2.800 USE OF FORCE AND WEAPONS
The directives contained in this section are for agency use only and do not apply in any criminal or civil proceedings. These directives will not be construed as creating a higher legal standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense with respect to third party claims. Violations of these directives will only form the basis for agency administrative sanctions. Violations of law will be the basis for civil and criminal sanctions in recognized judicial settings.

2.805 GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR THE USE OF FORCE
A. Officers will use only reasonable force when force is used that is necessary to effect lawful objectives.
B. Officers may repel force with force, using only that amount of force reasonably necessary to defeat attackers or overcome resistance.
C. Force may be used by police officers:
   1. When necessary to preserve the peace, prevent commission of offenses, or prevent suicides or self-inflicted injuries;
   2. When necessary to overcome resistance to lawful arrests, searches and seizures, and prevent escapes from custody; or
   3. When in self-defense or in defense of another against unlawful violations to their person or property.
D. The amount and degree of force which may be employed will be determined by surrounding circumstances including, but not limited to:
   1. The nature of the offense;
   2. The behavior of subjects against whom force is to be used;
   3. Actions by third parties who may be present;
   4. Physical odds against officers; or
   5. The feasibility and availability of alternative actions.
E. Officers acting alone may be required to resort to a much greater use of force than would be necessary if other officers were present. Therefore, whenever possible, officers should call and wait for assistance, unless immediate action is required.
F. The use of force is a continuum ranging from verbal commands to deadly force. Officers should exhaust every means of employing the minimum amount of force before escalating to more severe applications of force except where lesser methods would be obviously futile.
G. Officers will use force consistent with specifications of training standards and guidelines.
H. Officers will not use unnecessary, aggressive, or excessive force.
I. The use of chokeholds and similar carotid restraints by officers of UMPD are prohibited. Every situation has dynamics that can dictate an officer’s ultimate decision, and this prohibition does not preclude the use of chokeholds or restraints when officers are faced with deadly force situations.

2.810 JUSTIFICATIONS FOR USE OF FORCE
A. Justifications for uses of force must be judged from the perspective of reasonable officers, similarly situated, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight. Facts unknown to officers, no matter how compelling, cannot be considered when later determining whether uses of force were justified.
B. In addition to other criteria discussed in these directives, Tennessee v. Garner, 471 U.S. 1, 85 L.Ed. 2d 1 (1985), Graham v. Connor, 490 U.S., 104, L.Ed. 2d 443 (1989), Samuel v. Busnuck, 423 F. Supp. 99 (D.Md. 1976), and State v. Albrecht, 336 Md, 646 A.2d (1993) provide that some “reasonableness” factors will be considered while evaluating uses of force. Some “reasonableness” factors include, but are not limited to:
   1. Severity of the crimes at issue;
   2. Whether suspects pose immediate threats to the safety of the officers or others;
   3. Whether suspects are actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight;
   4. Examining uses of force in the light of the circumstances as they appeared to officers at the time of incidents;
   5. Whether officers exercising their official discretion as the functionaries in the front line do so in good faith; and
   6. Allowances for the fact that officers are often forced to make split-second judgments in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.

2.815 USE OF DEADLY FORCE
Officers may use deadly force only when they reasonably believe that the actions are in defense of human life or in defense of any person in imminent danger of serious physical injury.

2.820 WEAPONS TRAINING PROGRAMS
A. Only agency employees demonstrating proficiency in the use of agency issued or authorized weapons will be approved to carry and use such weapons.
B. All weapons will be inspected, reviewed, and approved by departmentally qualified weapons instructors or armorers before employees are issued the weapons for carrying. Unsafe weapons will be removed from service by departmentally qualified weapons instructors or armorers and replacement weapons will be issued.

2.820.10 Qualification Requirements
A. All officers must initially qualify with their agency issued handguns with minimum scores of 76% for daylight and 70% for reduced light.
B. All officers must initially qualify with their authorized privately owned handguns annually with a minimum score of 70% for daylight.
B. All officers must initially qualify with agency owned shotguns with minimum scores of 70%. All officers must initially qualify with agency owned rifles with minimum scores of 80%.
C. The agency’s certified firearms instructors are responsible for developing qualification courses of firearm instruction for approval by the chief and MPTC.
1. Firearms qualification training programs will be conducted only by certified firearms instructors.
2. All officers will be issued copies of, and be instructed in, the directives contained in 2.800 before being authorized to carry weapons.
a. The issuance and instruction will be documented by instructors conducting the training.
b. Firearms instructors will provide training and proficiency documentation on a timely basis to the Training and Personnel Unit for inclusion in training files and applicable data bases.
D. Qualification score classifications for the awarding of agency related handgun medals are based on the three most recent firings for qualification. Qualification classifications are:
   1. Distinguished Expert Five @ 100
   2. Expert ≥ 95
   3. Sharpshooter ≥ 85
   4. Marksman ≥ 75

2.820.20 In-Service Firearms Training
A. All officers must qualify at least annually with their agency issued handguns with minimum scores of 76% for daylight and 70% for reduced light.
B. Certified officers must qualify at least semi-annually with their agency issued rifles with minimum scores of 80%.
C. Officers are not required to maintain shotgun qualification.
1. In order to maintain shotgun qualification, officers must:
a. Volunteer to maintain their qualifications; and
h. Requalify annually with minimum scores of 70%.
2. Officers who lose or fail to maintain shotgun qualification, but desire to be requalified must:
   a. Volunteer to undergo retraining; and
   b. Successfully complete a full retraining and qualification program.

