



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Manual

POLICY 501

Use of Force

POLICY 501

EFFECTIVE DATE: 5/29/25

SUPERSEDES DATE: 5/24/24

ACCREDITATION STANDARD: ACA 2B-01; 2B-03; 2B-04; 2B-08; 7B-10; 7B-14; 7B-15; 7B-16

501.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines on the reasonable use of force. While there is no way to specify the exact amount or type of reasonable force to be applied in any situation, every officer (as defined below) of this Office will use these guidelines to make such decisions in a professional, impartial and reasonable manner.

501.1.1 PHILOSOPHY

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office maintains a high regard for all human life and serves its community with dignity and without prejudice. The use of force by law enforcement personnel is a matter of critical concern to the public and the law enforcement community. The delivery of public safety services requires our officers to have various interactions with members of the public each day; on occasion, those interactions require officers to use reasonable force to accomplish a lawful objective. Through policy writing and adherence, training and supervision, we emphasize using de-escalation techniques when feasible and the use of deadly force only when the officer reasonably believes it is necessary to protect the officer or others from imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury.

501.1.2 DUTY TO INTERVENE

Any officer present who is on-duty shall intervene to prevent or stop another peace officer, regardless of rank, including a peace officer who is the handler of a law enforcement animal, from using physical force that exceeds the degree of force permitted, if any, by section 18-1-707 in pursuance of the other peace officer's law enforcement duties in carrying out an arrest of any person, placing any person under detention, taking any person into custody, booking any person, or in the process of crowd control or riot control, without regard for chain of command.

501.1.3 DUTY TO REPORT EXCESSIVE FORCE

In accordance with C.R.S. § 18-8-802 and this policy, any officers who witness another peace officer using force in excess of that permitted pursuant to C.R.S. § 18-1-707 must report such use of force to a supervisor. Subsequent written notification shall be within 10 days of the occurrence and include the date, time, and place of the occurrence, the identity if known, and description of the participants, and a description of the events and the force used (C.R.S. § 18-8-802(1)(b)).

As a matter of policy, and to increase awareness of events involving force that may be unlawful, civilian employees are required to notify a supervisor within 10 days if they witness a sworn member of this Office use force that may be excessive.

501.2 DEFINITIONS

Bodily Injury: Physical pain, illness, or any impairment of physical or mental condition. C.R.S. § 18-1-901 (c).

Blue Team: An internal, administrative report required when a reportable use of force has occurred. The report serves a data-collection function so the agency may view demographic and similar information for the purpose of analysis. Additionally, each individual report prompts the employee's chain of command to review the event for policy compliance.

Chokehold: Any method by which a person applies sufficient pressure to a subject to make breathing difficult or impossible and includes but is not limited to any pressure to the neck, throat, or windpipe that may prevent or hinder breathing or reduce intake of air; or applying pressure to the subject's neck, on either side of the windpipe, to stop the flow of blood through the carotid arteries to the brain.



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Manual

POLICY 501

Taser Energy Weapon (T.E.W.): An Office-approved, less-lethal non-deadly device that uses electronic electrical energy to transmit NMI (neuromuscular incapacitation) or cause pain stimulus to the body to impair muscular control (also known as Taser).

Deadly Physical Force: "Deadly force," as used in this policy, means force, the intended, natural and probable consequence of which is to produce death, and which does, in fact, cause death. C.R.S. § 18-1-901 (30)(d).

Deadly Weapon: Any of the following, which is capable of producing death or serious bodily injury in the manner it is used or intended to be used. This includes a firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, a knife, a bludgeon, or any other weapon, device, instrument, material, or substance, whether animate or inanimate. C.R.S. § 18-1-901(3)(e).

Duty to Report Use of Force by Peace Officers: C.R.S. § 18-8-802 (1)(a), a peace officer who, in pursuance of such officer's law enforcement duties, witnesses another peace officer, in pursuance of such other peace officer's law enforcement duties in carrying out an arrest of any person, placing any person under detention, taking any person into custody, booking any person, or in the process of crowd control or riot control, uses physical force which exceeds the degree of physical force permitted pursuant to section C.R.S. § 18-1-707 must report such use of force to such officer's immediate supervisor. Failure to do so may result in criminal charges. See C.R.S. § 18-8-802 for the required contents of the report.

Mechanical Restraint: Means a physical device used to involuntarily restrict the movement of a person or the movement or normal function of a portion of a person's body. C.R.S. 18-1-707§2.7(a)(I).

