



GENERAL ORDER

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<u>SUBJECT</u> Deadly Force Response Procedures	<u>NUMBER OF PAGES</u> 6
<u>DISTRIBUTION</u> Commissioned Personnel, ECC	<u>SUPERSEDES</u> 2/27/2023; 200.01; 11/6/16; Post Shooting Incident Procedures 10/9/17;
<u>CALEA REFERENCE</u> 4.2.3	<u>OTHER REFERENCE</u> GOs 401.04, 401.09, 50 ILCS 727/1-1 et seq, 490 U.S. 386, 50 ILCS 727
<u>AUTHORITY</u>	Eric P. Echevarria Chief of Police

I. POLICY

When an officer uses deadly force whether on or off-duty, including but not limited to the uses of deadly force outlined below, the following procedures shall be followed. The Peoria Police Department will adhere to [50 ILCS 727/1-1](#) et seq for an outside investigation of the incident, and shall ensure officers directly involved are placed on critical incident leave, and those indirectly involved are also provided options for EAP and critical incident leave.

II. PROCEDURES

- A. Deadly Force (in accordance with [General Order 401.04 Use of Force and Use of Force Reporting](#))
- Any UOF resulting in death.
 - Any intentional firearm discharge at a person, regardless of injury.
 - Any force which creates a substantial risk of causing death.
 - Any unintentional firearms discharge when a person is injured as a result.
 - Any intentional impact weapon strike to the head.
 - Serious bodily injuries, to include loss of consciousness; protracted loss impairment, or serious disfigurement; or loss of any organ or bodily function (including paralysis).

B. Notifications

Communications shall dispatch a supervisor to the location of the incident and obtain information as to whether injuries occurred. Communications shall immediately notify the shift lieutenant on duty. The shift lieutenant shall notify or cause to be notified the police chief, the assistant police chief, the professional standards investigator, and the division commander or designee of the officer using deadly force. All responding line supervisors shall make a written report.

C. Crime Scene Protection

The shift commander shall be responsible for protecting the scene of the incident until relieved by the investigating agency. If a professional standards investigator is unavailable, a detective supervisor shall be assigned to perform the duties of the professional standards investigator. If the incident occurred outside the city, the shift commander shall contact the investigating agency and request copies of the reports.

D. Supervisor Responsibilities

1. A supervisor shall be dispatched to the scene of the incident, and shall assume primary responsibility in caring for involved personnel. A separate supervisor is in charge of the post-incident scene.
2. A supervisor shall make appropriate arrangements for all necessary medical treatment. No stimulant or depressant shall be given to the officer unless administered by medical personnel.
3. A supervisor shall give the [Critical Incident Order](#) for preliminary factual information to the officer involved, as found in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
 - a. Only minimal, preliminary questions should be asked about the incident. The officer should be advised a more detailed debriefing will be conducted at a later time.
 - b. Preliminary factual information should include information to secure the scene, locations of physical evidence, location or information of potential witness, victims, and/or suspects, and any additional public safety information.
4. A supervisor should arrange for the officer directly involved in the incident to leave the scene as soon as possible and be taken to a quiet, secure setting.
 - a. When the involved officer is required to remain on the scene but has no immediate duties to fulfill, the officer should be taken to a discreet area

and cared for. A peer supporter or other supportive friend or officer should remain with the officer, but **shall not** discuss the details of the incident.

- b. The supervisor may notify the officer's family of the incident if requested or appropriate.

E. Professional Standards Investigator

The professional standards investigator shall immediately investigate all of the circumstances of a firearm discharge* or other deadly force used and file a report at the earliest time possible with the police chief and the officer's division commander.

*Exception: discharge during an authorized training session, euthanatizing of an injured animal authorized by a supervisor, lawful personal recreation, or firearm testing by crime technicians.

Upon arrival at the scene, the professional standards investigator shall immediately contact the officer involved and explain the basic internal investigation procedures to remove any uncertainty in the mind of the officer of the investigation and actions to follow.

Some basic information may include:

1. Explaining the internal investigator role – fact finding and documentation.
2. Explaining officer rights.
3. Explaining the internal investigation timelines and documentation.
 - a. The internal investigation is non-criminal in nature. Any criminal investigation will be conducted **prior** to the internal investigation.
 - b. The internal investigation will occur in a non-confrontational and private environment.
 - c. Time and place of formal interviews.

