required, the IS I or IS II must maintain the original report if submitted on paper and direct the staff to complete an amended report to clarify and/or expand upon the information provided. If the report is submitted via the CMS and additional information or clarification is required, the IS I or IS II must route the report back

INCIDENT REVIEW

All Use of Force Incidents must be reviewed by an IS I or IS II as soon as practical, but prior to the end of their workday.

to the sworn staff via the CMS and direct staff to complete an amended report.

In addition, the IS I /or IS II must provide a critique of the use of force incident. The following information must be documented in their respective critiques:

- Whether sworn staff actions prior, during, and after the use of force incident were in compliance with ACPD policy, procedures, and training;
- Any alternatives to force used (i.e., additional sworn staff, referral to behavioral health clinician, verbal counseling, etc.);
- Whether any crisis prevention and intervention techniques were used prior to the use of force incident;
- If the video and audio surveillance footage corroborate what is contained within the Incident Report;
- Any injuries sustained by staff or youth and type of injury; and
- Any behavior by staff that could lead to corrective/disciplinary action.

The critiques must also contain a definitive statement regarding the supervisor's assessment on whether policy, procedure, and training were followed as well as if the force used was reasonable and necessary (including an analysis of the amount of force used in comparison to the amount of resistance encountered). A recommendation for additional training, if any, must also be provided. If any supervisor suspects a case of excessive or unnecessary use of force may have occurred, the supervisor must indicate this in the critique and immediately provide notifications in accordance with the *Required Notifications* section above. The supervisor's critique must be completed by the IS I or IS II prior to going off duty absent exigent circumstances.

Level II Review of Use of Force Incidents

A level II review must be completed by Juvenile Facilities Management (i.e., Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent at the Juvenile Facilities).

Within seven (7) days of the Level I review of a use of force incident at Juvenile Hall, Juvenile Facilities Management, must review the incident, including available video and audio surveillance, and complete a critique within the CMS.

In instances where staff have demonstrated exemplary performance of their duties, Facilities Management may recognize these staff.

In instances where there is an allegation of a use of force incident having violated policy, procedures, and/or training, Juvenile Facilities Management

must complete a critique within five (5) days of the Level I review. If there is an allegation of an incident being excessive or unnecessary, Juvenile Facilities Management must complete a critique within two (2) business days of the completion of the Level I review.

The following information must be documented in the critique:

- Whether sworn staff actions prior, during, and after the use of force incident complied with ACPD policy, procedures, and training as well as being lawful under applicable laws and regulations;
- Whether all staff involved in a use of force incident submitted reports
- Whether the Level I review provided an accurate and thorough review of the incident;
- Whether they agree with the Level I review, critique, and conclusions;
- Any recommendations to amend policy, procedures, and/or training; and
- If further action may be warranted such as an investigation or corrective action.

In instances where the Juvenile Facilities Management receives notification that a use of force incident is suspected of having violated policy, procedures, and/or training standards or is suspected of being excessive or unnecessary, the Juvenile Facilities Management staff receiving the notification must notify the other Facilities Management staff of the incident and pending review. The Juvenile Facilities Management staff receiving the notification must also review the Incident Packet and all available information, including video and audio surveillance, within five (5) business days of receiving the Incident Packet for incidents suspected of policy, procedures, and/or training standards, or two (2) business days for incidents suspected of being excessive or unnecessary, absent exigent circumstances. For use of force incidents which violate policy, procedures, and/or training, the Juvenile Facilities Management will determine the level of severity and if the incident may be addressed internally to the Facilities (i.e., through additional training of staff) or if a memorandum should be completed.

If it is determined that the incident violates policy, procedures, and/or training, any recommended corrective action or discipline must be provided to the Use of Force Coordinator and the DCPO of Juvenile Facilities.

Deputy Chief Probation Officer's Review

During this review, if the incident is deemed to be an egregious violation of policy, procedures, and/or training or an excessive or unnecessary use of force, the DCPO must confer with the Superintendent and UFC. The DCPO will submit a memorandum and recommendation to the ACPO and UFC. The UFC maintains authority to refer the matter to the CPO regarding instances where there is a violation of policy, procedures, and/or training, but the DCPO recommended otherwise.

