

	<p style="text-align: center;">JOHNSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">POLICY AND PROCEDURE GENERAL ORDER</p>	Distribution	General Order Number
		ALL PERSONNEL	<b>3.01</b>
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<p>Order Title:</p> <p><b>USE OF FORCE – GENERAL</b></p>	CALEA Accreditation Standard: 4.1.1; 4.1.2; 4.1.3; 4.1.4; 4.1.5; 4.2.1; 4.2.2; 4.2.3; 4.2.4; 4.2.5; 4.3.1; 4.3.2; 4.3.3		Section
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		Section Title	
		RULES OF CONDUCT	
<p>Rescinds: Chap 1.B.</p>		<p><b>Dennis W. McDaniel</b> <b>Chief of Police</b></p>	

*This General Order is for departmental use only and does not apply in any criminal or civil proceeding. This General Order should not be construed as creation of a higher legal standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense with respect to third party claims. Violations of this General Order will only form the basis for departmental administrative sanctions. Violations of law will form the basis for civil and criminal sanctions in a recognized judicial setting*

## I. PURPOSE

To establish Johnston Police Department’s guidelines and limitations concerning the appropriate and acceptable use of deadly and non-deadly force.

## II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Johnston Police Department (“Department”) to provide clear procedures to sworn officers regarding the use of force in the performance of their duties. The safety of innocent persons and officers is of paramount importance.

The main responsibility of Department officers is to protect the life and property of civilians while also providing professional police services to members of the public. In compliance with applicable law, officers shall use only the amount of force necessary and reasonable to accomplish lawful objectives and to control a situation, effect an arrest, overcome resistance to arrest, or defend themselves or others from harm. When force is necessary, the degree of force employed should be in direct relationship to the amount of resistance exerted, or the immediate threat to the officers or others. There is a compelling public interest that officers authorized to exercise the use of force do so in an objectively reasonable manner and in a way that does not violate the civil rights guaranteed by our Constitution and applicable law. Officers who use excessive or unjustified force degrade the confidence of the community they serve, undermine the legitimacy of a police officer’s authority, and hinder the Department’s ability to provide effective law enforcement services to the community.

Officers who use excessive or unauthorized force shall be subject to discipline, possible criminal prosecution, and/or civil liability. The use of force is only authorized when it is objectively reasonable and for a lawful purpose. Accordingly, the Department will thoroughly review and/or

investigate all uses of force by officers to assure compliance with all legal requirements and this policy.

### III. DEFINITIONS

Actively Resisting: When a subject makes physically evasive movements to interfere with an officer's attempt to control that subject; including, but not limited to, bracing, tensing, pulling away, actual or attempted flight, or pushing.

Authorized Weapons: Weapons that meet Department specifications and officers are permitted to carry; and for which officers successfully complete proficiency and safety training.

Chokehold: The intentional and prolonged application of force to the throat or windpipe that prevents or hinders or reduces the intake of air (Iowa HF 2647, June 2020).

Critical Firearm Discharge: A discharge of a firearm by a Johnston Police Department officer to the extent such discharges are authorized under this policy (See also General Order 3.07, Firearms Policy). Range and training discharges, and discharges at animals are not included under this section.

Deadly Force: Any physical force that can reasonably be expected to cause death or serious physical injury. Officers must understand that deadly physical force is an extreme measure and should only be used in accordance with the law and as stated in this policy and other policies governing the use of force.

De-escalation: A decrease in the severity of force used in an incident in direct response to a decrease in the level of resistance. *De-escalation* may also mean, a proactive incident management strategy used to minimize or alleviate a potential use of force through verbal dialogue, physical separation, or prolonged timeframes used to enhance cognitive reasoning.

Defensive Strikes: Are used by officers to protect themselves from attack and may include strikes to other areas of the body, including the abdomen or head. Techniques in this category include pressure point controls, stunning or striking actions delivered to a subject's body with the hand, fist, forearm, knees, elbows, legs, or feet. These techniques target the major muscle groups and are delivered to create muscle cramping or muscle disruption, thereby inhibiting muscle action and allowing the officer to subdue the subject. In extreme cases of self-defense, the officer may need to strike more fragile areas of the body where the potential for injury is greater. The use of neck restraints, chokeholds, or other similar weaponless control techniques, however, are prohibited unless the use of deadly force is authorized.

Electronic Control Weapon: An incapacitating weapon used for subduing a person by administering an electric shock for the purpose of disrupting superficial voluntary muscle functions. This is an intermediate-range weapon and is classified as non-deadly.

Exigent Circumstances: Those circumstances that would cause a reasonable person to believe that a particular action is necessary to prevent physical harm to an individual, the destruction of

relevant evidence, the escape of a suspect, or some other consequence improperly impeding legitimate law enforcement efforts.

Force: Any physical strike or instrumental contact with a person; any intentional attempted physical strike or instrumental contact that does not take effect; or any significant physical contact that restricts the movement of a person. The term includes the discharge of a firearm, or pointing a firearm at or in the direction of a human being, use of chemical spray, use of impact weapons, use of electronic control weapons (ECW), chokeholds, neck restraints, body locks or hard hands, taking of a subject to the ground, or the deployment of a canine. The term does not include escorting or handcuffing a person with minimal or no resistance. Use of force is lawful if it is **objectively reasonable** under the circumstances to effect an arrest, or protect the officer or other person.

Hard Hand Control: Impact oriented techniques that include knee strikes, elbow strikes, punches, and kicks. Control strikes are used to subdue a subject and include strikes to pressure points such as: the common peroneal (side of the leg), radial nerve (top of the forearm), or brachial plexus origin (side of neck).

Harm: Injury inflicted upon a person, whether visible or not.

Headlock/Head Control: An officer's attempt to control a subject's head that does not involve restraint of the neck or restriction of the airway or blood flow.

Imminent Threat: An officer's reasonable perception of impending danger, death, or serious injury from any action or outcome that may occur during an encounter. A subject may pose an imminent or impending threat even if he or she is not pointing a weapon at the officer or another person but has, for example, a weapon within reach, is running for cover carrying a weapon, or running to a place where the officer has reason to believe a weapon is available.

Impact Weapons: Department-approved tools that provide a method for gaining control of a subject when lethal force is not justified, but when empty-hand control techniques are not sufficient to effect control.

Level of Control: The amount of force that an officer uses to gain control over a subject.

Level of Resistance: The amount of force used by a subject to resist compliance with the lawful order or action of an officer.

Neck Restraint: Refers to one of the following types of holds: (1) arm-bar control hold, which inhibits breathing by compression of the airway on the neck; (2) carotid restraint hold, which inhibits blood flow by compression of the blood vessels in the neck; (3) a lateral vascular neck restraint; (d) an intentional hold with a knee or other object to the back of a prone subject's neck for an extended period of time. Neck restraints are considered deadly force.

Non-Deadly Force: Any use of force not intended to cause, nor likely to cause, death or serious physical injury.

Non-Verbal and Verbal Non-Compliance: When a subject expresses his/her intentions not to comply with an officer's directive through verbal and non-verbal means. An officer may encounter statements ranging from pleading to physical threats. Such statements may also include physical gestures, stances, and subconscious mannerisms.

Objectively Reasonable Force: The degree of force used in effecting an arrest, investigatory stop, or other seizure is evaluated by using an objective, reasonable police officer standard. The reasonableness of each particular use of force will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, based on the facts and circumstances known to and confronting the officer at the time (See, Graham v. Connor, 490 US 388 (1989)). In determining the appropriate level of force to be used, officers shall evaluate each situation in light of the unique facts and circumstances of each case. Those factors include, but are not limited to, the seriousness of the crime or suspected offense; the level of threat or resistance presented by the subject; the risk or apparent attempt by the subject to escape; and whether the subject was posing an imminent threat to officers or others.

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray: An inflammatory agent that irritates the mucus membranes and eyes to cause tears and pain. It is an intermediate range weapon that is classified as being non-lethal. It should only be used, however, when an officer is met with a certain degree of resistance or aggression through either actions or words (refer to General Order 3.03).

Passive Resistance: When a subject does not cooperate with an officer's commands but does not take action to prevent being taken into custody. For example, a protestor who lies down in front of a doorway and must be carried away upon arrest.

PepperBall Launching System: A unique less lethal chemical agent delivery system that uses high pressure air launchers to deliver projectiles from a distance. PepperBall projectiles are plastic, frangible spheres that are filled with PAVA powder. The projectiles, when delivered by an air powered launching device, burst on impact and release the PAVA powder. The PepperBall may deliver the projectiles with enough kinetic energy to produce temporary abrasions, bruises, and/or welts.

Reasonable Belief: Facts or circumstances that would cause a reasonable, similarly-trained police officer to act or think in a similar manner, under similar circumstances.