Included in the investigation shall be:

- Photographs of the area where the bullet struck
- Measurements
- Make and model of the weapon
- Witness names and statements taken
- Any evidence, bullets, or casings recovered if not collected and maintained by an outside investigating agency

F. Post-Incident Procedures for Officers Involved

1. The investigation of the incident shall be conducted as quickly as practical. An outside agency shall be called in to conduct the criminal investigation for any officer involved incident resulting in death per [50 ILCS 727/1-1](#) et seq, and *may* be called to investigate incidents resulting in injury, in addition to the internal professional standards investigation.
2. All personnel involved in the incident should be advised they are not permitted to speak with the media about the incident. Officers shall refer inquiries to the public information officer.
3. The officer's weapon is taken as part of the investigation. The supervisor shall:
 - a. Advise the officer that taking custody of the weapon is standard procedure and it will be returned as soon as possible.
 - b. Take custody of the officer's weapon in a safe area and in a discreet manner. If needed, the officer should be provided with a replacement weapon after he/she has met qualification standards with it.
4. Involved personnel shall be removed from line duties and placed on critical incident leave with pay pending evaluation, but shall remain available for any necessary administrative investigations (4.2.3).
5. An officer involved in a shooting incident that results in death or injury (per [50 ILCS 727](#)), or other incidents that result in death, shall be required by the chief or designee to submit to a drug and alcohol test as soon as practicable, but no later than the officer's end of shift, according to the standard department testing procedures outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
6. In the event of a category V use of force resulting in death or serious bodily injury, or an incident deemed to be a critical incident by the Chief of Police or designee (including but not limited to an in custody death), personnel will be given a formal notice of investigation as well as the written Garrity notice prior to completing an original or supplemental report. Such notices shall serve as an order to complete an incident report. [401.04 Use of Force/UOF Reporting](#)
7. Personnel involved in a category V use of force resulting in death or serious bodily injury, or an incident deemed to be a critical incident by the Chief of Police or designee, who are required to complete documentation in an original or supplemental report shall be afforded their rights to union representation, and legal counsel (union or individual) and to consult with such representation

and counsel prior to completing any ordered reports as well as prior to submitting such reports for approval. Personnel may rely on these provisions as outlined in the [Uniformed Peace Officers' Disciplinary Act \(50 ILCS 725, entirety of the act\)](#). [401.04 Use of Force/UOF Reporting](#)

8. An officer involved in a category V use of force resulting in death or serious bodily injury, or an incident deemed to be a critical incident by the Chief of Police or designee, will not normally be required to submit a written report until he/she has been through no less than two (2) sleep cycles, unless otherwise directed by the Chief of Police or designee. The Chief of Police or designee will make the final determination as to when the report must be submitted after giving consideration to the specific circumstances in each case. Such circumstances include but are not limited to: injury or incapacitation of the officer to the extent that he or she may not be able to physically write or dictate the report. Consideration can also be given to the seriousness of the critical incident the officer is involved in. [401.04 Use of Force/UOF Reporting](#)
9. All officers directly involved in a deadly force incident shall be required to meet with a department designated specialist for evaluation and possible counseling as soon as practical after the incident. Involved support personnel should also be encouraged to contact this specialist after a critical incident. These appointments are scheduled through Human Resources and the support services captain. Family of the involved officer(s) may also be encouraged to take advantage of available counseling services. After the evaluation, the specialist shall advise the agency whether it would be in the officer's best interest to be placed on administrative leave or light duty, and for how long, as well as the best continued course of counseling.
10. Daily stress recognition
 - a. As post-traumatic stress disorders may not arise immediately, or the officer may attempt to hide the problem, each supervisor is responsible for monitoring the behavior of unit members for the disorder.
 - b. The police chief may order an officer to seek assistance or counseling from a mental health specialist upon a reasonable belief that stress may be disrupting the officer's job performance.
 - c. The department may provide employees with training pertaining to post-traumatic stress disorders, other stress related disorders, and the uniform procedures contained in this policy.

- d. The supervisor of the officer(s) involved in a deadly force incident shall provide information about the department's [Employee Assistance Programs](#) available through the *Employee Wellness Resources* tab in PowerDMS.

This directive provides general guidelines to personnel regarding proper practices and is for internal use only. It is not intended to enlarge an officer's criminal or civil liability in any way, except as to any disciplinary action that might arise. It should not be construed as the creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this directive, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this department, and then only in an employment related proceeding.