



LA CROSSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Policies and Practices in 21st Century Policing



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INTRODUCTION

The La Crosse Police Department created this report to show how its policies and practices are consistent with [21st Century Policing](#) recommendations. This report contains information from the La Crosse Police Department General Orders Policy Manual and the State of Wisconsin Department of Justice - Training and Standards Bureau Law Enforcement Certification and Training Curriculum.

Accreditation

For the last 22 years, the La Crosse Police Department has been accredited through the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group ([WILEAG](#)). WILEAG accreditation requires an onsite visit every three years by a team of WILEAG assessors. The onsite visit involves a thorough review of policies that address 207 standards that demonstrate the professional practices of law enforcement agencies.

Policies

Our staff is trained in department policies, which are available to the public we serve.

Wisconsin Department of Justice - Training and Standards Bureau

The Wisconsin DOJ - Training and Standards Bureau establishes the recruit academy curriculum and the general training standards for law enforcement officers to maintain certification. We have included the language from their curriculum within this report. Additionally, Training and Standards has developed the Disturbance Resolution model which includes Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT). The DAAT "Intervention Options" would be considered the "Use of Force Continuum." It is this curriculum and these trained techniques that La Crosse Police follow for our internal training.

Training

While this report reviews La Crosse Police Department policies in eight areas, we believe that training is key. Our officers undergo training beyond what is required by the state. For example, our agency has worked extensively with our partners outside of law enforcement to provide training in Crisis Intervention, Mental Health First Aid, and Fair and Impartial Policing. Each of these curricula help equip our officers with the skills necessary to reduce the chances of using force.

Body Worn Cameras

For the past 20 years, the La Crosse Police Department has equipped all of its patrol squads with mobile video cameras. In 2018, we issued a body worn camera to officers and investigators. By our policy, every official police contact with a citizen is recorded.

The La Crosse Police Department looks forward to working with the public we serve to grow and improve. Through this review process we have shown that our policies and practices are already consistent with the recommendations identified in eight key policy areas. We have also identified areas where we can strengthen our department.

We aim to be leaders who provide a safe and vibrant community. We need your input and action to be successful.

POLICY SNAPSHOT

La Crosse Police Department Policies and Procedures in 21st Century Policing Review of 8 Key Policy Areas

Policy	Key Takeaway
Chokeholds & Strangulation	LCPD - Eliminated from Policy and training in 2015. State - Not trained or permitted as a compliance hold in WI.
De-escalation	LCPD – Included in Policy Manual section 1.2 and 13.1, and continuously trained. State – Trained in Defense and Arrest Tactics Intervention Options curriculum.
Warning Before Shooting	LCPD – Included in Policy Manual section 1.3 and continuously trained. State – Trained during Firearms curriculum.
Exhaust All Alternatives Before Shooting	LCPD – Included in Policy Manual section 1.3 and continuously trained. State – Trained in Defense and Arrest Tactics Intervention Options curriculum – deadly force is last resort.
Duty to Intervene	LCPD – Included in Policy Manual section 1.2 and 15.1, and continuously trained. State – Trained in Defense and Arrest Tactics Intervention Options curriculum – Contact Officer Override.
Shooting at Moving Vehicles	LCPD – Included in Policy Manual section 1.3 and restricted based on totality of circumstances. State – Practice is highly discouraged.
Require Use-of-Force Continuum	LCPD – Included in Policy Manual section 1.2 and continuously trained. State – Trained in Defense and Arrest Tactics Intervention Options
Comprehensive Reporting	LCPD – Required by Policy Manual Section 1.2 and continuously reviewed. State – Use-of-Force Reporting/Reviews already in place.

CHOKEHOLDS & STRANGLEHOLDS

For a period of 3 years (2012-2015) members of the Emergency Response Team were trained on Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint (LVNR) by certified National Law Enforcement Training Center instructors. During this three-year period, there were NO applications of this technique used by officers.