Serious Physical Injury: Injury that causes death or creates a substantial risk of death, permanent harm to health, disfigurement, permanent loss of functions by any organ in the body, or results in extensive treatment at a medical facility.

Soft Hand Control: The use of physical strength and skill in defensive tactics to control arrestees who are reluctant to be taken into custody and offer some degree of physical resistance. Such techniques are not impact-oriented and include pain compliance pressure points, takedowns, joint locks, and simply grabbing a subject. Touching or escort holds may be appropriate for use against levels of passive physical resistance.

Verbal Commands: The use of advice, persuasion, warnings, and or clear directions prior to resorting to actual physical force. In an arrest situation, officers shall, when feasible, give the arrestee simple directions with which the arrestee is encouraged to comply. Verbal commands are the most desirable method of dealing with an arrest situation.

#### IV. PROCEDURES

##### A. General

1. Officers shall use advisements, warnings, verbal persuasion, and verbal instructions when possible before resorting to force.
2. Force shall be de-escalated immediately as resistance decreases.
3. When feasible, based on the circumstances, officers will use disengagements; area containment; surveillance; waiting on a subject; summoning reinforcements; and/or calling in specialized units, in order to reduce the need for force and thereby increase officer, suspect and civilian safety.
4. Officers shall allow individuals time to submit to arrest before force is used, wherever possible.

##### B. Use of Force Authorization and Limitations

Officers of the Department are authorized to use only the amount of force necessary to accomplish lawful objectives, or objectives believed to be lawful at the time the force was used. Force shall never be used to subject a person to torture and/or other cruel or inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment. Force may be used:

1. To effect an arrest or prevent the escape from custody of a person whom the officer reasonably believes has committed an offense.
2. To defend the officer or others from the use, or imminent use, of physical force.
3. To take persons into protective custody when authorized by law, such as persons who are a danger to themselves or others, persons incapacitated by alcohol or other chemical substances, and/or runaway children.
4. During exigent circumstances, prevents someone from committing suicide or inflicting serious physical injury upon themselves.
5. To assist a licensed physician or psychologist in providing necessary medical treatment.
6. To control a situation, and to overcome passive or active resistance to a lawful order.

7. To neutralize an unlawful assault and defend themselves or others from harm.
8. Authorized use of physical force ends when resistance ceases and/or the officer has accomplished the purpose necessitating the use of force. Justification for the use of force is limited to the facts known or perceived by the officer at the time such force is used, including levels of resistance, suspect's behavioral cues, the number of officers and/or offenders present, and the availability of other options.

C. Duty to Intervene

Law enforcement officers have a legal and ethical duty to intervene in any use of force incident perceived to be excessive, in violation of the Department's Use of Force policy and/or state or federal law. Intervention may include, but is not limited to: 1) verbal caution to officer; 2) physical restraint of officer; and 3) immediate reporting of incident to a supervisor.

D. Verbal Warning

When tactically feasible, an officer will identify him/herself as a police officer and issue verbal commands and warnings prior to the use of force. When feasible, an officer will allow the subject an opportunity to comply with the officer's verbal commands. A verbal warning is not required in circumstances where the officer has to make a split-second decision, or if the officer reasonably believes that issuing the warning would place the safety of the officer or others in jeopardy.

E. Use of Deadly Force in Defense of Human Life

An officer is justified in using deadly physical force only when he or she reasonably believes such force is necessary to:

1. Defend the officer or others from the imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury.
2. Effect an arrest or prevent the escape from custody of a person whom they reasonably believe has committed or attempted to commit a felony involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious physical injury; AND the officer reasonably believes this person still poses a significant threat of death or serious physical injury to the officer or other persons. Where feasible, the officer should give warning of the intent to use deadly physical force.

*See, Tennessee v. Garner*, 471 U.S.1, 85 (1985): The United States Supreme Court ruled that the use of deadly force to prevent the escape of a suspected felon violates the Fourth Amendment prohibition against unreasonable seizure if used against an apparently unarmed, non-violent suspect (the case involved a burglary suspect). The Supreme Court further stated that deadly force may be used against an

offender who has attempted or committed an offense involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious physical injury. Deadly force may not be used against an unarmed, non-violent, property crime offender. The United States Supreme Court decision went on to state that when an officer is justified in the use of deadly force he will, if feasible, first give a verbal warning (example: "Police Officer, Halt").

