



DEADLY FORCE REVIEW BOARD

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I. PURPOSE

The Deadly Force Review Board provides a critique to the Chief of Police of any incident involving the use of deadly force by a Department member. The purpose of the critique is:

- A. To evaluate the factors which led to the use of deadly force and the events which occurred before, during and after the use of deadly force;
- B. To evaluate the adequacy of department policies and procedures on the use of force;
- C. To recommend changes in training, tactics, supervision, investigatory procedures or written policy in order to prevent or avoid a similar incident in the future.

It is not the purpose of the board to gather evidence for criminal or administrative prosecution of individual officers, or to duplicate previous investigations or reviews of the incident.

II. MEMBERSHIP AND COMPOSITION

The Chief of Police will appoint members to the Deadly Force Review Board. A separate board will be convened for each incident of deadly force. Membership consists of:

- A. A Deputy Chief of Police or Major (board chairperson).
- B. A Patrol Division district commander.
- C. The commanding officer of the Training Academy.
- D. The involved officer's platoon or section commander.
- E. Two officers of the same rank as the involved officer.
- F. The Anne Arundel County Human Relations Officer.

III. PROCEDURES

- A. The board will meet at the time, location, and date established by the chairperson.
- B. A member of the Staff Inspections Section will present the case to the board. The case file will include the reports of the Criminal Investigation Division, the Staff Inspections Section, and the Internal Affairs Section (if any).
- C. At the chairperson's discretion, the board may hear testimony from the involved officer, witnesses, and/or investigators.

- D. Because the board is performing an administrative function, sworn personnel whose testimony is required will appear before the board in accordance with their requirement to obey lawful orders. In cases where the testimony of an individual who is not an employee is needed, compliance with the request to testify will be on a voluntary basis.
- E. Members of the board may not discuss the case under review with any person not authorized by the chairperson to have knowledge of the case.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Schedule the meeting to take place after any criminal and/or administrative charges have been resolved. If no charges are placed, the chairperson will convene the board at the earliest practical date.
- B. Notify board members and the Staff Inspections Section commander of the date, time, and location that the board will convene.
- C. Summon witnesses, and acquaint witnesses with the purpose and function of the board.
- D. Instruct board members as to the confidentiality of the material to which they will have access, their duties and responsibilities, and the procedures which will be followed.
- E. The chairperson may allow discussion of issues and details of the case with any person he or she deems necessary, in order that the board is fully and completely apprised of all circumstances bearing on the case.
- F. The chairperson will take reasonable steps to ensure that outside parties, such as expert witnesses, who are consulted on matters under review, do not divulge confidential information.
- G. The chairperson will function as a working member of the board during its deliberations, conclusions, and final recommendations. The chairperson's input shall have the same value as that of any other member.

V. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. The board will come to a determination and will comment on the following facets of the incident under review:
 - 1. Tactical considerations
 - 2. Quality of supervision
 - 3. Training considerations
 - 4. The quality of post-incident investigations and reviews
 - 5. Review of the department's deadly force policy
- B. The board chairperson will prepare and submit the written findings and recommendations to the Chief of Police within fifteen (15) working days from the time the board concludes its deliberations.
- C. The chairperson shall then review the recommendations with the Chief of Police. Final recommendations approved by the Chief of Police will be implemented by the chairperson. ***Upon final review, the Chief of Police may direct the involved officer's Bureau Commander to review the Board's report with the affected officers.***
- D. The chairperson will then submit the original report, in its entirety, along with a follow-up report to the Staff Inspections Section detailing the recommendations that have been implemented.

VI. REVIEW BY THE CHIEF OF POLICE

The Chief of Police will review the report of the Deadly Force Review Board and will determine whether the Department should modify or refine any aspects of training, tactics, supervision, investigatory procedures or written policy in order to prevent or avoid a similar incident of the use of deadly force in the future.

VII. PROPONENT UNIT: Staff Inspections Section.

VIII. CANCELLATION: This directive cancels Index Code 405, dated 07-01-07.