

# RECOMMENDATION SUBMISSION AND RESPONSE FORM

2019 UOF #6

DISCUSSED BY SCPRC		APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED	X	PENDING FURTHER REVIEW	
RECEIVED BY SPD	12/31/2019	APPROVED AND PENDING		SPD UNABLE TO IMPLEMENT	
RETURNED TO SCPRC	10/09/2023	PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION		DENIED	

## 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SPD UOF policy is outdated, uses vague or overly broad terms, and does not align with AB 392.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(A)(5): Change the definition of "de-escalation" to reflect national UOF standards and include examples of de-escalation techniques using the following language:

5. DE-ESCALATION - De-escalation means taking action or communicating verbally or nonverbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so more time, options, and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation without the use of force or with a reduction of the force necessary. De-escalation tactics include, but are not limited to, warnings, verbal persuasion, and tactical repositioning. [Employing techniques to stabilize a situation, to decrease the likelihood of the need to use force, and to increase the likelihood of voluntary compliance. De-escalation techniques include, but are not limited to, gathering information about the incident, assessing risks, using crisis intervention techniques, communicating and coordinating a response, and utilizing available resources (such as personnel, equipment; usage of time, distance, and cover).]

## SCPRC RECOMMENDATION RATIONALE

There is only one specific definition of police de-escalation. This definition is found in the 2017 National Consensus Policy and Discussion Paper on Use of Force (a collaborative effort among 11 law enforcement leadership and labor organizations in the United States). The National Consensus Policy specifically defines police de-escalation as "taking action or communicating verbally or non-verbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options, and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation without the use of force or with a reduction in the force necessary."

SPD's UOF policy does not align with the national consensus policy and does not specify the de-escalation techniques an officer is trained to deploy.

## SPD RESPONSE

GO 580.06 (De-Escalation and Planned Response – [link](#)) was produced on 12/01/2020 and complies with the National Consensus Policy and Discussion Paper on Use of Force.

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

Further, the policy contains the following definition of de-escalation:

### A. DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS

5. DE-ESCALATION - Taking action or communicating verbally or nonverbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options, and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation without the UOF or with a reduction of the force necessary. De-escalation tactics include, but are not limited to, warnings, verbal persuasion, and tactical repositioning.

As of October 2023, a revision of the department's use of force policy retains the verbatim citation of Penal Code § 835a(e)(3) and existing definition of de-escalation.

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](http://sacramento.granicus.com/AgendaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4652)
- [https://sacramento.granicus.com/Viewer.php?view\\_id=22&clip\\_id=4652&meta\\_id=588408](https://sacramento.granicus.com/Viewer.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](http://sacramento.granicus.com/AgendaViewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4935)
- [https://sacramento.granicus.com/Viewer.php?view\\_id=22&clip\\_id=4935&meta\\_id=627523](https://sacramento.granicus.com/Viewer.php?view_id=22&clip_id=4935&meta_id=627523)

#### APPENDIX

N/A