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WASPC Standard(s): 3.8		Subject: NECK RESTRAINTS

208.1 NECK RESTRAINTS AND CHOKEHOLDS - PROHIBITED

In compliance with RCW 10.116.020, the intentional use of a chokehold or neck restraint on another person is strictly prohibited. All types of neck restraint holds are considered a use of deadly force.

A peace officer may not use a chokehold or neck restraint on another person in the course of his or her duties as a peace officer (RCW 10.116.020) unless it is necessary to protect the officer's life or the life of another from imminent threat (RCW 10.120.020 (4)).

208.2 DEFINITIONS

"Chokehold" means the intentional application of direct pressure to the person's trachea or windpipe for the purpose of restricting another person's airway.

"Neck restraint" refers to any vascular neck restraint or similar restraint, hold, or other tactic in which pressure is applied to the neck for the purpose of constricting blood flow.