The memorandum must include the following:

- Synopsis of the use of force incident;
- Complete Incident Packet (if available);
- Any steps taken to immediately address the situation (i.e., medical care provided to the youth, reported to law enforcement, etc.)
- Recommendations for corrective action, if any;
- Recommendations for training remediation, if any;
- Any recommendations from the UFC;
- Any recommendations regarding whether a Professional Standards Unit (PSU) investigation should be opened.

Assistant Chief Probation Officer and Chief Probation Officer's Review

The ACPO must determine whether to follow the Superintendent, DCPO, and/or UFC's recommendation(s), impose an alternative resolution, or refer the incident to the CPO. The ACPO must inform the UFC of their final decision. The UFC, however, maintains authority to refer the matter to the CPO as part of their regular duties.

The CPO is responsible for determining if a PSU investigation should be opened to investigate the allegation. The CPO may convene the Executive Use of Force Review Committee (EUFRC) to assist in the determination. Allegations of excessive or unnecessary use of force may be referred to the Alameda County Sheriff's Office for investigation and/or to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution.

Any sustained allegation of retaliation, the willful abuse of a youth and/or the deprivation of their rights by any sworn staff under the color of law or color of authority will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including, termination.

Use of Force Oversight and Review Committee

Use of Force Coordinator

The UFC is responsible for coordinating materials for the EUFRC and verifying staff, at all levels, are adhering to the policies, procedures, and training requirements related to the use of force. The UFC has the authority and responsibility to review each use of force incident, including associated video and audio surveillance, to provide quality assurance over the ACPD use of force review process.

The UFC has the following responsibilities:

- Attend training and maintain certification in all Juvenile Facilities-required use of force trainings, including the use of chemical restraints;
- Once the Superintendent completes their review of a use of force incident, read the contents of each Incident Report Packet, and review all available video and audio surveillance;
- Determine if the use of force occurred within ACPD policy guidelines;
- Identify and make an independent determination regarding potential cases of excessive or unnecessary use of force and confirm that such cases are known to the Superintendent;
- When an allegation of excessive or unnecessary use of force occurred or the UFC determines there is a potential case of excessive or unnecessary use of force, discuss the incident with and provide recommendations to the Superintendent;
- Verify that staff, including JIOs, IS Is/IS IIs, Assistant Superintendent, and Superintendents, are adhering to the reporting and review procedures outlined in this policy;
- Provide a report to the EUFRC regarding the use of force incidents;
- Schedule, record minutes, and maintain an attendance sheet for all EUFRC meetings as well as assigning and tracking any action items; and
- Recommend use of force incidents to be presented to the EUFRC.

When conducting a review of a use of force incident, the UFC must utilize the criteria identified under the *Administrative Review* section of this policy to determine if the use of force was objectively reasonable, appropriate, and necessary given the circumstances and information available. The UFC must evaluate the actions of staff before, during, and after a use of force incident.

To assist in the review of potential unnecessary or excessive use of force

incidents, the UFC must review all *Institutional Supervisor II (IS II) End of Shift Reports* (ACPD Form 155) for any reported use of force incidents; conduct a preliminary review of available video and audio surveillance of such incidents; and confirm that the Superintendent is aware of any incidents that could potentially be an unnecessary or excessive use of force.

Executive Use of Force Review Committee

The EUFRC consists of a team designated by the CPO and tasked with overseeing use of force incidents, policy, and training standards at ACPD. The EUFRC will review trends regarding use of force incidents at ACPD and make recommendations regarding training, follow-up actions, and revisions to policies, procedures, and practices necessary to reduce use of force incidents, ACPD liability, and injuries to youth and staff.