## F. Deadly Force Restrictions

### 1. Warning Shots Prohibited

Officers are prohibited from discharging their firearms as a means of warning or frightening a person.

### 2. Shooting at or from Moving Vehicles

Officers are prohibited from discharging their firearms at or from a moving vehicle, motorcycle, or bicycle (collectively, "moving vehicle") unless officers reasonably believe deadly force is necessary to defend the officer or others from the use, or imminent use, of deadly force. For purposes of this policy, officers will not discharge their firearms at moving vehicles except under extreme circumstances. Such discharges, and the immediate circumstances leading up to the firearms discharge, will be rigorously scrutinized. Officers shall, as a rule, avoid tactics that could place them in a position where a vehicle could be used against them. When confronted with an oncoming, moving vehicle, officers must attempt to move out of its path, when possible, and should generally avoid placing themselves in situations where the use of deadly force is more likely.

### 3. Risk to Innocent Bystanders

When officers are about to discharge their firearms they should be aware of their field of fire, including the backdrop, so as to avoid creating an unnecessary, substantial risk of harm to innocent persons. Officers are prohibited from discharging their firearms when, based on the totality of the circumstances, discharging a firearm would constitute a greater risk to innocent human life than the subject's actions (*i.e. discharging a firearm into a crowd, or shooting into a building, where the subject is not clearly identified and it is unknown if there are other occupants present*).

### 4. Pointing Weapons

Officers are prohibited from drawing and pointing their firearms at or in the direction of a person, absent an objectively reasonable determination that the situation may escalate to the point where deadly force would be authorized under this policy. When it is determined that the use of deadly force is not necessary, officers shall, as soon as practicable, secure or holster their firearms. It is the rule of this Department that drawing a firearm and pointing it at a human target is considered a use of force and must be documented as such.

5. Use of Firearm to Destroy Animals

Officers may use deadly force against an animal that represents a significant and immediate threat to the officer or to public safety. Whenever possible, officers should seek the permission of their supervisor prior to using deadly force against a dangerous animal. In all cases, a memorandum of the circumstances involved shall be submitted to the officer's immediate supervisor along with a Use of Force Report prior to the end of his/her shift.

Deadly force may also be used as a humanitarian measure, where an animal is seriously injured, and humaneness demands its immediate removal from further suffering. Officers should seek the authorization of their supervisor and, whenever practical, authorization from the animal's owner.

6. Use of Department Weapons for Training and Other Purposes

Officers may discharge their firearms for the purpose of practice, firearms training, when on the police range or other established shooting ranges, or when authorized by the Chief of Police to participate in law enforcement competition events.

7. Use of Firearms While Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs

Officers shall not carry or use any firearms or weapons while impaired by alcohol, drugs, or any other medical condition that might interfere with their judgment or proficiency.

8. Security, Storage, and Safe Handling of Firearms

Officers shall be trained in accordance with Department guidelines and shall obey all safety rules when handling any firearm or any other weapon. No person other than Johnston Police Department Officers shall be permitted access to any Department-owned firearm, with the exception of: police officers from other jurisdictions in the official performance of their duty; for repair or maintenance as approved by the Department; or other circumstances with the express permission of the Chief of Police.



Officers will secure and store firearms, both on and off duty, in such a way as to ensure that no unauthorized person will have access to or gain control over the firearm.

Whenever an officer is in the Department and removes his/her handgun or other weapon, the item must not be left in the open and must be secured so that it is not readily accessible to civilians, suspects, victims, or witnesses.

#### G. Use of Non-Deadly Force

Officers shall only use weapons and control techniques, in the performance of their responsibilities both on and off-duty, that are issued and/or approved for use by the Department. The use of non-deadly force shall be limited to defensive and control purposes. Officers shall use only the reasonable amount of force necessary to overcome resistance or accomplish the police task. The use of non-deadly force shall conform to applicable Department Standards of Conduct, policies, procedures, state and federal laws, and training. Officers shall not carry any non-deadly weapons, or employ any non-deadly techniques, prior to successfully completing the relevant Department-approved training for each weapon or technique unless exigent circumstances exist.

##### 1. Authorization to Use Non-Deadly Force

Officers are authorized to use Department approved, non-deadly force techniques and authorized weapons to:

- a. Prevent the escape from custody, or to effect a lawful arrest, of a person whom the officer reasonably believes has committed an offense; or
- b. Protect or defend the officer or others from what he/she reasonably believes to be active resistance while effecting or attempting to effect an arrest, or while preventing or attempting to prevent an escape.