Necessary: When after all reasonable alternatives have been exhausted where feasible, no reasonable alternative was known or should have been known to a reasonable officer in similar circumstances.

Noise-Flash Diversionary Device (NFDD): Commonly referred to as a flashbang, is a non-lethal explosive device used in tactical situations to temporarily disorient a target's senses and cause distractions or diversions. The device is not a weapon and does not produce fragmentation. The NFDD produces a loud noise and an intense flash of light when activated. This combination can overwhelm a target's hearing and vision in certain environments, causing confusion and distraction, which can be crucial in certain law enforcement tactical operations.

Non-Deadly Weapon: Any object or material, when in the manner it is used or intended to be used, is unlikely to result in death or serious bodily injury.

Objective Reasonableness Standard:

1. The analysis that will be used to evaluate all force, deadly and non-deadly, as outlined in the Supreme Court's decision in *Graham v. Connor* (1989).
2. It will be dependent on the facts and circumstances in each particular case at the time of the use of force without regard to their underlying intent or motivation.
3. Facts and circumstances will include (three-prong test):
 - a. The severity of the crime at issue.
 - b. Does the suspect pose an immediate threat to the safety of officers or others?
 - c. Is the suspect actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight?
4. Must take into consideration that officers are often forced to make split-second decisions in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.
5. Must be judged from an on-scene perspective, not in 20/20 hindsight.

Officer: For the purposes of this policy, the term officer shall mean all sworn personnel and security officers.

Officer Created Jeopardy: A tactical error in judgment or action does not necessarily reach the threshold of created jeopardy. For created jeopardy to apply, the following must be considered:



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Manual

POLICY 501

1. The officer's actions immediately prior to and/or immediately connected to the officer's use of force unreasonably created the need for the officer to use force, and
2. The officer's actions must reach the level of recklessness or deliberateness.

Proportional: Means not excessive in relation to a direct and legitimate law enforcement objective.

Prone Position: Means a position in which a person is lying on a solid surface with the person's chest and abdomen positioned downward even if the person's face is turned to the side or the person has one shoulder lifted. C.R.S. 18-1-707§2.7(a)(II).

Prone Restraint: Means a use of physical force, including, but not limited to, the use of a mechanical restraint, in which the person who is being restrained is in a prone position. C.R.S. 18-1-707§2.7(a)(III).

Reasonable Belief: Having knowledge of facts, although not amounting to direct knowledge, would cause a reasonable person, knowing the same facts, to reasonably conclude the same thing.

Reasonable Officer Standard: Would an officer, facing the same/similar circumstances, with the same/similar training and experience, act in the same/similar way or use similar judgment. This standard is dependent on the totality of the circumstances. The force used does not need to be the best force option or the least intrusive, only a reasonable option. There must be an element of proportionality between the need for and the amount of force used.

Recovery Position: Means a position other than a prone position that allows the person to breathe normally. C.R.S. 18-1-707§2.7(a)(IV).

Serious Bodily Injury: Bodily injury which, either at the time of the actual injury or later, involves a substantial risk of death, a substantial risk of serious permanent disfigurement, a substantial risk of protracted loss or impairment of the function of any part or organ of the body, or breaks, fractures, or burns of the second or third degree. C.R.S. § 18-1-901(p).

Use of Force: The use of physical force (including deadly and non-deadly weapons) or show of authority to compel compliance to accomplish a lawful objective, overcome resistance, self-defense, or protect another officer or person.

Use of Excessive Force: C.R.S. § 18-8-803, (1) Subject to the provisions of section C.R.S. 18-1-707, a peace officer who uses excessive force in the pursuance of such officer's law enforcement duties shall be subject to the criminal laws of this state to the same degree as any other citizen, including the provisions of part 1 of article 3 of this title concerning homicide and related offenses and the provisions of part 2 of said article 3 concerning assaults. (2) As used in this section, "excessive force" means physical force, which exceeds the degree of physical force permitted pursuant to section C.R.S. 18-1-707. The use of excessive force shall be presumed when a peace officer continues to apply physical force in excess of the force permitted by section C.R.S. 18-1-707 to a person who has been rendered incapable of resisting arrest.

Weapon: As it pertains to the verbiage used to describe what an officer is equipped with in relation to CRS 24-31-901(7), weapon means a firearm, long gun, TASER, Baton, or projectile.