The EUFRC will be comprised of the following members or designees:

- CPO and/or ACPO (who must serve as the Chair)
- DCPO of Juvenile Facilities
- Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent of the Juvenile Hall and Camp Wilmont Sweeney
- Director of the PSU
- Deputy Chief of Policy and Standards Compliance
- Training Manager and NRCT Instructor
- UFC (who must serve as facilitator)
- External subject matter expert(s) or stakeholders, as determined by the CPO

The EUFRC must meet at least quarterly, absent exigent circumstances, or at the discretion of the CPO. During the meetings, the EUFRC will review select use of force incidents either recommended by the UFC or other EUFRC members.

Electronic Maintenance of Records

All use of force Incident Reports and Incident Packets must be maintained in an electronic database for recordkeeping purposes. Said records must be maintained pursuant to government standards for the retention of records. In addition, for each use of force incident the following information must be inputted into a database or record management system:

- Incident type (assault, battery, group altercation, disturbance, mutual combat,

- etc.)
- Type of force used (technique)
- If mechanical restraints were used
- If OC spray was used
- If room confinement was utilized as a result of the use of force incident
- Location of incident
- Date and time of incident
- Youth involved
- If the youth had a mental health designation or identified disability
- Staff who applied force
- All related critiques pertaining to the use of force incident
- All findings related information to determine if the use of force was lawful under applicable laws, regulations, policy, procedures, and training

The database must be capable of producing various statistical reports to be utilized by managers to evaluate trends, reasons for the application of force, and the factors involved. The Superintendent must be responsible for ensuring use of force information is accurately and consistently recorded in the database.

Training

Sworn staff must be trained in ACPD-approved physical intervention and restraint techniques that restrict mobility or movement and disengage the youth from harmful physical contact. In addition, all sworn staff must be trained in de-escalation techniques and all other training elements outlined in Penal Code Section 13519.10 to include a review of this policy and guidelines regarding vulnerable populations such as children, elderly persons, pregnant women, and people with physical, mental, and developmental disabilities.

Additionally, training must include, but is not limited to, the following topics:

- Known medical and behavioral health conditions that would indicate that certain types of force should not be used;
- Acceptable chemical agents, the methods of application, and the limited circumstances in which it can be used;
- Signs or symptoms that should result in immediate referral to medical or behavioral health;
- Instruction on the Constitutional Limitations of Use of Force; and
- Physical training force options that may require the use of perishable skills.

All sworn staff must participate in initial training upon assignment to include, but not be limited to, the Use of Force for Facilities, OC Training, and the NRCT modules.

Initial training must consist of sixteen (16) hours and cover the topics identified above. Regular update training must consist of sixteen (16) hours, occur annually, and cover the topics identified above.

Sworn staff subject to a substantiated abuse of force complaint must not train other sworn staff for a period of at least three (3) years from the date that the complaint against the sworn staff is substantiated.

Public Complaints

Members of the public may submit complaints to ACPD in accordance with the Administrative Manual, Section 116, *Public Complaint Process*.

Disclosure of Public Record

If the incident involved the use of force resulting in death or great bodily injury, personnel records, if requested, may be disclosed as a public record in accordance with Penal Code Section 832.7, and the California Public Records Act.

Review of Policy

This policy must be reviewed on a regular basis and updated to reflect any developing procedures regarding the use of force.



USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM DIAGRAM (Juvenile.Facilities)

