SCPRC RECOMMENDATION

GO 580.02 Use of Force

SPD UOF policy is outdated, uses vague or overly broad terms, and does not align with AB 392.

Amend GO 580.02(B)(3): Update the policy to provide clarification on when an officer can use deadly force using the following language:

3. An peace officer may use deadly force if, under the circumstances, the officer reasonable believes that the suspect poses an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury, either to the officer or to others. who has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a public offense may use objectively reasonable force to effect the arrest, to prevent escape, or to overcome resistance. A peace officer is justified in using deadly force upon another person only when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary for either of the following reasons:

To defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the peace officer or to another person.

To apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the peace officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Where feasible, a peace officer shall, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the officer has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts.

A peace officer shall not use deadly force against a person based on the danger that person poses to themselves, if an objectively reasonable officer would believe the person does not pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the peace officer or to another person.

SCPRC RECOMMENDATION RATIONALE

This change seeks to align the GO more closely with the state law requirements (AB 392).

SPD RESPONSE

In 2021, SPD’s use of force policy was updated to reflect AB392 and contains a verbatim citation of Penal Code § 835a.

Accordingly, GO 580.02(F), “Considerations Governing Use of Deadly Force,” adheres, verbatim, to Penal Code § 835a(c)(1), regarding prior policy language and states:

(A) To defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person.
(B) To apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Where feasible, a peace officer shall, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the officer has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts.

As of October 2023, a revision of the department’s use of force policy retains the verbatim citation of Penal Code § 835a.
Lastly, the ongoing revision of the department's use of force policy contains the following:

- Compliance with Government Code § 7286 (link)

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**OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS**

City Council Meeting on 06/30/2020, City Council Policy, Police Use of Force
- [Link](http://sacramento.granicus.com/AgendaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4652)
- [Link](https://sacramento.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4652&meta_id=588408)

City Council Meeting on 05/04/2021, Mayor Darrell Steinberg memorandum, Deadly Use of Force Recommendation
- [Link](http://sacramento.granicus.com/AgendaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4935)
- [Link](https://sacramento.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4935&meta_id=627523)

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**APPENDIX**

N/A