*NOTE: Nothing in this policy is intended to discourage officers from using a higher level of force whenever such force is necessary and objectively reasonable under the circumstances.*

##### 2. Non-Deadly Force Restrictions

The following tactics of non-deadly force may be permitted in circumstances only when deadly force is authorized by this policy:

- a. The intentional use of a chokehold or other neck restraint is prohibited, unless the use of deadly force is authorized. This includes, but is not limited to: (1) arm bar hold; (2) carotid artery hold; (3) lateral vascular neck restraint; and (4) neck restraint or intentional hold with a

knee or other object for an extended period of time

- b. Any intentional strike with an impact weapon or object to a person's head or neck; and/or
- c. Any intentional use of flashlights, radios, pocket knife, or any other items not issued or trained specifically as defensive weapons.

NOTE: In limited circumstances when a confrontation escalates suddenly and unpredictably, an officer may use any means or device at hand such as a flashlight, radio, knife, patrol bicycle, canine, and other issued equipment or blunt object, to defend themselves, others, or to bring a situation under control. This decision should be based on the circumstances surrounding the officer at the time, if the officer determines it was reasonably necessary to do so, as long as the level of defensive action is objectively reasonable given the existing circumstances.

- d. Force shall not be used against persons in handcuffs, except as objectively reasonable to prevent imminent bodily harm to the officer or others, to prevent attempted escape, or, as objectively reasonable, where physical control or removal is necessary to overcome passive resistance.

### 3. Impact Weapons

Authorized impact weapons may be used only when an officer is confronted with actual or imminent active aggression against him/herself or another person (refer to General Order 3.04 for specifics regarding the authorized use of an Impact Weapon).

- a. The use of a baton or similar instrument to strike a blow to a subject's arms, legs, or upper torso (e.g. two-handed jab or thrust during crowd control operations) will be considered use of non-deadly force. The use of any such items to intentionally strike a subject's head or neck is prohibited except where deadly force is authorized by this policy.
- b. Only approved less lethal impact weapon munitions and PepperBall Launching Systems are approved for use.

### 4. Oleoresin Capsicum (OC Spray)

Authorized OC spray is an alternative to physical control techniques and the use of other intermediate weapons. As with any other use of force, however, OC spray must not be used indiscriminately or without justification. Officers must be able to articulate the reason(s) the subject(s) was targeted with OC spray.

OC spray shall be utilized as issued and authorized to prevent injury to the subject(s), officers and others (refer to General Order 3.03 for specifics regarding the authorized use of an OC spray).

#### 5. Electronic Control Weapon

An Electronic Control Weapon (i.e., TASER®) is authorized for use when other non-deadly options have been ineffective, or when it reasonably appears that such options will be ineffective in subduing the subject. Electronic Control Weapons shall only be used in situations where the subject is actively resisting or attempting to avoid arrest by escape and poses an imminent threat to the safety of him/herself, another person, or the officer (refer to General Order 3.02 for specifics regarding the authorized use of an electronic control device). It is the rule of this Department that drawing an ECW and pointing it at a human target is considered a use of force and must be documented as such.

#### H. Training and Qualifications

In addition to training required for firearms qualification (See, Firearms General Order 3.07), officers shall receive Department authorized training designed to simulate actual situations and conditions and, as otherwise necessary, to enhance officers' discretion and judgment in using deadly and non-deadly force in accordance with this policy.

1. All training, including remedial training, will be documented.
2. All officers shall, at least annually, receive in-service training for all lethal weapons and training in the Department's Use of Force Policy and related case law updates. All officers qualified in the use of impact weapons, OC spray, electronic control weapons, and control techniques shall, at least every two years, re-qualify on such weapons or techniques under the instruction of a certified instructor.
3. Training and proficiency results for any authorized weapon will be documented in the training files managed by the Administrative Services Division. Officers must demonstrate proficiency with weapons in compliance with ILEA requirements.
4. All officers who fail to demonstrate the required proficiency with Department issued weapons shall receive remedial training. Remedial instruction for Department approved firearms shall follow the Department's Firearms Policy (See, General Order 3.07).
5. An officer failing to demonstrate proficiency with a non-deadly weapon shall not return to duty with that weapon until such time as proficiency is demonstrated and documented. In most cases, a thirty (30) day remediation

period will be granted to show skill mastery. Failure to do so will result in duty modification and escalation to disciplinary action up to and including separation from employment.