501.3 USE OF FORCE

Officers shall use only the amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and circumstances perceived by the officer at the time of the event to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

The reasonableness of force will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene at the time of the incident. Any evaluation of reasonableness must allow that officers are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force that reasonably appears necessary in a particular situation, with limited information, and in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Manual

POLICY 501

Given that no policy can realistically predict every possible situation an officer might encounter, officers are entrusted to use well-reasoned discretion in determining the reasonableness of force in each incident. Some circumstances may arise in which officers reasonably believe it would be impractical or ineffective to use any of the Office's tools, weapons, or methods. The use of an improvised device or method must nonetheless be reasonable and utilized only to the degree which reasonably appears necessary to accomplish a lawful objective within the scope of their duties. Officers, where feasible, will consider the use of de-escalation techniques and document any usage of de-escalation techniques.

While the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter is to avoid or minimize injury, nothing in this policy requires an officer to retreat or be exposed to possible physical injury before applying reasonable force.

501.3.1 FACTORS USED TO DETERMINE THE REASONABLENESS OF FORCE

When determining whether to apply force and evaluating whether an officer has used reasonable force, a number of factors should be taken into consideration. These factors include, but are not limited to:

Graham Factors (*Graham v. Connor* 1989):

1. The severity of the crime at issue.
2. Does the suspect pose an immediate threat to the safety of officers or others?
3. Is the suspect actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight?

Kingsley Factors (*Kingsley v. Hendrickson* 2015):

1. The relationship between the need for the use of force and the amount of force used.
2. The extent of the injury inflicted.
3. Any effort made by the officer to temper or limit the amount of force.
4. The severity of the security problem at issue.
5. The officer reasonably perceived the threat.
6. Whether the subject was actively resisting.
7. Courts must account for the government's interest (deferring to policies needed to preserve order and discipline).

Medical Emergency/Crisis Intervention Factors:

1. The individual's emotional or mental disturbance.
2. The severity and immediacy of the individual's threat to himself or others.
3. Was some degree of force reasonably necessary to lessen the immediate threat?
4. Whether law enforcement officers knew or should have known the individual had unique characteristics making him more susceptible to harm from a particular use of force.
5. Was the force used more than reasonably necessary under the circumstances.
6. Diminished capacity caused by health problems, emotional stress, drunkenness, or drugs.

Deadly Force Factors (*Larsen v. Murr*, 10th Circuit 2008):

1. Whether the officers ordered the suspect to drop his weapon [where feasible], and the suspect's compliance with police commands.
 - a. For this section of the policy, "feasible" means those circumstances when giving a warning does not place the officer or others in greater danger.
2. Whether any hostile motions were made with the weapon towards the officers [or others].
3. The distance separating the officers and the suspect.
4. The manifest intentions of the suspect.

Additional Factors:

1. Officer/subject disparity- age, size, relative strength, skill level, experience, injuries sustained, level of exhaustion or fatigue, the number of officers available vs. subjects.
2. The degree to which the subject has been effectively restrained and their ability to resist despite being restrained.
3. The proximity of weapons or dangerous improvised devices.
4. The apparent need for immediate control of the subject or a prompt resolution of the situation.



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Manual

POLICY 501

5. Prior contacts with the subject or awareness of any propensity for violence.
6. Whether during the course of the interaction, new facts developed requiring a change in the amount of force required.

501.3.2 GENERAL USE OF FORCE DIRECTIVES

1. All officers must be trained annually in the use of force. Officers will have access to the Use of Force Policy and must understand and comply with the directives outlined in this policy.
2. Chokeholds are prohibited.
3. When restraining subjects, members should not place the subject in what is known as a "hog-tie" position – described as a prone position, hands restrained behind the back, feet shackled, and a chain or tether which connects the restrained hands and feet or any position which restricts or impairs respiration.
4. When placing subjects in a prone position to restrain them, officers will place the restrained subject in a recovery position as soon as tactically sound based on the totality of the circumstances of the incident.

501.4 RESPONSE TO PROTESTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Officers will respect the rights of people to peaceably assemble and not unnecessarily interfere with those who are lawfully exercising their right to do so. In addition to the following directives, officers will abide by those guidelines found in the policy governing First Amendment Assemblies.

1. Officers will not target subjects' head, pelvis, or back when deploying impact rounds / less-lethal projectiles.
2. Officers will not fire impact rounds indiscriminately into the crowd.
3. Officers must first issue an order to the crowd to disperse prior to using chemical agents/sprays. The order must have been given in a manner to ensure the order was heard; the order should be repeated if necessary. The crowd must be given sufficient time and routes of egress to comply with the order.

