

*The La Habra Police Department is proud to serve our local residents and businesses and is committed to providing our community with excellent, impartial, and unbiased policing. In recognition of this commitment, the La Habra Police Department continually evaluates its policies and procedures, considering recent case law and events, and meeting or exceeding all applicable State and Federal law(s).*

*Over the past several weeks communities across the country have raised questions and concerns about law enforcement and the amount of force used when officers make an arrest. With these concerns in mind, the following information provides a brief overview of our training, practices, and policies. The La Habra Police Department Policy Manual is also available for review on the police department's website at <https://www.lahabracity.com/1098/Policies>.*

### **BAN CHOKEHOLDS & STRANGLEHOLDS**

The use of a “chokehold” or “stranglehold” is not authorized for use by La Habra Police Officers, consistent with Governor Newsom’s recent order to stop training and certification on the use of the “Carotid Restraint” as part of the California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST).

### **REQUIRE DE-ESCALATION**

Officers are required to attend Crisis Intervention and De-escalation training certified by POST. This training includes: “Persuasive Techniques to Gain Compliance,” “Core Concepts of De-escalation,” “Critical Decision-Making Model,” and the “Calm and Steady Approach.” Officers are then required to attend a refresher course on these topics every two years, which supplements training provided to officers while attending police academy and during field training.

### **REQUIRE WARNING BEFORE SHOOTING**

Where feasible, officers will, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as police officers and to warn that deadly force may be used. A warning that deadly force will be used is not required but is encouraged to be given when time allows. Policy Section 300.4 (b) cover this area.

### **REQUIRE TO EXHAUST ALL ALTERNATIVES BEFORE SHOOTING**

In determining whether deadly force is necessary, officers shall evaluate each situation in light of the particular circumstances of each case, and shall use other available resources and techniques if reasonably safe and feasible to an “objectively reasonable officer.” As such, this section incorporates the objectively reasonable officer standard and tacitly acknowledges that an officer is only required to use non-deadly force if it is reasonably safe and feasible for the officer to do so without endangering the officer’s life or the lives of others.

### **DUTY TO INTERVENE**

California law sets forth the “requirement that an officer intercede when present and observing another officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is necessary.” The La Habra Police Department policy also requires that officers report their observations to a supervisor promptly. The requirement is covered in Policy Section 300.2.1.

### **BAN SHOOTING AT MOVING VEHICLES**

Shooting at a moving vehicle is extremely rare and generally discouraged; however, there have been rare instances when the practice has been necessary to protect the lives of officers and others in the public. Specific guidelines for the use of deadly force in these limited situations is covered under Policy Section 300.4.1.

### **REQUIRE USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM**

The “use of force continuum concept” has been proven to be antiquated and has given way to more knowledgeable, science-based use of force training and policies. Use of force is covered in Policy Section 300 and is consistent with California Penal Code Section 835a.

### **REQUIRE COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING**

The La Habra Police Department requires officers to thoroughly document any use of force in a police report. Documentation requirements are covered in Policy Section 300.5.