D. The agency’s certified firearms instructors will develop in-service qualification courses of firearm instruction for approval by the chief and MPTC.
   1. Firearms in-service training programs will be conducted only by certified firearms instructors.
   2. All officers will be issued updated copies of, and be instructed in, the directives contained in 2.800 as needed, and receive classroom instruction on said directives at least once each year.
      a. Directive issuance and instruction will be documented by instructors conducting the training.
      b. Firearms instructors will provide training and proficiency documentation on a timely basis to the Training and Personnel Unit for inclusion in training files and applicable data bases.

E. The Training and Personnel Unit, in conjunction with agency firearms and weapons instructors, will schedule and publish firearms training and qualification dates. Unit commanders will be consulted in the assignment of officers to training dates.

2.820.30 Other Weapons Training Programs
A. All officers receive initial training and at least biennial in-service training on less lethal weapons issued or authorized by the agency.
B. The agency’s certified weapons instructors will develop initial and in-service qualification courses of weapons instruction for approval by the chief and any other applicable approving regulatory authorities.
   1. Initial and in-service weapons training programs will be conducted only by certified instructors.
   2. Weapons instructors will provide training and proficiency documentation on a timely basis to the Training Unit for inclusion in training files and applicable data bases.
C. The Training Unit, in conjunction with agency weapons instructors, will schedule and publish weapons training and in-service dates. Unit commanders will be consulted in the assignment of officers to training dates.

2.820.40 Remedial Training
A. Officers may request permission from the chief to be temporarily excused from, or rescheduled for, weapons requalification because of temporary medical conditions.
B. If officers fail to qualify with issued or authorized weapons during regular requalifications, instructors will:
   1. Notify officers needing remedial training in accordance with applicable qualification standards;
   2. Conduct same-day remedial training and requalification programs with those officers; and
   3. Instruct officers they will be required to attend additional, future remedial training programs, regardless of same-day requalification outcomes.
C. If officers fail to qualify during same-day or additional remedial firearms training and requalification programs, firearms instructors will:
   1. Notify the officers’ chain of command, the chief, and the Training unit immediately, and subsequently in writing/e-mail; and
   2. Suspend officers on an emergency basis. These administrative suspensions are non-disciplinary and result in officers continuing on full pay and benefits status, but with no police authority. Emergency suspension hearings will be scheduled and conducted in accordance with 2.900 Complaints and Discipline.
D. Officers will be sent for medical evaluation if, during the remedial training and requalification process, the inability to qualify is believed to be the result of a possible medically related condition.
E. Officers’ bureau commanders will adjust officers’ work schedules to accommodate remedial training assignments.
F. Upon completion of additional remedial instruction designed by firearms instructors, officers will be retested and must attain at least 76% daylight and 70% reduced light qualification scores to remain in full duty status.
G. Firearms instructors are responsible for immediately informing the chief and bureau commanders when officers fail to qualify following remedial training for the purpose of initiating other appropriate or personnel actions, as appropriate and listed in B and C of this section.

2.825 WEAPON AUTHORIZATIONS
A. Only weapons and ammunition meeting agency-authorized specifications will be used by agency personnel in the furtherance of policing responsibilities both on-duty and off-duty.
B. Weapons and ammunition not issued or authorized by the agency will not be carried by employees on their persons, in agency vehicles, or used at any time while on duty except those confiscated weapons and ammunition in the possession of officers and being transported as evidence or for storage.
C. The exigency of situations may cause officers to justifiably use other articles as weapons to defend or protect their life or the life of others. Such use of other articles as weapons will be examined as any other use of force.

2.825.10 Authorized Handguns
A. Handguns and ammunition will be issued by the agency to all officers upon successful completion of entrance level or comparative compliance firearms training and certification programs as required by the MPCTC.
B. Armed officers will possess, wear, carry and use only issued or authorized firearms and ammunition for which they are currently qualified.
   1. Unless otherwise authorized by the chief, the only handguns issued and authorized for on-duty or off-duty service are .40 caliber pistols.
   2. The only ammunition authorized for service in issued agency owned or off-duty pistols is Winchester Ranger SXT 180-grain .40 S&W JHP.
      a. Officers will be issued sufficient rounds to fully load their weapons and have two additional magazines loaded to their rated capacities.
      b. Practice ammunition is issued for use at firearms qualification and practice exercises conducted by the agency.
   C. The chief may authorize officers to carry other than standard issued firearms.
      1. The only handguns authorized as non-standard issue are agency owned, Sig-Sauer P230, .380 caliber semi-automatics.
      2. The only ammunition authorized for use in non-standard issue firearms is Winchester Western, .380 automatic, 85 grain, Silvertip hollow point rounds.
         a. Officers will be issued sufficient rounds to fully load their weapons and have two additional magazines loaded to their rated capacities.
b. Practice ammunition is issued for use at firearms qualifications and practice exercises conducted by the agency.
3. Authorizations for being issued non-standard issued firearms must be based on tactical or other bona fide police concerns.
4. Officers must successfully complete agency training and qualification programs with non-standard issue firearms.

D. When worn on-duty, issued handguns will be carried in an issued or authorized holster, on the officer’s strong hand side, and in a service ready condition. On-duty holsters will be selected and authorized by the chief.

