

ON POLICE USE OF FORCE POLICIES

November 18, 2020 | 6pm - 7pm







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- I have often wonder if our police department polices differently for residential, commercial and manufacturing/industrial. Are the demands different? It seems the hours of police activity might overlap?
- Is the use of a firearm allowed for all officers from date of hire/completion of initial training or are there conditions to meet prior to the ability to carry a firearm?
- Does our Department have a threshold of issues/incidents that will result in firing? What is the process for firing an officer and how do inappropriate uses of force impact this decisions?
- Are there hiring practices for our officers that specifically seek to identify applicants with racist attitudes or inappropriate authoritarian leanings?
- What are the oversight mechanisms that Tualatin has in place for the Police Department?

• At the first meeting a bar chart was shown reflecting the number of "threshold events" and "use of force" occurrences over the past four years. It appeared that in 2020 we will have the highest number of "threshold events" for the years shown, but the smallest number of "use of force". At the meeting it was suggested that perhaps this unusual data had something to do with the pandemic, but I don't understand how the pandemic might have that effect of reducing significantly the ratio of use of force to threshold events. I wonder if this is worth further discussion and understanding because it seems it would be beneficial to have fewer instances of use of force and perhaps there is something happening in 2020 that we can deliberately continue into the future.

•I believe our policies around use of force are generally good. But what about adding policies around de-escalation, i.e., having policies and training that de-escalate potentially dangerous encounters for the safety of our officers as well as the community?

•What about adding policies around alternatives to deadly force always being preferred, e.g., if a Taser is sufficient force for the situation it is the policy of the department to use a Taser rather than a gun.

• Following the current policies, what would be the expected response of an officer in the following scenario:

A 911 call is received reporting a man selling drugs in the parking lot of Cabela's. When officers arrive on the scene a young man sees the officers and begins running away towards the Tualatin River greenway. The officers see him drop something which looks like it could be a gun. The young man stops to retrieve the item then resumes running away. What does Tualatin policy and training suggest the officers should do?

Another scenario:

A 911 call is received of a mother saying her son is acting "crazy" and has a knife. When officers arrive at the home they find a young man yelling and screaming, mostly incoherently. He is also waving a knife in a threatening fashion. A woman, perhaps his mother, is trying to calm him from a distance. Others from the home or neighborhood are also nearby but nobody is within 25 feet of the young man. What does Tualatin policy and training suggest the officers should do? What if the young man fails to follow the officers' commands to drop the knife?

- 1 300.2.2 why does officer have up to 72 hours to report incident to supervisor? Why not within 24 hours or sooner?
- 2 300.3 4th paragraph improvised uses of force last sentence needs to be explained. Does improvised force include things not trained/authorized by state or TPD such as a choke hold or martial arts moves?
- 3 300.3.3 What are the department approved pain compliance techniques that officers have successfully completed training in? Is each officer certified in each one? Do all officers get trained in all pain compliance techniques and must be certified in all? How often is this training refreshed?
- 4 300.3.4 is carotid control hold the same as a choke hold?

- 5 300.4- how does an officer have objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of the fact that deadly force may be used and that the officer has identified themselves?
- 6-300.5.1 notification to supervisor "as soon as practicable" seems pretty loose. Why is a time limit not defined?
- 7 300.6 What exactly is an extended period of time when an individual may be placed on their stomach? Who determines extended period of time? What makes officers experts on defining extended period of time?
- 8 300.8 training what is "periodic" training? Why not define the period? Why not have training schedules? Why is it "should" receive, not "will" receive? When do you not have resources to provide training?

- 9 Is department able to report on use of force incidents annually to council?
- 10 Is department able to report on all stops quarterly to council?
- 11 Is department tracking officer misconduct/discipline? Is it available for public review? Council review? Is it shared with other agencies?
- 12 TPOA contract There should be a review/discussion of Article 9 (disciplinary action) so the community is aware of how officer discipline and use of force incidents are handled. This is a very sore subject for many in the Portland Police contract.

Use of Force Breakdown

What is tracked:

- Baton
- Control Holds
- Deadly Force Events
- ERIW (Displayed/Deployed)
- Handgun (Displayed/Deployed)
- Hobble
- OC (Displayed/Deployed)
- Rifle (Displayed/Deployed
- Shotgun (Displayed/Deployed)
- Takedown
- Taser (Displayed/Deployed)

Type of Force	Displayed	Deployed / Used
Baton	0	0
Control Holds	0	22
Deadly Force Events	0	0
Extended Range Impact Weapon	4	0
Handgun	43	0
Hobble / Wrap Restraint	0	6
OC (Pepper spray)	0	1
Rifle	0	0
Shotgun	0	0
Takedown	0	4
Taser	6	6

Stop data comparison

Race	Pop. Estimate (2018)	# of Stops	%
Asian	3.70%	269	2.84%
Black	1.40%	313	3.30%
Latino	16.50%	1220	12.86%
Middle Eastern		97	1.02%
Native American	0.70%	22	0.23%
Pacific Islander	0.50%	88	0.93%
Unknown		500	5.27%
White	74.50%	6976	73.55%
Total		9485	

Data collection: 11/01/2018 – 11/18/2020



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