6. Only officers demonstrating proficiency in the use of Department authorized weapons shall be approved to carry such weapons (See, General Order 3.07).

I. Provide Medical Aid

1. Any time a person has visible injuries or complains of being injured as a result of force used against him/her by an officer, the officer must take appropriate actions to provide medical care for the injured person. This includes providing first aid, requesting emergency medical services, and/or arranging for other transportation to a hospital or emergency medical facility.
2. Officers shall be trained in proper treatment procedures for persons exposed to chemical sprays and the effects of other less-lethal force. If the person is offered and/or refuses treatment, this refusal shall be recorded in the police report, along with all relevant information. In addition, the officer will also notify their supervisor as soon as practical. The supervisor will arrange to have photographs taken of the person's injuries and those photographs will be included with the police report.

J. Use of Force Reporting

The Department has established a use of force reporting system that allows for the effective review and analysis of all Department use of force incidents (See, General Order 3.05). The reporting system is designed to help identify trends, improve training and officer safety, and provide timely and accurate information to the Department. In any incident where an officer's use of force results in death or serious physical injury, such officer(s) may be removed from their line of duty assignment pending an administrative review.

1. Employees shall complete the appropriate Departmental *Use of Force Report* forms (Response to Resistance and/or Supplemental Report) whenever they use force as described below:
  - a. The discharge of a firearm for other than training or recreational purposes, or to dispatch a suffering animal;
  - b. Any police action that results in or is alleged to have resulted in, injury to or the death of another person;
  - c. The officer applies force using lethal or less-lethal weapons; or
  - d. The officer applies weaponless physical force above the level of non-resistant escort or handcuffing.

2. All Use of Force Reports must be completed and forwarded to the Shift Supervisor, or designee, as soon as practical after the incident. The shift supervisor will be responsible to ensure this form is completed prior to the officer(s) leaving his/her tour of duty, regardless of whether the supervisor was involved, witness to, or authorized the use of force. However, when special circumstances exist, such as those incidents resulting in the death or serious injury of a person, the Division Commander or Chief of Police may grant an extension, on a case-by-case basis, or assign an alternate date, time, and manner of reporting to be completed and submitted.
3. A designated Use of Force Instructor for the Department will conduct an annual analysis of all "Use of Force" incidents and department practices, in-service training, and policies. A comprehensive report will be provided to the Chief of Police and, at a minimum, will include the following information:
  - a. The date and time of incidents (tracking spreadsheet);
  - b. The types of encounters resulting in use of force;
  - c. Trends or patterns related to race, age, and gender of subjects involved;
  - d. Trends or patterns resulting in injury to any person including employees;
  - e. The impact or findings on policies, practices, equipment and training; and
  - f. Recommendations for system, policy, or training improvements where applicable.
4. A designated Division Commander will conduct an annual review of all assaults on agency staff members to determine trends or patterns, with recommendations to enhance officer safety, revise directives, or address training issues.

K. Maintenance and Accountability for Weapons

1. The Department's Firearms Unit will maintain a list of all pre-approved weapons and ammunition that will be made available to all employees. The Firearms Unit will also maintain inventory reports for all weapons authorized for duty/secondary/off-duty carry by the agency and update inventories annually with assistance from Department Armorers.
2. All weapons authorized for duty/secondary carry will be inspected by a qualified armorer or weapons instructor for proper functionality prior to an officer being granted authorization to carry. Only weapons and ammunition authorized by the agency may be used by agency personnel in the performance of law enforcement duties.

3. At each annual qualification training session for lethal or less lethal weapons, the armorer or instructor will confirm that:
  - a. The weapons are properly assigned to the officer carrying the weapon;
  - b. That the weapons (lethal and less-lethal) are in working order; and
  - c. That inventory records accurately reflect weapons assigned to individual officers.
  - d. The procedures listed above will also apply to any weapons authorized by this agency for off-duty/secondary carry.
  
4. Whenever a Department-approved weapon is found to be unsafe or not functioning properly, the officer will immediately notify his/her supervisor, who will then notify his/her chain of command if the issue is significant, and the weapon will need to be taken out of service. The appropriate Department Instructor will coordinate with the officer to ensure proper repairs are made and work to issue a suitable replacement in a timely manner if feasible. The Firearms Unit maintains a small inventory of replacement firearms and may issue available firearms for similarly constructed semi-automatic duty weapons on a short-term basis while repairs are sought.