E. Uniformed officers are required to be armed with their agency-owned .40 caliber pistols in a service ready condition and carry their credentials and badges on their persons when on duty with the exception of:
1. Where, for tactical or other bona fide police concerns, the carrying of credentials and firearm could actually place officers in jeopardy;
2. When circumstances render firearm carriage impractical, in which cases they will be secured in readily available places protected from public access;
3. Officers within controlled access areas (excepting officers assigned to the Customer Services Desk who must be wearing their agency-owned pistols);
4. When processing prisoners; or
5. Where prohibited by law or other controlling directives.

F. Firearms will be concealed from public view when officers are not in uniform except at crime scenes or other assignments where their badges are visible and they are readily identifiable as police officers.

G. Officers are authorized, but not required, to carry issued or authorized firearms when off-duty and in the state of Maryland.
1. Officers carrying issued or authorized firearms off-duty are required to also carry their issued badge and agency credentials.
2. Firearms and ammunition will be reasonably and prudently protected from damage and theft and concealed from public view when officers are off-duty and not in uniform.
3. While off duty, officers are responsible for secure storage of their issued firearms. The safest condition for storage of their issued firearm is unloaded; weapon and ammunition stored separately under lock and key; and out of the sight and reach of children or other unauthorized persons.

H. Officers will abide by statutory constraints placed by other states relating to out-of-state officers wearing or carrying firearms when in those other states.

2.825.11 Authorized Off-Duty Handguns
A. Officers are authorized to carry privately owned .380 to .40 caliber or 9mm semi-automatic pistols only while off-duty or for non-operational, non-uniform temporary duty assignments such as training days.

B. The off-duty pistols must meet the following criteria:
1. Pistol must be double action only; or
2. Pistol must be double/single only; or
3. Pistol must be safe action; and
4. Pistol must be made by a reputable manufacturer.

C. Suggested reputable manufacturers include, but are not limited to:
1. Sig Sauer
2. Beretta
3. Smith and Wesson
4. Glock

D. Officers must obtain approval before carrying an off-duty pistol by the Primary Agency Firearms Instructor.

E. Authorized ammunition for off-duty pistols must meet the following criteria:
1. Officers wishing to carry off duty weapons must agree to supply all their ammunition for qualifications and other training deemed necessary by the agency.
2. Agency issued .40 caliber ammunition for .40 caliber pistols; or
3. Semi Jacketed or Jacketed Hollow Point ammunition of a reputable U.S. manufacturer as approved by the Primary Agency Firearms Instructor.
4. Full Metal Jacketed ammunition is prohibited.

F. Officers will report all instances of pointing or discharging their off-duty weapon in accordance with 2.835 Reporting Use of Force.

G. Officers must successfully complete agency training and qualification programs before carrying an off-duty pistol. Officers must qualify on an MPCTC approved off-duty pistol course of fire before carrying the off-duty pistol.

H. In order to maintain certification for the off-duty pistol, officers shall qualify annually on an MPCTC approved course of fire with a minimum score of 70%.

I. Officers are prohibited from wearing or carrying privately owned off-duty pistols while on-duty unless they meet the requirements listed in 2.825.11A.

2.825.12 Police Carbine Rifle
A. Unless otherwise authorized by the chief, the only rifles for Agency use is the agency-owned .223 caliber police carbine rifles.
B. The police carbine rifles shall only be utilized by those personnel who have successfully completed the department’s police carbine rifle training program, and who have qualified on an MPCTC approved rifle course of fire.
C. In order to maintain rifle certification, personnel shall qualify annually on an MPCTC approved course of fire with a minimum score of 80%.
D. Only agency issued ammunition, specifically approved by the chief shall be used.
E. All rifles will be unloaded at an unloading station and secured in the agency’s authorized and secure storage location when not assigned to qualified personnel.
F. Rifle-qualified patrol personnel are authorized to be issued a rifle from the agency authorized and secure storage location at the beginning of his/her tour of duty.
G. Rifles carried on patrol are to be secured in the vehicle’s trunk in an issued carrying case. When carried in other than a patrol vehicle, rifles are to be stored in a zippered case and secured in the trunk or other secure, non-passenger area of the vehicle.
H. Except for returning the rifle to the authorized and secure storage location, personnel should not remove the rifle from the vehicle trunk unless an imminent threat exists which would necessitate deployment of the rifle, or unless approved by a supervisory-ranked officer.
I. Deployment of rifles will only be done in accordance with agency training.
J. Rifles may only be discharged in accordance with 2.830 Use of Firearms.
K. Officers will report all instances of pointing a rifle or discharging at a person in accordance with 2.835 Reporting Use of Force.
L. Deployment of rifles for other than routine patrol use or for pre-planned tactical operations may only be authorized by an administratively ranked officer.
M. All rifles are to be returned, unloaded, inspected, and secured in the authorized and secure storage location at the end of the officer’s tour of duty.
N. Officers are required to report any deficiencies in the rifle’s cleanliness or mechanical operation to the agency’s primary
The primary rifle armorer will conduct thorough armorer inspections of all agency-owned rifles at least annually, and will document and maintain records of all maintenance conducted.

P. Officers will notify the on-duty shift commander when drawing a rifle from the agency’s authorized and secure storage location.

Q. The patrol rifle/shotgun shall only be deployed in extraordinary circumstances. Officers shall not deploy or carry a patrol rifle/shotgun on routine calls for service or routine traffic stops. Situations in which the deployment of a patrol rifle/shotgun may be appropriate, when supported by reasonable articulable suspicion, include, but are not limited to:
   1. When a suspect is armed with a high powered weapon or wearing body armor;
   2. An active shooter incident; and/or
   3. Barricades and hostage incidents.

