

RECOMMENDATION SUBMISSION AND RESPONSE FORM

2019 UOF #13

DISCUSSED BY SCPRC	
RECEIVED BY SPD	12/31/2019
RETURNED TO SCPRC	10/09/2023

APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED	X	PENDING FURTHER REVIEW	
APPROVED AND PENDING		SPD UNABLE TO IMPLEMENT	
PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION		DENIED	

SCPRC RECOMMENDATION

GO 580.02 Use of Force

Amend GO 580.02(B)(9): Require the use of verbal warnings before an officer uses force using the following language.

9. A peace officer shall give warning unless officer has objectively reasonable grounds to believe person is aware of that fact that the officer is a peace officer. ~~If feasible, and if doing so would not increase the danger to the officer or others, the officer shall give a verbal warning to submit to the authority of the officer before using force.~~

SCPRC RECOMMENDATION RATIONALE

[Changes to this General Order were based on the text as it read in 2019.

This GO was updated on 12.26.21]Criminal justice researchers shows that de-escalation training in police departments can make police encounters with the public safer for everyone, reducing the use of force incidents, citizen injuries and officer injuries. Increasing the use of verbal warnings might help de-escalate a situation.

SPD RESPONSE

In 2021, SPD's use of force policy was updated to include the following "Verbal Warning" language (GO 580.02(C)):

If feasible, and if doing so would not increase the danger to the peace officer or another person, the peace officer shall make every attempt to identify themselves and to issue a clear and comprehensible verbal warning before using any force that is likely to cause serious bodily injury or death, so that the subject(s) are given the opportunity to submit to the authority of the peace officer.

SPD has a more restrictive policy requiring verbal warnings requirement, whenever feasible in accordance with case law (Powell v. Snook, 2022).

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS

City Council Meeting on 06/01/2021, City Council Policy, Police Use of Force

- [2:30PM City Council \(Special Meeting\) \(granicus.com\)](#)
- [Microsoft Word - 04022013 Agenda \(granicus.com\)](#)

APPENDIX

N/A