

150.0 Use of Force Investigations

An investigation will be conducted in every use of force incident when an employee (sworn or non-sworn) resorts to the use of any degree of physical force including the use of lethal weapons or less lethal devices. However, a use of force investigation need not be conducted for:

- A. Routine handcuffing, escorting, or searching where no physical resistance occurred;
- B. The application of a hobble restraint by itself (without a sit-belt);
- C. The application of a violent prisoner transport restraint by itself or in conjunction with a hobble restraint only; or
- D. The application of an ankle hobble by itself.

In any use of force investigation, regardless of circumstances, the applicability of each specific de-escalation tactic and technique in Procedure 153.0 will be evaluated and explained. This shall include explaining if de-escalation tactics and techniques were not used due to it being immediately necessary for an officer to take action to prevent the officer or a citizen from being assaulted or injured. The findings of this evaluation will be addressed as a separate matter from the incident resulting in the investigation. De-escalation will not be used to determine whether a use of force is justified or appropriate.

Employees shall be classified as involved or witnessing for the purpose of defining the responsibility of each individual. Those will be:

- A. Involved employee: Shall mean any employee or employees who actually took action in the incident including the use of force.
- B. Witnessing employee:
 - 1. An employee who observed or was present during the use of force incident; or
 - 2. An employee who was directly or indirectly involved in the events leading up to, during, or after the incident, but did not participate in the use of force.

Revised 8/94; Revised 06/09; Revised 2/18; Revised 11/18