R. Considerations during deployment should include:
   1. The current environment; so as not to induce unnecessary stress or panic on the immediate public community.
   2. Whether the deployment of the long gun will incite or aggrivate a situation as opposed to being a protective measure.
   3. Environmental concerns; high population areas indoors and outdoors, increased range and need for a deeper backdrop, current special events occurring in or around the campus.

S. Officers deploying long guns should announce over the radio that they are doing so.

T. Once the threat is resolved, or a Tactical team has arrived and assumed the responsibility for control of an incident, the agency rifle will be secured.

2.825.15 Authorized Shotguns

A. Personally-owned rifles and shotguns are approved for agency use by trained personnel under the following conditions:
   1. The weapon has been pre-approved for agency use by the chief firearms instructor;
   2. The officer is currently trained and certified to carry the personally-owned rifle and/or shotgun;
   3. The officer is currently qualified with that specific, personally-owned rifle and/or shotgun;
   4. The personally-owned rifle and/or shotgun is subject to a semi-annual inspection by agency armorer;
   5. The officer agrees that the agency is not liable for any damage incurred to the weapon or its accessories as a result of agency use; and
   6. The officer is responsible for all maintenance costs associated with the use of the personally-owned rifle and/or shotgun and any accessories, to include batteries.

B. The following personally-owned carbine rifles and shotguns are approved for use by trained personnel:
   1. Remington or Mossberg 12-gauge pump-action or semi-auto shotgun, or another brand from a reputable manufacturer (as approved by the chief firearms instructor) with a barrel length of 18 to 22 inches.
   2. Carbine rifles in .223 cal. Remington (5.56 x 45mm) meeting the following standards:
      a. Manufactured by Sig Sauer, Colt, Bushmaster (aka Quality Parts Co.), or Olympic Arms, or other reputable manufacturer as approved by the chief firearms instructor;
      b. Barrel length of 16 to 20 inches;
      c. Capable of semi-automatic fire only;
      d. Must be equipped with iron sights;
      e. Electronic and optical sighting devices of 4 power or less may be used, but must be so designed and mounted as to allow for viewing of iron sights; and
      f. Any light, rail system, or vertical grip attached to a carbine or rifle must be approved by the chief firearms instructor.
   2.825.14 Authorized Personally-Owned Rifles and Shotguns

A. Personally-owned rifles and shotguns are approved for agency use by trained personnel under the following conditions:
   1. The weapon has been pre-approved for agency use by the chief firearms instructor;
   2. The officer is currently trained and certified to carry the personally-owned rifle and/or shotgun;
   3. The officer is currently qualified with that specific, personally-owned rifle and/or shotgun;
   4. The personally-owned rifle and/or shotgun is subject to a semi-annual inspection by agency armorer;
   5. The officer agrees that the agency is not liable for any damage incurred to the weapon or its accessories as a result of agency use; and
   6. The officer is responsible for all maintenance costs associated with the use of the personally-owned rifle and/or shotgun and any accessories, to include batteries.

B. The following personally-owned carbine rifles and shotguns are approved for use by trained personnel:
   1. Remington or Mossberg 12-gauge pump-action or semi-auto shotgun, or another brand from a reputable manufacturer (as approved by the chief firearms instructor) with a barrel length of 18 to 22 inches.
   2. Carbine rifles in .223 cal. Remington (5.56 x 45mm) meeting the following standards:
      a. Manufactured by Sig Sauer, Colt, Bushmaster (aka Quality Parts Co.), or Olympic Arms, or other reputable manufacturer as approved by the chief firearms instructor;
      b. Barrel length of 16 to 20 inches;
      c. Capable of semi-automatic fire only;
      d. Must be equipped with iron sights;
      e. Electronic and optical sighting devices of 4 power or less may be used, but must be so designed and mounted as to allow for viewing of iron sights; and
      f. Any light, rail system, or vertical grip attached to a carbine or rifle must be approved by the chief firearms instructor.
   C. Flashlights and light mounts are approved and required, at officers’ own expense, for shotguns and rifles for low light use.
   D. A single-point carrying sling is required on all carbine rifles and shotguns used on duty.
   E. Ammunition authorized for service in personally-owned rifles and shotguns must be:
      1. agency issued ammunition for the rifle;
      2. 00 Buckshot; and/or
      3. Rifled slugs for the shotgun.
   F. Personally-owned rifles and shotguns may only be discharged in accordance with 2.830 Use of Firearms.
   G. While not in use, personally-owned rifles and shotguns are to be unloaded and securely stored in a proper storage location.
2.825.16 Euthanization of Rabid or Severely Injured Animals
A. Officers euthanizing deer and other large mammals may use the issued service pistol or shotgun if certified consistent with 2.820.10 B Qualification Requirements. An agency shotgun is deployed consistent with 2.825.15 Authorized Shotguns and 2.830 Use of Firearms for use by shotgun certified officers in euthanizing possibly rabid or severely injured animals.
1. Authorized ammunition is 00 buckshot or rifled slug, depending on the following variables:
   a. 5 to 15 yards away, 00 buckshot is used.
   b. 15 to 75 yards away, rifled slug is used.
2. The weapon and ammunition is stored in the agency’s authorized and secure storage location and will be removed for use only:
   a. Upon report of possibly rabid or severely injured animals;
   b. With approval of supervisory or administratively ranked officers; and
   c. Immediate danger to persons, or excessive response time by P.G. Co. Animal Control, necessitates action on behalf of this agency.
3. Access to the lost and found closet is restricted consistent with 2.506.40 Lost & Found.
B. Officers euthanizing possibly rabid or severely injured animals will do so only in safe areas where backstops are certain and will use one of the following methods:
   1. Within 3 feet with handgun, aim behind ear to opposite eye; or at the intersection of imaginary lines from the ears to the eyes.
   2. Between 5 to 15 yard distances require aimed shot to head, lower neck or behind shoulder blade, followed up by head shot if necessary.
   3. Between 15 to 75 yard distances with rifled slug, aimed shot behind shoulder blade to fell and follow up with head shot.
C. Officers euthanizing small wild mammals will utilize issued pistol, headshot through the brain.
D. Officers euthanizing possibly rabid or severely injured animals will maintain control of the carcasses until P.G. Co. Animal Control takes custody of the carcasses.
E. Officers will comply with reporting and notification criteria consistent with 2.835 Reporting Use of Force.

