GO 580.02 Use of Force

SPD has no duty to render aid and does not require officers to render medical aid immediately after someone is hurt.

Changes to Existing Policy(s): Create a standalone policy establishing a Duty to Render Aid to require officers to render medical aid as soon as possible. Add a new section to GO 580.02 using the following language:

E. MEDICAL CARE
   1. Peace officers shall render medical aid to the subject as soon possible.
   2. Use of Force Medical Care
      a. It is the supervisor's responsibilities to inquire if UOF resulted in injury and if so, to render aid and ensure that emergency medical care is provided as soon as possible.
         (1) It is an on-scene supervisor's duty to ensure medical aid care is provided if UOF resulted in injury as soon as possible.
         (2) The supervisor, in their report, should include their opinion as to whether the UOF and provision of emergency care were consistent with department policy.
      b. If UOF resulted in injury, the Blue Team entry should include a summary of the emergency care provided.

SCPRC RECOMMENDATION RATIONALE

Ensuring that someone is hurts receives medical attention continues to promote the guardian mentality. Duty to render aid should be a standalone policy and officers should render medical aid as soon as possible.

SPD RESPONSE

In 2021, SPD’s use of force policy was revised to include:

D. RENDERING MEDICAL AID
   Peace officers on scene shall promptly render aid and/or summon medical assistance when reasonable and safe to do so pursuant to GO 522.02 (Emergency Care for Individuals Under Police Care or Control) when any UOF has resulted in any type of injury or death regardless of custody status.

SPD GO 522.02 (Emergency Care for Individuals Under Police Care or Control – link) was published on 08/09/2023 and contains, but not limited to, the following:

A. EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT
   1. Officers having any doubt concerning a person's condition shall request emergency medical assistance.
   2. Officers shall provide first aid to injured parties if it can be done safely.

As of October 2023, a revision of the department’s use of force policy contains the following:

RENDERING MEDICAL AID
   Employees on scene shall promptly render aid and summon medical assistance when reasonable and safe to do so pursuant to General Order 522.02 (Emergency Care) when any UOF has resulted in any type of injury or death regardless of custody status.

Lastly, the ongoing revision of the department’s use of force policy contains the following:
• Compliance with Government Code § 7286 (link)

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS

City Council Meeting on 06/30/2020, City Council Policy, Police Use of Force
• http://sacramento.granicus.com/AgendaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4652
• 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
• http://sacramento.granicus.com/AgendaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4935
• https://sacramento.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4935&meta_id=627523

APPENDIX

N/A