



Policy 300 Use of Force

I. **Purpose and Scope**

The Roseville Police Department values and respects the sanctity of every life. It is the Roseville Police Department's expectation officers will make reasonable use of force decisions that demonstrate our value of every life. The purpose of this policy is to provide sworn Police Officers, Police Reserve Officers, Cadets and Community Service Officers with guidelines on the use of deadly and non-deadly force.

II. **Policy**

Because of the importance of use of force procedures, all sworn agency members, Cadets, Police Reserve Officers and Community Service Officers must be issued copies of this policy and receive competent instruction in the application of these procedures prior to being authorized to carry a firearm or non-deadly force weapons.

This Department recognizes and respects the value and special integrity of each human life. In vesting Police Officers with the lawful authority to use force to protect themselves and the public, a careful balancing of all human interests is required. Therefore, it is the policy of this department that Police Officers shall use only force that is reasonably necessary to effectively bring an incident under control, while protecting the lives and safety of the officer or another person.

III. **Definitions**

Definitions related to this policy include:

- a. **Deadly Force:** Deadly force means force which is known to, or should reasonably be known to, create a substantial risk of causing death or great bodily harm. The intentional discharge of a firearm, other than a firearm loaded with less lethal munitions and used by an officer within the scope of official duties, in the direction of another person, or at a vehicle in which another person is believed to be, constitutes deadly force ([Minn. Stat. § 609.066](#)).
- b. **Force:** Force means the application of physical techniques or tactics, chemical agents or weapons to another person. It is not a use of force when a person allows him/herself to be searched, escorted, handcuffed or restrained.
- c. **De-escalation:** Taking action or communicating verbally or non-verbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options, and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation without the use of force by gaining voluntary compliance or with a reduction in the force necessary. De-escalation may include the use of techniques such as command presence, advisements, warnings, verbal persuasion, and tactical positioning to include the ability to disengage.
- d. **Active Resistance:** A response to police efforts to bring a person into custody or control for detainment or arrest. A subject engages in active resistance when engaging in