501.5 USE OF NON-DEADLY PHYSICAL FORCE

In addition to the statutory justification of the use of force extended to citizens, officers may use "reasonable and appropriate physical force" when they reasonably believe it is necessary to:

1. Effect an arrest (does not apply to security officers).
2. Prevent an escape.
3. Defense of self and others.
4. Protect property.
5. Quell a Disturbance.
6. Temporarily detain (Terry Stop).
7. Take a person into protective custody for mental health or intoxicated conditions (does not apply to security officers).
8. Maintain order and discipline in a detention or correctional institution (does not apply to security officers).
9. Prevent self-inflicted injury.
10. Execute a warrant (does not apply to security officers).

501.6 USE OF DEADLY PHYSICAL FORCE

In accordance with the statutory justifications outlined by Colorado law, an officer is justified in using deadly physical force when he reasonably believes it is necessary to stop a subject whom:

1. He or she believes has committed or attempted to commit a felony with the use or threatened use of a deadly weapon and without immediate apprehension remains an imminent threat to the officer or others by the use or threatened use of force that may result in serious bodily injury or death.
2. To defend himself or a third person from what he reasonably believes is the use or imminent use of force that may result in serious bodily injury or death.
3. He or she reasonably believes is attempting to escape by the use of a deadly weapon and, without immediate apprehension, remains an imminent threat to the safety of the officer or others by the use or threatened use of force that may result in serious bodily injury or death.
4. While in a detention facility, to defend himself or a third person from what he reasonably believes is the use or imminent use of force that may result in serious bodily injury or death.
5. And when the force employed does not create a substantial risk of injury to other persons.



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Manual

POLICY 501

6. Only if it would not place the officer or others in greater danger will the officer warn the subject before using deadly force. The warning shall consist of identifying him or herself as law enforcement, their intent to use deadly force, and sufficient time for the subject to comply.

501.6.1 SHOOTING AT OR FROM MOVING VEHICLES

Shots fired at or from a moving vehicle are rarely effective.

1. An officer may discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle, or the driver only when the officer reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to stop the driver from using the vehicle as a deadly weapon against the officer or another person; or,
2. An officer may discharge a firearm at a passenger of a moving vehicle only when the passenger is using or attempting to use deadly force, other than the vehicle, against the officer or another person, and there are no other reasonable means available to stop the threat.
3. Officers should move out of the path of an approaching vehicle when feasible instead of discharging their firearm at the vehicle or any of its occupants.
4. Officers should not shoot at a vehicle to disable the vehicle.

501.6.2 EXHIBITING FIREARMS

Unnecessarily or prematurely drawing or exhibiting a firearm limits an officer's alternatives in controlling a situation, creates unnecessary anxiety on the part of citizens, and may result in an unwarranted or accidental discharge of the firearm.

Exhibiting or drawing a firearm in a situation is objectively reasonable when:

1. The officer has a reasonable belief the tactical situation warrants it.
2. The officer has reasonable suspicion to point their duty weapon at an individual.
3. The officer has probable cause to use deadly force.
4. De-escalation (Holstering) shall be done when feasible.

Intentionally pointing a firearm at a person requires a written report of the incident except in the following situations where the on-scene supervisor will direct the reporting requirements:

1. SWAT operations.
2. Officers are executing an arrest or a search warrant.
3. Metro units and task force operations.

Officers will keep their fingers off the trigger and out of the trigger guard until the sights are on the subject and they are prepared to shoot. Firearms with external mechanical safeties shall be on safe until the sights are on the subject and the officers are prepared to shoot.

501.7 REPORTING THE USE OF FORCE

Any reportable use of force by an officer of this Office shall be documented thoroughly and accurately in an appropriate report, depending on the nature of the incident. The report (Blue Team and case report, or incident report) should be completed by the end of the officer's next duty shift/cycle. The officer should articulate the factors perceived and why they believed the use of force was reasonable under the circumstances. To collect data for purposes of training, resource allocation, analysis, and related purposes, the Office may require the completion of additional report forms, as specified in Office policy, procedure or law. All use of force incidents will be reviewed, and any identified issues will be addressed.

501.8 REPORTABLE USE OF FORCE

The following are Reportable Use of Force, and entries should be made in Blue Team as described in this policy:

1. Control Techniques: The use of empty hand pain compliance techniques.
2. Pointing a Firearm: Intentionally pointing a firearm at a person.
3. Strikes, Kicks, or Takedowns: The use of strikes, kicks, or takedowns.
4. Chemical Agents: The use of chemical agents (includes Oleoresin Capsicum).