2.825.21 Riot Baton
A. Officers will be issued the 36 inch Riot Baton.
B. Officers may only carry the Riot Baton:
   1. Consistent with 2.825.21.D, and
   2. After being trained and certified to carry the weapon consistent with 2.825.21.C, and
   3. After achieving minimum proficiency levels.
C. Officers must qualify bimannually with the Riot Baton to maintain authorization to carry the weapon.
D. Only Uniformed Officers may carry the Riot Baton for pre-planned, mobile field force operations while wearing the Tactical Uniform consistent with 1.806.12 Tactical Uniform and as delineated by the Operational Order. A supervisor may authorize officers to carry the weapon for emergency, mobile field force operations when Operational Orders are impractical.

2.825.25 Expandable Baton
A. The agency’s secondary impact weapons for which officers are trained and are certified to carry are the series of Monadnock Expandable Batons.
B. Officers will be issued expandable batons only after completion of the Monadnock Expandable Baton Basic Course certifying they have achieved minimum proficiency levels.
C. Expandable baton use will not be inconsistent with training guidelines of the Monadnock PR-24 Training Council, Inc.
D. Officers must qualify bimannually with the expandable baton in order to maintain authorization to carry the weapon.
E. The expandable baton is a required article to be worn on each officer’s gunbelt.

2.825.26 FN-303 Less-Lethal Launcher
A. The FN-303 less-lethal launcher shall only be utilized by sworn agency personnel who have successfully completed the UMPSN FS-303 training program.
B. Only properly functioning and charged launchers shall be carried in the field.
C. Each discharge of the FN-303 Launcher, including unintentional discharges shall be documented and subsequently reviewed pursuant to 2.835 Reporting Use of Force.
D. Although classified as a less-lethal device, the potential exists for FN-303 projectiles to inflict serious or lethal injuries when they strike the face, eyes, neck, spine, and groin areas. Therefore, officers deploying the FN-303 Launcher shall never intentionally target those body areas unless deadly force is justified.
E. Minimally, one FN-303 Less Lethal Launcher shall be available for use by trained personnel on each patrol shift so that the launcher is always available, should the need for it arise. Generally, all patrol sergeants and at least two additional members of each squad will be certified operators in order to meet the goal of round-the-clock availability.
F. Launchers will be stored in the issued carrying case and secured in the locked trunk of the patrol vehicle when not in use.
G. Since the FN-303 Less Lethal Launcher is considered an extended range impact weapon, the launcher will generally be utilized in accordance with the department’s existing use of force policy and force continuum, particularly as it relates to impact weapons. But specifically, the FN-303 Launcher may be used in the following circumstances:
   1. When necessary to defend the officer or others from any threat reasonably believed to be capable of inflicting injury or harm to those persons.
   2. To affect an arrest of a person whose actions demonstrate defensive resistance to the arrest.
   3. When it would be unsafe or impractical to approach a threatening person in order to deploy OC from a canister or to utilize a handheld impact weapon (MEB baton).
   4. To prevent the commission of a crime.
   5. When a higher level of force may be justified, but an opportunity exists to use the FN-303 Launcher before those other options are deployed.
   6. With the approval of an on-scene commander (sergeant or above), to disperse unruly or rioting crowds threatening unlawful property damage or physical force. Prior to deployment in such instances, a clear, audible warning to disperse shall be given over a public address system of a patrol vehicle or bullhorn.
H. Persons who have been struck by FN-303-launched projectiles and subsequently taken into custody shall be decontaminated (if OC projectiles used), and transported to a medical facility for evaluation and treatment.
I. Use of the FN-303 Launcher shall not be inconsistent with Training guidelines established by FNH, USA, Inc.

2.825.27 Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Streamer
A. The only OC authorized for agency use are those OC delivery systems purchased by the agency and approved for use by the Chief of Police.
B. OC delivery systems exceeding 10% Oleoresin Capsicum or uti-
lizing alcohol-based or other flammable propellants are prohibit-
ed.

C. Officers will:
1. Be issued OC only after completion of required training cer-
tifying they have achieved minimum proficiency levels;
2. Carry only those serial numbered OC canisters registered
and issued to them;
3. Carry issued OC canisters only in agency issued or author-
ized holders; and
4. Undergo OC retraining consistent with 2.820.30 to maintain
their authorization to carry OC.

