8 Can’t Wait

Ban Chokeholds & Strangleholds:

- **Policy 300, Use of Force, 300.3.3 USE OF FORCE NEAR HEAD/NECK**

  In the instance when force is used, public safety officers should not intentionally use any technique that restricts blood flow to the head, restricts respiration or which creates a reasonable likelihood that blood flow to the head or respiration would be restricted.

Requires De-Escalation:

- **Policy 300, Use of Force, 300.3.2 SUBJECT CONTROL CONTINUUM**

  Interpersonal skills can be an important factor in gaining control of a subject or situation. Fair, cool-headed officer behavior can significantly reduce danger and de-escalate a situation; whereas arrogant, insensitive officer behavior invites hostility and danger and can escalate a situation.

- **Policy 409, Crisis Intervention Incidents, 409.7 TACTICS AND PROCEDURES FOR FIRST RESPONDERS**

  A public safety officer responding to a call involving a person in crisis should:

  (c) Use conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques to stabilize the incident as appropriate.

- **Policy 409, Crisis Intervention Incidents, 409.8 DE-ESCALATION**

  Public Safety Officers should consider that taking no action or passively monitoring the situation may be the most reasonable response to a mental health crisis. Once it is determined that a situation is a mental health crisis and immediate safety concerns have been addressed, responding members should be aware of the following considerations and should generally: • Evaluate safety conditions. • Introduce themselves and attempt to obtain the person’s name. • Be patient, polite, calm and courteous and avoid overreacting. • Speak and move slowly and in a non-threatening manner. • Moderate the level of direct eye contact. • Remove distractions or disruptive people from the area. • Demonstrate active listening skills (i.e., summarize the person’s verbal communication). • Provide for sufficient avenues of retreat or escape should the situation become volatile.

  Responding public safety officers generally should not: • Use stances or tactics that can be interpreted as aggressive. • Allow others to interrupt or engage the person. • Corner a person who is not believed to be armed, violent or suicidal. • Argue, speak with a raised voice or use threats to obtain compliance.
Require Warning Before Shooting:

- **Policy 300, Use of Force, 300.5 DEADLY FORCE APPLICATIONS**

  Use of deadly force is justified in the following circumstances: (a) A public safety officer may use deadly force to protect him/herself or others from what he/she reasonably believes would be an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury. (b) A public safety officer may use deadly force to stop a fleeing subject when the public safety officer has probable cause to believe that the individual has committed, or intends to commit, a felony involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious bodily injury or death, and the public safety officer reasonably believes that there is an imminent risk of serious bodily injury or death to any other person if the individual is not immediately apprehended. Under such circumstances, a verbal warning should precede the use of deadly force, where feasible.

Duty to Intervene:

- **Policy 300, Use of Force, 300.2.1 DUTY TO INTERCEDE**

  Any public safety officer present and observing another public safety officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall, when in a position to do so, intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force. A public safety officer who observes another employee use force that exceeds the degree of force permitted by law should promptly report these observations to a supervisor.

Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles:

- **Policy 300, Use of Force, 300.5.1 SHOOTING AT OR FROM MOVING VEHICLES**

  Shots fired at or from a moving vehicle are rarely effective. Public Safety Officers should move out of the path of an approaching vehicle instead of discharging their firearm at the vehicle or any of its occupants, if feasible. A public safety officer should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle or its occupants when the public safety officer reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to avert the threat of the vehicle, or if deadly force other than the vehicle is directed at the public safety officer or others. Public Safety Officers should not shoot at any part of a vehicle in an attempt to disable the vehicle.

Require Use of Force Continuum:

- **Policy 300, Use of Force, 300.3.2 SUBJECT CONTROL CONTINUUM**

  A Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (COLES) approved subject control continuum will be the guide of non-lethal force utilized by the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety. The subject control continuum defines the levels of subject resistance and the levels of control an officer may use.
8 Can’t Wait

Require Comprehensive Reporting:

- **Policy 300, Use of Force, 300.5 REPORTING THE USE OF FORCE**

  Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, completely and accurately in an appropriate report, depending on the nature of the incident. The public safety officer should articulate the factors perceived and why he/she believed the use of force was reasonable under the circumstances.