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Manual

POLICY 501

5. Taser Electrical Weapon (T.E.W.): The deployment of a conducted electrical weapon in dart (probe) mode or drive stun mode.
6. Baton Strikes or Specialty Impact Munitions: The use of an approved police baton to escort, control, takedown, or strike a subject. The use of Specialty Impact Delivery Systems to deliver specialty impact munitions.
7. Canine deployment that results in contact: The deployment of a canine, whether on-lead or off-lead, for the purpose of searching for and/or apprehending a subject, which results in physical canine contact with a subject, regardless of any injuries sustained.
8. Hand and Leg Restraints: Only under resistance.
9. Emergency Restraint Chair: Only under resistance.
10. Tactical Vehicle Intervention (T.V.I.).
11. Ramming.
12. The use of a noise flash diversionary device (NFDD) within 6' of a person in open air or within an occupied structure.
13. Deadly Force: The application of deadly force by any means.
14. Any other use of force application that causes pain and /or injury: The preceding list does not cover every possible use of force application. This category covers any unmentioned use of force applications that are reasonably expected to cause pain or an injury.

501.9 NON-DEADLY FORCE REPORTING PROCEDURES IN BLUE TEAM

All involved officers that used reportable force as defined in this policy must complete an entry in Blue Team.

The case/incident report is a detailed account of the incident, and the Blue Team entry captures statistical use of force information. The case/incident reports must contain all relevant information pertaining to the use of force.

501.10 USES OF FORCE NOT REQUIRING A BLUE TEAM ENTRY:

The following are examples of Uses of Force and do not require entries in Blue Team, but still require documentation in an official report:

1. Verbal Commands and warnings.
2. Firearms: Drawing and exhibiting a firearm based on the totality of the circumstances without intentionally pointing it at a person.
3. Presence/Appearance: An officer is present in uniform or with a badge or lettering, visibly identifying the officer as law enforcement, including a Canine deputy with canine.
4. Non-Deadly Weapons: The display, arcing, illuminating, and pointing of any non-deadly weapons to include T.E.W.'s and Oleoresin Capsicum.
5. Emergency Restraint Chair: When placed in the chair for medical/crisis intervention and escort purposes and where no physical force was required.
6. Minimal Physical Force: Physical interaction is meant to separate, guide, and/or control with the use of control techniques that are not reasonably expected to cause pain or an injury. This includes:
 - a. Use of escort hold techniques that are not reasonably expected to cause pain against a subject(s) who exhibits no or minimal resistance.
 - b. Use of hands to stop, push back, separate, or escort a subject(s) that are not reasonably expected to cause pain against a subject who exhibits no or minimal resistance.
 - c. Deployment of a canine that does not result in contact with the subject(s) who exhibits no or minimal resistance.

501.11 USE OF FORCE CASE OR INCIDENT REPORTS

In addition to a Blue Team entry, a case report or incident report will be generated when an officer uses force. The report will include the following:

1. Why the contact occurred, including the lawful authority.
2. Description of the force used by the officer against the citizen.
3. Reasons for the use of force to include:
 - a. Explanation of why the officer determined non-violent means would have been ineffective in the situation.
 - b. The way the officer acted to minimize injury to others.
 - c. The force options considered and the reasons why the force options used were chosen.



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Manual

POLICY 501

5. The extent of injury to the officer or other persons.
6. If medical treatment was required.
7. Was a medical facility used for treatment?

501.12 USE OF FORCE REVIEW

The Blue Team entry will be prepared by the officer and then routed in the following order:

1. First-line supervisor/Sergeant (review of incident, blue team entry, videos etc.).
2. The shift/section lieutenant (blue team entry and verifies associated case report/video evidence is complete).
3. Division Commander (Final overview and forward to Internal Affairs).
4. Professional Standards Division/Internal Affairs Section for final data storage and retention.

First-line Supervisors/Sergeants who receive notice of a Blue Team entry are expected to review the case reports, incident reports and any relevant video. First-line Supervisors/Sergeants are responsible for ensuring all necessary documentation is complete, including but not limited to: photographs, video downloads, all case reports, and supplemental reports. The Division Commander has access to review the blue team entry. All supervisors, up to and including the Division Commander, are responsible for determining whether policies and procedures were followed.

501.13 CONSIDERATION OF DE-ESCALATION TECHNIQUES

Use of force policies, training, and supervision are implemented to ensure officers use techniques other than force to effect compliance whenever feasible, and safety allows for de-escalation.