D. The use of OC streamer will be consistent with applicable train-
ing.
1. Officers may use OC streamer to gain compliance of a resis-
ting subject, where there is the intent to affect an arrest, and
only when verbal commands and other techniques have been or
would be ineffective during the arrest.
2. Officers are prohibited from using OC streamers in passive
civil demonstrations.
3. Officers must consider potential risks associated with de-
ployment of OC streamers in areas where innocent bystand-
ers may be affected. Additionally, officers will consider the
following factors before OC deployment:
  a. Subjects actions and behaviors;
  b. Active Resistance vs Passive Resistance;
  c. Other officers in the immediate spray area; and/or
  d. Your location (i.e. inside a building, along a busy
     street, and/or wind direction).

E. Officers will render aid and decontamination measures to sub-
jects on which OC spray has been used as soon as possible and
practical after such use.

F. Discharged duty canisters, regardless of the extent of discharge,
will be submitted to Logistics in sealed, plastic evidence bags for
replacement and diversion to training use.

G. Logistics personnel will issue a new OC canister.

H. Use of force reports must be completed consistent with 2.835 for
all discharges of OC, except for training purposes, and must in-
clude:
1. Effects of OC spray use on suspects and any other
   contaminated personnel; and
2. Decontamination measures and first aid given or offered
to suspects and any other contaminated personnel or areas.

2.825.28 High-Volume Oleoresin Capsicum

A. High-volume OC delivery systems, MK-9 and MK-46, are not au-
thorized for routine carry unless ordered by a supervisor, event
commander or incident commander, and will only be carried and
utilized by trained personnel.

B. High-volume OC delivery systems may be authorized for deployment
in civil disturbances and other situations where duty canisters may
not contain sufficient product quantity or range.

C. Unless exigent circumstances exist, high-volume OC delivery
systems should not be used for crowd dispersal purposes except
with the authorization of an on-scene supervisor, and not until a
clear and audible dispersal announcement by the supervisor
has been made, giving a reasonable period of time for compliance
by the crowd.

D. Discharged high-volume canisters will be secured in an
evidence locker and Logistics personnel will be notified of the
locker contents.

E. Use of force reports must be completed consistent with 2.835 for
all discharges of OC, except for training purposes, and must in-
clude:
1. Effects of OC spray use on suspects and any other
   contaminated personnel; and
2. Decontamination measures and first aid given or offered
to suspects and any other contaminated personnel or areas.

2.825.30 Weapons in Courthouses

A. Uniformed officers of this agency may be armed within Prince
George’s County Courthouses.

1. Officers of this agency who are not in uniform, but who are
on official police business, may be armed within courthouses
so long as they display both badge and identification cards at
all times.

2. Non-uniformed officers of this agency who are in the court-
house on official police business, but who cannot display a
badge and identification card because of the nature of their
assignments must display identification provided by the
OSPG in order to be armed.

3. Persons who are not members of law enforcement agencies
with original jurisdiction in Prince George’s County, or who,
although are law enforcement officers of some other jurisdic-
tion, are not in uniform within the courthouse on official po-
lice business, or persons who are not affiliated with law en-
forcement at all, are prohibited from bringing or attempting
to bring weapons into courthouses.

4. Wearing or carrying firearms in courthouses outside of Prince
George’s County is governed by any applicable laws or
regulations of those other jurisdictions.

B. Officers who are called to jury service, or are personal parties to
civil litigation, are not allowed to wear firearms within court-
houses during the times they are serving as jurors or litigants.

2.830 USE OF FIREARMS

A. Officers are responsible for continuous and safe display, han-
dling, cleanliness, and security of all issued and authorized fire-
arms and ammunition.

B. Firearms may be discharged only:
1. To defend themselves or others when there is reasonable be-
lief that there is imminent danger of death or serious physical
injury;
2. To apprehend fleeing persons when no reasonable alterna-
tives for apprehension exist and officers have probable cause
to believe that the persons:
   a. Have committed crimes involving the infliction or
      threatened infliction of serious physical harm, AND
   b. Pose imminent and significant threats of serious physical
      harm to officers or to others;
3. During agency mandated firearms training and requalifica-
tion;
4. For practice in areas where discharging firearms would not
be unsafe or illegal; or
5. With supervisory or administrative approval, to kill danger-
ous animals or animals so badly injured or ill that humanity
requires they be removed from further suffering.
   a. Owner permission must be obtained, whenever possible,
   b. Great care must be taken to protect the public from rico-
      cheting bullets.
   c. Killing of animals in the presence of children should be
      avoided.

C. Firearms use is prohibited:
1. When innocent persons would be severely and unduly en-
dangered;
2. To fire warning shots to induce persons to surrender; or
3. For misdemeanor arrests, excepting provisions of 2.830.B.

2.835 REPORTING USE OF FORCE

2.835.10 General Reporting Requirements
Use of force reports are required when officers:
1. Draw and point firearms at persons;
2. Draw and point FN-303 Less-lethal launchers at persons;
3. Discharges a firearm, for other than training or recreational purposes;
4. Deploy a shotgun or rifle from an agency vehicle even if the weapon was not pointed at someone;
5. Take actions that result in, or are alleged to have resulted in, injury or death of another person;
6. Apply force through the use of lethal or less lethal weapons;
7. Use weaponless techniques including, but not limited to, physical take-downs, kicks, knee strikes, open hand and elbow stuns and strikes, pressure points, hair control, pain compliance techniques, or throws that are intended to overcome and control suspect’s physical resistance without intent or expectation of lasting, serious, or permanent injury or death.

Use of force reports are not required when officers use weaponless control techniques that are intended to compel compliance with officer’s instructions with minimal chance of injuries. These situations include, but are not limited to:
1. Physical touching when accomplishing lawful frisks, arrests, handcuffing, investigatory, or custodial procedures; or
2. Gripping, grabbing, or holding subjects for the purpose of escorting people to other locations, interrupting suspect’s resistance, noncompliance, assaultive, disorderly or other similar behavior, and compelling compliance with officer’s instructions or orders.

All uses of force as defined in A require timely:
1. Notification to administrative or supervisory ranked personnel by involved officers or on their behalf if involved officers are unable to do so;
2. Completion and submission of reports and all related documents by involved officers or on their behalf if involved officers are unable to do so.

Required use of force report information may be contained in reports of the incidents rather than in separate reports.

The chief will designate a supervisory or administrative ranked officer to serve in an ancillary capacity as coordinator for timely reviews of these incidents.
1. Incidents involving no apparent chargeable conduct will be submitted to the chief and recommended for closure.
2. Incidents involving apparent chargeable conduct will be referred to the Internal Affairs Coordinator for follow-up consistent with 2.900 Complaints and Discipline.
3. The Inspections Coordinator is responsible for ensuring an annual analysis of all use of force incidents is conducted and submitted to the chief in order to reveal patterns or trends that could indicate training needs, equipment upgrades, or directive modifications.

Officers will notify appropriate law enforcement agencies to respond to incidents of uses of force if the incidents occur outside primary or concurrent jurisdiction of the University Police.
1. Local jurisdictions involved will be responsible for thorough investigation of incidents including the pursuit of criminal charges, if warranted.
2. Officers involved will notify on-duty supervisory personnel as soon as possible.

2.835.20 Involved Officers’ Responsibility
A. Involved officers will make required notifications and prepare necessary reports detailing facts regarding uses of force or discharges of firearms.
1. Reports must be completed prior to the end of involved officers’ shifts if the officers are physically and emotionally able to do so.
2. If involved officers are unable to complete required reports, supervisory or administrative ranked personnel will prepare the reports using the best information available.
B. Involved officers will ensure appropriate medical aid is provided as necessary after all lethal and less lethal uses of force. This may include, but is not limited to:
1. Care and treatment consistent with 2.608 Sick or Injured Detainees;
2. Increased observation to detect obvious changes in condition; or
3. Decontamination after uses of OC.
C. Officers who shoot or critically injure persons in the line of duty will receive post-trauma defusings within eight hours and other post-trauma mental health services as necessary.

2.835.30 Responsibility of Responding Officers
Responding officers who arrive at scenes of other officers’ uses of force resulting in death or injury will, if appropriate:
A. Render or ensure first aid is provided to injured officers or others after triage examinations;
B. Alert communications to situations and request medical assistance and additional personnel as deemed necessary;
C. Secure any suspects, injured or otherwise, according to directives;
D. Secure and protect the scene from any contamination of evidence;
E. Identify and/or detain witnesses present; and
F. Remain at the scene until supervisory personnel arrive unless there are hazardous conditions which require evacuation of the immediate area for safety purposes.

2.835.40 Communications Responsibilities
A. Communications personnel will ensure notifications are made when officers use deadly force or when there are serious physical injuries resulting from agency activities. Those to be notified are:
1. On-duty patrol squad commander;
2. First-call investigator;
3. Internal Affairs Coordinator;
4. Involved officer’s bureau commander;
5. PIO;
6. Chief of Police;
7. First-call chaplain.
8. Critical Incident Stress Management Liaison.
B. PCS personnel will submit to assigned incident investigators copies of all involved and/or related recorded media of telephone and radio transmissions from at least 30 minutes prior to incidents and until clearance of all investigators from scenes.

2.835.50 Shift Commander Responsibility
A. Shift commanders will respond immediately to scenes whenever officers use deadly force or there are serious physical injuries resulting from agency activities.
B. At least one officer will be directed to remain with bodies or injured persons. In cases where persons are taken to hospitals, assigned officers will remain with the persons, securing any physical evidence, until relieved by investigators.
C. Officers will be directed to secure incident scenes.
D. At least one officer will be directed to remain with involved officers to assure their safety, well being, and that no unnecessary questioning concerning the incident is initiated.
E. One officer will be sent to the medical facility to act as a liaison between medical and agency personnel if an officer is injured and taken to an emergency facility.
F. As safety permits, involved officers’ weapons must be secured. In cases of firearms use, ammunition used in the incident must
be secured. Firearms, shell casings, and magazines are to be left undisturbed for evidentiary purposes. Involved officers will be issued replacement firearms if suspensions are not invoked.

G. Control of scenes and incidents will be turned over to command ranked officers if ordered to do so.

H. Supervisory personnel will ensure that reporting requirements are met.
1. Reports of incidents are to be completed by officers, if physically and/or mentally possible.
2. All personnel at incident scenes will submit detailed supplementary reports of their actions.
3. Copies of all reports will be sent to Internal Affairs.
4. A CIS will be composed and sent.

2.835.60 Command Responsibility

A. The chief or a designate will make notification arrangements to the next of kin if officers are critically injured. The chief will ensure that follow-up support is provided to families of involved officers.

B. If officers use deadly force or cause serious physical injuries, involved officers’ bureau commanders will remove the officers from line-duty assignments pending administrative reviews to determine if the officers are to be placed on suspension, paid administrative leave, in non-contact assignments, or returned to full-duty status.
1. These actions and reviews are to:
   a. Protect the community’s interest when officers may have exceeded the scope of their authority in the use of deadly force; and
   b. Shield officers who have not exceeded the scope of their authority from possible confrontations with the community.
2. These reviews will be structured and conducted according to 2.900 Complaints and Discipline.

C. If incidents occur outside the primary or concurrent jurisdiction of the agency, officers’ bureau commanders will determine if personal responses to scenes are warranted. In all cases, the shift commanders will be responsible for collecting and forwarding copies of reports made by other agencies.

D. In the event that involved officers’ bureau commanders are unavailable, the chief or an officer specifically designated by the chief, will take on responsibility of the bureau commanders.

E. The Office of the Chief Unit will ensure:
1. Follow-up medical support is provided to involved officers; and
2. Arrangements are made for officers who use deadly force or cause serious physical injuries as the result of agency activities to receive post-incident debriefing and/or counseling as soon as practical after incidents.

2.835.70 Internal Affairs

A. An officer assigned to the Internal Affairs function, or a designee, will respond to scenes when officers use deadly force or when there are serious physical injuries resulting from agency activities.

B. Investigations into uses of force as described in 2.835.10.A will be conducted or coordinated by Internal Affairs consistent with 2.900 Complaints and Discipline.

C. Internal Affairs may request assistance of CIU personnel during investigations.

D. Internal Affairs ROIs will be submitted to the Chief. They will contain relevant facts and circumstances surrounding incidents and determinations if:
1. Actions of agency employees were in accordance with law and agency directives;
2. Actions of agency employees were in apparent violation of law and should be referred to the chief who will confer with the OSA;
3. Actions of agency employees were justifiable under law but violated agency directives;
4. Agency disciplinary actions are necessary; or
5. Changes should be made regarding:
   a. Training;
   b. Supervision and accountability procedures;
   c. Psychiatric or psychological counseling;
   d. Hiring and promotion criteria;
   e. Deployment and dispatch techniques; or
   f. Operational policy and practices.

E. Internal Affairs will provide the Inspections Coordinator necessary statistical information in order to facilitate yearly use of force analysis reports.

2.835.80 Public Information Officer

A. The PIO or designate will respond to scenes and assist in releasing information when officers use deadly force or when there are serious physical injuries resulting from agency activities.

B. Except as directed by the chief, employees of the agency will not provide to the media any part of use of force incidents or investigations.

2.840 FIREARM MAINTENANCE

A. The lead Firearms Program Instructor is responsible for:
1. Coordinating with agency armorers all repairs and maintenance of agency owned firearms;
2. Maintaining records pertaining to maintenance transactions and the state of repair of all agency owned firearms;
3. Maintaining records pertaining to the issuance and surrender of agency owned firearms; and
4. Issuing firearms.

B. Agency armorers are responsible for utilizing the Portal to track firearm approval, issuance, inspection, maintenance, and safety.

C. Malfunctions or complaints concerning issued firearms or ammunition will immediately be brought to the attention of supervisory or administrative personnel who will, to the best of their abilities, verify problems, notify agency firearms instructors, and prepare a MIR and CIS.
1. Defective or unsafe firearms or ammunition discovered during normal business hours will be replaced by on-duty Firearms Program Instructors.
2. The lead Firearms Program Instructor will be contacted to determine, in consultation with agency armorers, appropriate courses of action when unsafe firearms or ammunition are discovered during non-business hours.

D. Unit commanders will inspect issued firearms monthly and document the inspections.

E. Officers will inspect all firearms issued to or carried by them on at least a weekly basis being alert for residue, corrosion, or deterioration.

F. Officers will clean issued or authorized firearms as soon as possible after they have been fired and maintain firearm cleanliness between firings.

G. Officers will not undertake or authorize any repair, modification, or refinishing of any agency owned firearm without the written permission of the chief.

H. All agency owned firearms will be inspected and serviced on at least a yearly basis by an agency armorer or agency authorized armorer.

I. Officers will surrender all agency issued firearms, weapons, ammunition, and equipment when leaving the employ of the agency.

J. Firearms taken as the result of firearm recoveries, police power suspensions, emergency suspensions, disciplinary suspensions, shootings, etc., will be documented on property receipts and
submitted to the Logistics Unit consistent with 2.500 Evidence & Property Management.

K. After firing their weapons at the range, officers will clean issued or authorized firearms before their next tour of duty or as soon as practical following the training.

2.845 LOSS OR THEFT OF FIREARMS

A. Officers discovering their agency issued or authorized firearms have been lost or stolen will immediately report same to on-duty patrol squad commanders and complete incident or crime reports as soon as practical regarding the incidents.

B. Initial reviews will be made consistent with 2.448 Property Care and Maintenance.
   1. On-duty patrol squad commanders will conduct preliminary investigations and prepare supplemental reports assessing whether or not losses resulted from officer non-compliance with directives.
   2. NCIC entries will be made by communications personnel to report losses or thefts of firearms. Copies of NCIC entries will be forwarded to officers’ bureau commanders and Logistics Unit.
   3. NCIC entries will be made by communications personnel if lost or stolen firearms are recovered. Copies of NCIC entries will be forwarded to involved officers’ bureau commanders and the Logistics Unit.
   4. CIS must be sent by investigating officers.
   5. Recovered firearms will be forwarded to the Logistics Unit after any evidentiary requirements have been met.

C. The Logistics Unit will:
   1. Coordinate the return and delivery of firearms if they are in the possession of authorities other than the UMDPS; and
   2. Issue replacement firearms to officers upon loss or theft of agency firearms.