



**Chapter:** Arrests, Use of Force, Care of Prisoners  
**Subject:** 05-02 – Use of Deadly Force  
**Effective:** April 19, 2022  
**Supersedes:** Official Order 7, Sections 7.2, 7.2.1 A-F, dated January 21, 2021  
**Distribution:** Department Members

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**PURPOSE:** This Order establishes department policy on the use of deadly force.

#### **05-02-1 DEADLY FORCE**

- A. Deadly force is any use of force that creates a substantial risk of causing death or serious bodily harm.
- B. Deadly force is authorized to protect enforcement members or others from what is reasonably believed to be a threat of death or serious bodily harm.
- C. Deadly force shall be exercised only when all other reasonable efforts to subdue the subject have failed or reasonable efforts cannot succeed without endangering the life of the enforcement member or others.
- D. If a verbal warning is feasible under the circumstances and doing so will not increase the risk of injury to the member or any other person, the enforcement member should identify themselves as a law enforcement officer and give a verbal warning of their intent to use deadly force.
- E. Deadly force shall not be used to affect an arrest for a misdemeanor charge or when apprehending a person fleeing from such a charge.

#### **05-02-2 FIREARMS**

- A. For purposes of this Order, the term “authorized non-enforcement member” means a non-enforcement member authorized by the Director to carry a firearm while on-duty.
- B. Enforcement members and authorized non-enforcement members shall consider the totality of the circumstances when deciding to draw, point, or discharge a firearm, including, but not limited to, the following factors:
  - (1) Severity of the offense.
  - (2) Risk of injury to innocent bystanders.
  - (3) Immediate threat to the enforcement member(s) and the public.
  - (4) Apparent age of the suspect.

- (5) Victim-suspect relationship.
- (6) Knowledge of the suspect's identity.

C. Life-Threatening Felony

- (1) Firearms may be drawn, pointed, or discharged to affect an arrest when an enforcement member has probable cause to believe a person has committed a life-threatening felony listed in Section 05-02-2 C.(2) below or has escaped from custody after having been arrested for or convicted of committing a life-threatening felony.
- (2) Whenever used in the Official Orders, life-threatening felonies are:
  - a. Murder and attempted murder
  - b. Armed robbery and attempted armed robbery
  - c. Arson (Felony) and attempted arson
  - d. Kidnapping ([MCL 750.349](#), [MCL 750.349a](#), [MCL 750.349b](#))
  - e. Criminal sexual conduct involving a weapon
- (3) An enforcement member shall not discharge a firearm on a person who is fleeing on suspicion alone that such person may have committed a life-threatening felony or solely because a person fails to stop on command or runs a blockade.

D. Warning shots shall not be discharged.

E. Horseplay with a firearm is prohibited.

F. Drawing Firearms

- (1) Firearms may be drawn or displayed only when an enforcement member or authorized non-enforcement member, is confronted with a potentially life-endangering situation.
- (2) The trigger finger of an enforcement member or authorized non-enforcement member shall remain indexed along the frame of the firearm, unless the member is pointing or discharging the firearm as authorized by this Order.

DIRECTOR

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**Annual Review Responsibility:** Organizational Development Division

**Accreditation Standards:** CALEA 4.1.2 and 4.1.3