On January 29, 2015, the La Crosse Police Department eliminated neck restraint holds from our training and our policy. The staff (17 officers) that had been previously trained in the application of neck restrains had to acknowledge this order by signing the memorandum.

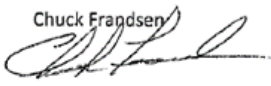

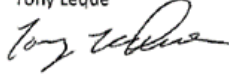
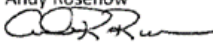
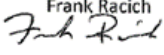
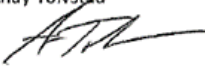




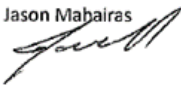
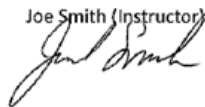
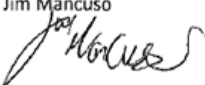
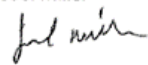
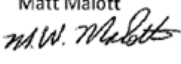
LVNR Elimination Document

Date: 01-29-15

Emailed Date: 01-11-15

Effective Immediately, the use of the LVNR (Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint) will no longer be permissible in our use of force curriculum. The only exception is when you meet the criteria for great bodily harm or death to yourself or another person(s).

The following members of ERT understand by signing below, the elimination of LVNR, and the criteria that must be met if they utilize the LVNR.

Chuck Frandsen 	Rick Pfennig 
Dan Kloss D.K. 1-29-15	Tony Leque 
Dan Ulrich Dan Ulrich 1-29-15	Andy Rosenow 
Frank Racich 	Andy Tolvstad 
Grant Gyllander  1/29/15	Brad Schomberg 
Heath Parshall 	Casey Rossman 
Jason Mabairas 	Joe Smith (Instructor) 
Jim Mancuso 	
Joel Miller 	
Matt Malott 	

Additionally, our current policies follow the State of Wisconsin Disturbance Resolution model and Officers are trained by certified instructors using the Training and Standards Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT) curriculum and Intervention Options.

POLICIES

La Crosse Police Department

General Order 1.2 Use of Force

3. Procedures

B. Use of Non-Deadly Force

1. The Disturbance Resolution as set forth by WI Training and Standards is a guide for force.

State of Wisconsin

Intervention Options

As seen below, the State Intervention Options do NOT include neck restraints as an approved technique.

INTERVENTION OPTIONS

MODE

PURPOSE (in bold)
GOAL (in italics)

A. Presence

1. Open Stance
2. Ready Stance
3. Defensive Stance

To present a visible display of authority

B. Dialogue

1. Search Talk
2. Persuasion
3. Light Control Talk
4. Heavy Control Talk

To verbally persuade

C. Control Alternatives

To overcome passive resistance, active resistance, or their threats

1. Escort Holds

- Blanket the Arm
- Escort Position

To safely initiate physical contact

2. Compliance Holds

- Come Along
- Pressure Points
 - Mandibular Angle
 - Hypoglossal

To overcome passive resistance

3. Control Devices (OC/ECD)

- Oleoresin Capsicum
- Electronic Control Devices

To overcome active resistance or its threat

4. Passive Countermeasures

- Secure the Head
- Hug Yourself
- Lower Your Center
- Pull in-Push Down

To Decentralize

D. Protective Alternatives

To overcome continued resistance, assaultive behavior, or their threats

1. Active Countermeasures

- Vertical Stuns
- Focused Strikes
 - Reaction Hand Strike
 - Reaction Forearm Strike
 - Strong Hand Strike
 - Strong Forearm Strike
 - Reaction Front Kick
 - Reaction Knee Strike
 - Strong Angle Knee Strike
 - Strong Angle Kick

To create dysfunction

2. Incapacitating Technique

- Diffused Strike from the front
- Diffused Strike from the rear

To cause immediate temporary cessation of violent behavior

3. Intermediate Weapons

- Baton
 - Baton Jab
 - Baton Jab-Multiple Strikes
 - Angle Strike
 - Angle-Cross Strike
 - Multiple/Overload Strikes

To impede

E. Deadly Force

To stop the threat

DE-ESCALATION

The La Crosse Police Department has always emphasized that communication is the first, and best, technique in handling a situation. Our officers are trained in the Disturbance Resolution model to attempt to de-escalate dynamic situations through trained verbalization. However, not all situations can be managed with verbalization and do require physical intervention. Our officers are trained that once physical intervention overcomes an individual's resistance, the officer must discontinue the application of force and de-escalate.

