



USE OF FORCE AND WEAPONS AI-012

Adopted: 2024/04/01

Policy Statement

The Peel Police Service Board (the “Board”) acknowledges that both statutory and common law grant the police authority to utilize force, including lethal force, in carrying out their duties. This authority demands the utmost levels of respect and accountability to uphold the trust and confidence of the community. The use of force must, therefore, adhere to the principles of necessity, proportionality, and reasonableness, recognizing the dynamic nature of situations confronted by police officers.

Furthermore, the Board is resolutely committed to prioritizing the protection of life and the safety of both Peel Regional Police Service (the “Service”) members and the public. It firmly upholds and promotes the highest standards of performance, training, accountability, and transparency concerning the use of force by its members. Additionally, the Board emphasizes the significance of de-escalation techniques in the education and training of its members, particularly in situations prone to potential violence.

Policy Application

1. General

The Chief of Police shall ensure that:

- a. The Service’s policies regarding the use of force and weapons adhere to the spirit of the Policy Statement contained herein and the requirements of the *Community Safety and Policing Act* and/or any regulations made thereunder.
- b. Every member of the Police Service who may be required to use force on another person is in compliance with prescribed training requirements on the use of force.
- c. Before a firearm is issued to a member of the Police Service, the member is in compliance with the applicable training requirements prescribed by the Minister and is competent in the use of the firearm.
- d. Every member of the Police Service who is authorized to carry or use a firearm is in compliance with the prescribed training requirements on the use of firearms.

- e. Every member of the Police Service who is authorized to carry or use a weapon that is not a firearm is in compliance with the prescribed training requirements on the use of the weapon.
- f. Records are maintained of the training taken by members of the Police Service on the use of force, the use of firearms and the use of weapons that are not firearms and of when each training was taken.
- g. All weapons authorized and distributed for use within the Service comply with the technical specifications in Ontario Regulation 391/23 – Use of Force and Weapons
- h. An investigation is commenced, and report is filed to the Board where a member, by the discharge of a firearm in the performance of his or her duty, kills or injures another person.
- i. The Board is promptly informed when the Chief of Police discharges a firearm in the performance of the Chief's duties. The Board shall cause an investigation to be made into the circumstances should such an incident occur
- j. Ongoing review and evaluation of local use of force procedures, training and reporting occurs.

2. Reporting

The Chief of Police shall provide a copy of the Service's annual Use of Force report to the Board, which shall include:

- a. The number of use of force incidents and reports
- b. A description of the type of force used
- c. Time of day of the use of force
- d. The number of armed and unarmed subjects
- e. The unit the member worked in at the time the use of force occurred
- f. The number of years of service the member had at the time the use of force occurred
- g. Member injuries and subject injuries related to use of force incidents
- h. The perceived race of the subject of the use of force
- i. Details of de-escalation training provided to member and the number of members who received such training.

Data shall be provided for the five previous years where applicable, to enable comparisons.

The Chief of Police shall further provide any other relevant information that may assist the Board in understanding the application of the use of force and possible trends, to the extent permitted by law and operational requirements. The Board shall publish the annual report on the Internet.

Authority/Legislative Reference

s. 38(2), *Community Safety & Policing Act, 2019*