



WHERE WE STAND

A comprehensive look at
your Hermosa Beach Police
Department...



Photo by @misskatesmith

CHOKEHOLDS & STRANGLEHOLDS

Chokeholds/Strangleholds are not authorized for use by HBPD Officers.

Chokeholds / Strangleholds / Carotid Control Holds are not authorized for use by HBPD Officers. Effective 06-09-20 the Police Department has removed the Carotid Control Hold from HBPD's Policy 03.16. Over the last 7 years HBPD has used the Carotid Control Hold 3 times with 0 of those applications resulting in serious injury.

REQUIRE DE-ESCALATION

The Hermosa Beach Police Department trains all of its officers in de-escalation techniques.

Required de-escalation is something we already train for, and practice time and again. It is part of SB 230 which has a requirement that officers utilize de-escalation techniques, crisis intervention tactics, and other alternatives to force when feasible. HBPD Officers are required to complete various communication techniques training (i.e. "Tactical Communication", etc.) every two years.



REQUIRE WARNING BEFORE SHOOTING

Require Warning Before Shooting is something covered under HBPD Policy 03.16 (Page 5) which states, "Where feasible, the Officer shall, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used." It is also stated under AB 392 (same language) which is consistent with federal law.



REQUIRE TO EXHAUST ALL ALTERNATIVES BEFORE SHOOTING

Exhaust all other means before shooting is addressed in SB 230 which states, “(f) No policy can anticipate every conceivable situation or exceptional circumstance which officers may face. In all circumstances, officers are expected to exercise sound judgment and critical decision making when using force options.” And “(h) Every instance in which a firearm is discharged, including exceptional circumstances, shall be reviewed by the department on a case-by-case basis to evaluate all facts and to determine if the incident is within policy and in accordance with training.”



DUTY TO INTERVENE

Duty to Intervene is covered under existing HBPD Policy 03.16 (page 2) which states “Any Officer present and observing another Officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall, when in a position to do so, intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force. An Officer who observes another employee use force that exceeds the degree of force permitted by law shall promptly report these observations to a supervisor.”



BAN SHOOTING AT MOVING VEHICLES

Shooting at moving vehicles is also part of existing HBPD Policy 03.16 (page 5) which states “Shots fired at or from a moving vehicle are rarely effective. Officers should move out of the path of an approaching vehicle instead of discharging their firearm at the vehicle or any of its occupants. An Officer should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle or its occupants when the Officer reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to avert the threat of the vehicle, or if deadly force other than the vehicle is directed at the Officer or others. Officers should not shoot at any part of a vehicle in an attempt to disable the vehicle.”

REQUIRE USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM

Establish Use of Force Continuum – HBPD Officers are trained to use a Force continuum, and do so on every contact. We recognize there are many options in the Force Continuum - physical presence, verbal communication, empty hand control, electronic control device "Taser", baton, less-lethal weapons, and Firearms. Officers respond to each situation utilizing critical thinking to determine the appropriate level of force. We adhere to CA Penal Code Section 835a which states "Officers shall use only that amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and totality of the circumstances perceived by the Officer at the time of the event."



REQUIRE COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING

Require Comprehensive Reporting is covered under existing HBPD Policy Section 03.16 (page 5) which states, "Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, completely and accurately in an appropriate report" and further states "The required report(s) will be completed by the involved officers and reviewed by a supervisor prior to the end of shift." HBPD takes this one step further by using IAPro, a tracking program that monitors all Officers for use of force incidents and alerts the Division Commander if a pattern is noted.

CONNECT WITH US

www.hermosabeach.gov/police

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Non-Emergency Dispatch: (310)524-2750

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OUR COMMITMENT

Our commitment to our community for excellence in service does not end with our established #8cantwait policies. We know there is always room for improvement. To ensure we are providing the best service we are implementing the HBPD TRAC program:

1. Training annually on use of force and de-escalation techniques.
2. Racial and Prejudice training at the Museum of Tolerance
3. Audit / Review of ALL use of force incidents (IA Pro).
4. Careful selection of the most qualified candidates for Police Officer positions.

It is best stated in the front of our ***Hermosa Beach Police Department's Force Policy:*** HBPD Policy 03.16 "The Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone."