

The following definitions apply to the terms used in Index Code 401, "Use of Force":

Deadly Force: Any use of reasonable and necessary force which is intended to or likely to cause death or serious physical injury.

Lethal Weapon: A weapon whose law enforcement purpose is to cause death or life threatening injury. The only lethal weapons authorized for use by officers of this department are firearms.

Less-Lethal Force: Any use of reasonable and necessary force that is not intended to, nor reasonably likely to, result in death or serious physical injury.

Less-Lethal Weapon: A weapon whose law enforcement purpose is to resolve incidents in a manner *that is not intended to, nor reasonably likely to, result in death or serious injury. The less-lethal weapons authorized for use by all trained officers of this department are the less-lethal shotgun and Electronic Control Devices (ECD) such as the TASER. SOS/QRT personnel are allowed various other less-lethal weapons as specified in Index Code 402.2, Section XV.C.2.*

Non-Lethal Force: Any use of reasonable and necessary force (other than that which is considered deadly force or less-lethal force) which is applied to effect an arrest or to protect the officer or others from personal attack, physical resistance, harm, or death.

Non-Lethal Weapon: Any device authorized by the department (*not categorized as a lethal or less-lethal weapon*) used to apply force to another individual. Examples of non-lethal weapons are batons and chemical sprays.

Personal Weapon: Hands, arms, legs, feet when used as a weapon (i.e., punches, elbow strikes, knee strikes & kicks.)

Reasonable Belief: Belief based on facts or circumstances the officer knows, or should know, and sufficient to cause a reasonable and prudent person to act or think in a similar way under similar circumstances.

Serious Physical Injury: Bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death; causes serious, permanent disfigurement; or results in long-term loss or impairment of the functioning of any bodily member or organ. Includes any injury caused by the discharge of a firearm.

Weapon of Opportunity: Any other object that an officer uses to apply force to another individual. Examples of weapons of opportunity are handcuffs, portable radios, and flashlights.

Cancellation: This directive cancels Index Code 401 Appendix A, dated 09-25-08.