POLICIES

La Crosse Police Department

General Order 1.2 Use of Force

1. Purpose and Scope - It is our policy that officers will use only the force necessary to accomplish lawful objectives. The force used by an officer should only be that reasonably required to overcome the resistance being offered by the person the officer is trying to control.

General Order 1.2 Use of Force

3. Procedures

B. Use of Non-Deadly Force

1. The Disturbance Resolution as set forth by WI Training and Standards is a guide for force.

General Order 13.1 Code of Conduct

2. Procedures

G. Professionalism

1. All Department personnel shall be civil, orderly, discreet, courteous, patient, and respectful in any situation while on duty. Personnel shall not engage in any unjustified altercation, physical or otherwise, and shall make every effort to refrain from using profanity, insulting or inflammatory language and gestures.

State of Wisconsin

Professional Communication Skills

As a supplement to the Disturbance Resolution and Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT) curricula, the State also teaches "Professional Communication Skills". In fact, Professional Communication Skills and DAAT are defined as, "a system of verbalization skills coupled with physical alternatives." **This means that verbal skills are always the preferred choice.** Only if verbalization does not work (or would clearly be ineffective under the circumstances) should an officer resort to physical intervention options.

Firearms

In a situation in which you are forced to use deadly force, you will still follow the same sequence of actions [as indicated in the Intervention Options flow chart]. If time allows you will report to dispatch your location and your initial assessment of the situation. You will tactically evaluate the situation to **locate cover and escape routes, and to determine if there are other non-deadly-force options for handling the situation.**

Disturbance Resolution outlines the specific steps you must take in responding to disturbances. Certainly, **any situation involving deadly force requires that you must follow the steps of Disturbance Resolution.**

Preclusion: Before you can use deadly force, **you must reasonably believe that all other options have been exhausted or would be ineffective. In other words, deadly force is always a last resort.**

This concept is called preclusion. Note that in many deadly-force situations, you will not have time or the ability to try other options - if a subject a few feet away from you suddenly pulls a gun or threatens to shoot you, generally the only reasonable response is to fire. There is simply not enough time to try alternatives.

TRAINING

Over the past several years, the La Crosse Police Department has taken the initiative to train officers is a variety of topics outside of the traditional law enforcement in-service and recertification curricula including mental health and crisis response. We worked with partners outside of Law Enforcement to provide the following training seminars: Mental Health First Aid, Crisis Intervention, and Fair and Impartial Policing, to name a few. Each of these encompass training in active listening, de-escalation, and giving a voice to all of the citizens we

serve. Our Training Reports from [2017](#), [2018](#), and [2019](#) offer the following snapshot of total hours of training on the topic of Crisis/Mental Health:

Topic	2017	2018	2019
Crisis and Mental Health	576.5	523.5	785.3

WARNING BEFORE SHOOTING

POLICIES

La Crosse Police Department

General Order 1.3 Use of Firearms/Deadly Force

3. Procedures

B. Use of Deadly Force

4. When feasible, before using a firearm for deadly force, officers will identify themselves as a Police Officer and give verbal commands unless, due to tactical considerations, doing so would create more danger to the officer or others.

State of Wisconsin

Firearms

If feasible, you should give a verbal warning before firing, but this is not always possible, and in some cases may not be desirable. A verbal warning is feasible if you have sufficient time, distance, and/or cover from the subject posing the deadly threat, such that the verbal warning would not increase or prolong the danger to yourself or other innocent people.

