

Shawnee Police Department

The following is a reference guide to the #8CantWait initiative.



Ban chokehold and strangleholds: The use of chokeholds and strangleholds are prohibited unless it is a situation in which deadly force is authorized.



Require de-escalation: Verbal de-escalation is required, when possible, before using force. Our police officers are also trained members of the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) to help guide interactions between law enforcement and those living with a mental illness or other crisis.



Require warning before shooting: If possible, and appropriate under the immediate circumstances, officers shall identify themselves as police officers and state their intent before using deadly force.



Exhaust all alternatives before shooting: Officers shall use only the level of force that is objectively reasonable to effectively take a subject into custody given the facts and circumstances known or perceived at the time of the incident.



Duty to intervene (stopping another officer from using excessive force): Any use of force is to be the minimum required to affect an arrest or to prevent death, injury, or great bodily harm to the officer or another. It is the duty of every police officer to intervene if they observe any violation of the law or policy.



Ban shooting at moving vehicles: Officers shall not fire their weapons at or from a moving vehicle except as a last resort and when failure to do so will result in serious injury or death of the officer or innocent persons.



Establish use of force continuum: Officers shall only use reasonable force to affect the arrest on all arrest situations. The amount of force used is based upon numerous factors. Verbal de-escalation tactics are typically used first and throughout the confrontation. Our force options include personal weapons (hands, feet, elbows, grappling), pepper spray, Taser, baton, less than lethal impact rounds, and firearms.



Require all force be reported: Every use of force, other than routine handcuffing, requires a Response to Resistance report detailing the circumstances of the incident along with the type and amount of force used. Every Response to Resistance report is reviewed by several supervisory layers in the Police Department.



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