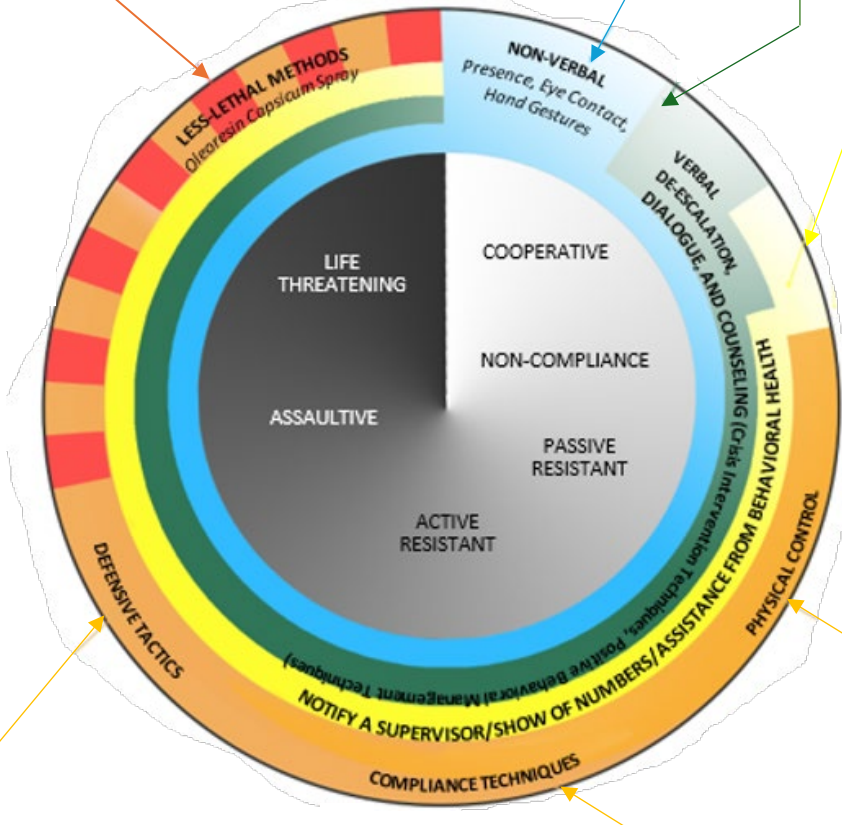
The deployment of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC). OC may cause serious bodily injury and is only authorized for use against assaultive or life-threatening resistance. Note: Sworn staff must exercise extreme caution when utilizing any physical intervention option on a youth known to be: pregnant; suffering from a serious mental condition (e.g., respiratory condition, asthma, or other condition that could contribute to the youth sustaining serious bodily injury or death as a result of the use of a physical intervention), youth taking psychotropic medication; or having a physical, mental, or developmental disability.

Non-physical intervention option which is employed to gain compliance with all levels of resistance. Verbal Commands should be clear and understandable. Verbal commands also include de-escalation dialogue, verbal counseling, and crisis intervention and positive behavioral management techniques. If feasible, and safe to do so, verbal commands/de-escalation techniques should be issued prior to the use of a physical intervention option.

A non-physical intervention option that includes officer presence, eye contact, and hand gestures. Officer presence is always in effect regardless of level of resistance. Eye contact and hand gestures are options that may be utilized to communicate commands to cooperative persons and may also prevent the need for the use of a physical intervention option.

Calling for assistance can take the form of requesting additional sworn staff, calling a supervisor, or requesting assistance from behavioral health. Calling for assistance is a non-physical intervention option that can be used when encountering all levels of resistance. The goal of calling for assistance is to attempt to de-escalate the situation by bringing more resources to the scene. If feasible, and safe to do so, calling for assistance should be considered prior to the use of a physical intervention option.

DISCLAIMER
Note: This Use of Force Continuum Diagram is intended as a visual guide and is not a substitution for the guidelines contained within the Juvenile Facilities Manual, Section 1357, Use of Force, nor does it replace the instruction and information provided in training. Officers have a responsibility to review the department's Use of Force policy and attend training to assist in understanding this guide.



A physical intervention option that includes control holds, arrest control, takedowns, and personal body weapons. This level of force is used on assaultive and life-threatening resistance and may also be used on active resistance (if objectively reasonable based on the totality of circumstances).

A low-level physical intervention option that entails using control holds and arrest control. These techniques are not intended to cause injury but use body mechanics and leverage to gain compliance and movement. This level of force is used on active resistance and passive resistance (if objectively reasonable based on the totality of circumstances).

The lowest level physical intervention option which entails physically maneuvering an engaged person's body. This may include physically moving a person's body and/or limbs, escorting the person or using a firm grip. This level of force is not intended to cause pain or injury and is used on non-compliance or passive resistance.