In situations that are not tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving, officers should use appropriate de-escalation techniques to delay, reduce the amount of force, or eliminate the need for force when feasible and safety allows for the de-escalation. The officer's ability to de-escalate is more likely when the situation is slowly developing, and the officer and others are not at risk. Conversely, tense and rapidly evolving situations may not lend themselves to de-escalation.

Examples of de-escalation types and techniques include but are not limited to:

1. Tactical De-escalation:
 - a. Using time to slow down the pace of the incident (where feasible to do so).
 - b. Use of cover.
 - c. Creating or keeping distance from the threat (reactionary gap); re-positioning to isolate and contain the subject.
 - d. Show of force/ability (waiting for cover, having enough people to handle incident).
 - e. Requesting specialized resources (C.I.T., K9, SWAT, C.N.U., etc.).
2. Verbal De-escalation:
 - a. Communicate by exercising persuasion and advice and providing a warning prior to using force where feasible.
 - b. Verbal de-escalation stops and will not be attempted if it endangers the officer or others.
3. Physical De-escalation:
 - a. Reducing or stopping the amount of force being applied as the threat becomes neutralized, incapable of resisting, or becomes compliant.

Nothing in this policy requires an officer to retreat or be exposed to possible physical injury before applying reasonable force. Disengagement may be an option but must be carefully weighed and measured against the Safety Priorities. Officers will consider the possibility a subject may be non-compliant due to a medical or mental condition, physical or hearing impairment, language barrier, drug interaction, or emotional crisis.

501.14 MEDICAL CONSIDERATION

Officers shall use the following criteria when using force that requires medical attention:

1. If a complaint of injury or injury results from the use of force, the officer will notify the appropriate medical personnel, for example, A.M.R., trained paramedics, hospital staff, or trained medical staff.



EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Manual

POLICY 501

2. If the scene is rendered safe based on the totality of the circumstances, officers should render appropriate medical aid as quickly as reasonably possible to the extent of their training.
3. If the subject suffered serious bodily injury or death as a result of a use of force, a staff member in the rank of lieutenant or higher would ensure notification is made to any identified relatives/next of kin of the subject as soon as is practicable; in the case of a death, the staff member shall coordinate with the Coroner's Office as mandated by C.R.S. 18-1-707(2)(d).
4. Care shall be taken to ensure the restrained detainee's ability to effectively breathe is not affected. As soon as safe to do so after an individual has been restrained, controlled, or subdued the individual should be placed in a seated recovery position. Members shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure that an individual is not left in a prone position any longer than tactically necessary to gain control over the detainee.
5. When the subject is placed in a prone position, or restrained in a prone position, under resistance and/or exhibits any or all of the following risk factors, medical clearance and review shall be considered:
 - a. Complaint of injury
 - b. Elderly
 - c. Juvenile
 - d. Under the influence of drugs or alcohol
 - e. Individual experiencing medical or mental health crisis
 - f. Obviously pregnant
 - g. Obese

Individuals showing signs of physical distress after a use of force should be continuously monitored until they can be medically assessed. Even when no injury is apparent, officers shall request a medical response after use of any of the following non-deadly weapons: conducted electrical weapons, oleoresin capsicum, baton as an impact weapon, or special impact munitions.

When feasible and safe, officers will check for proper tightness and double-lock restraints and document it in their reports. Once an individual is compliant, subdued, or restrained, they shall be placed in a position that does not hinder their breathing. If feasible, the subject should be placed on their side, back, in a sitting position, kneeling position, or standing position.

1. Any reporting officer or supervisor on the scene shall take responsibility to ensure these questions are asked after the subject has been safely restrained.
 - a. Depending on the situation, the subject's answers or refusal of medical treatment shall be documented in a case report, incident report, CAD, or by Body-Worn Camera (B.W.C.).
 - b. Are you injured?
 - c. Where are you injured?
 - d. Do you need medical attention?

Individuals who exhibit extreme agitation, very high body temperature, violent, irrational behavior accompanied by profuse sweating, extraordinary strength beyond their physical characteristics, and imperviousness to pain (often referred to as hyperactive delirium with severe agitation), or who require a protracted physical encounter with multiple officers to be brought under control, may be at an increased risk of arrest-related death. Situations involving these individuals should be considered medical emergencies. Officers who reasonably suspect or observe a medical emergency should request medical assistance as soon as practicable.