TRAINING

Our Training Reports from [2017](#), [2018](#), and [2019](#) offer the following snapshot of total hours of general firearms training:

Topic	2017	2018	2019
Firearms	575.2	513.01	337.1

EXAMPLE

On August 3, 2019, La Crosse Police Officer Dustin Darling responded to a domestic incident. When attempting to take the suspect into custody, the suspect drew a handgun, and began shooting at Officer Darling. As can be seen in this [real-time video](#) (or in this [slow-speed](#)

[version](#)), Officer Darling had split seconds to respond, but continued to provide a verbal warning after having been shot.

EXHAUST ALL ALTERNATIVES BEFORE SHOOTING

POLICIES

La Crosse Police Department

General Order 1.3 Use of Firearms/Deadly Force

3. Procedures

B. Use of Deadly Force

1. As a last resort in the defense of oneself when s/he reasonably believes s/he is in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm.
2. As a last resort in the defense of another who the officer reasonably believes is in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm.
3. As a final alternative to effect an arrest or prevent escape of a fleeing felon who the officer reasonably believes has committed a felony involving actual or threatened use of deadly force and the officer has belief that the suspected felon poses a significant threat of death or great bodily harm to people if not immediately apprehended.

State of Wisconsin

Firearms

Preclusion: Before you can use deadly force, you must reasonably believe that all other options have been exhausted or would be ineffective. **In other words, deadly force is always a last resort.**

This concept is called preclusion. Note that in many deadly-force situations, you will not have time or the ability to try other options - if a subject a few feet away from you suddenly pulls a gun or threatens to shoot you, generally the only reasonable response is to fire. There is simply not enough time to try alternatives.

EXAMPLE

On December 30, 2016, Officer Ryan DeFlorian responded to a request for mutual aid. As Officer DeFlorian arrived on scene, a male subject exited his vehicle and began swinging a

logging chain. After failing to comply with several orders to drop the chain, the man charged Officer DeFlorian and a Sheriff's Deputy. The Officers utilized less-lethal methods, including releasing K-9 Sabiye, but the subject advanced. As he came around the rear of a squad, he attempted to hit Officer DeFlorian. Officer DeFlorian and the Deputy fired four rounds at the man, stopping the threat. As can be seen in this [real-time video](#), Officer DeFlorian exhausted all possible less-lethal options before resorting to deadly force.

DUTY TO INTERVENE

POLICIES

La Crosse Police Department

General Order 1.2 Use of Force

3. Procedures

B. Use of Non-Deadly Force:

1. The Disturbance Resolution as set forth by WI Training and Standards is a guide for force.
2. Officers shall use only that amount of force reasonably necessary to control a situation, effect the arrest of an offender or to control a person.
3. Officers shall not continue to use force, except mere physical restraint, after an individual has ceased to resist.
4. Officers involved in such situations shall display as much regard for the offender's safety as is possible.
5. Unless circumstances dictate otherwise, all persons arrested will be handcuffed, searched and then transported in a police vehicle.
 1. The "hog-tying" of a suspect is never allowed.
6. The use of excessive/unwarranted force/brutality will not be tolerated under any circumstances and may subject the officer to disciplinary action, criminal and civil liability.

K. Excessive Force/Force Review:

1. In cases of possible excessive force or questionable use/application of force, the Chief may assign the involved officer(s) to administrative duties or leave pending an Internal Investigation and/or the Use of Force Review as described in General Order 1.5.
2. All employees shall report any excessive force they observe by other officers, including officers from other agencies.
3. Any officer can report questionable tactics or applications of force to a supervisor who will intern bring the concern to the bureau captain.

General Order 1.15 Arrest Procedures

3. Procedures

A. Arrests – Generally:

In order for an arrest to occur, an officer must have the intent to take a person into custody and an understanding by the person arrested that s/he is in custody. When making an arrest, an officer should:

1. Identify him/herself as a police officer. (If it is apparent by the wearing of a uniform or other means that the person making the arrest is a police officer, no further identification is necessary.)
2. Inform the subject that s/he is under arrest.
3. Restrict the arrested subject's movements as required, using only force necessary to overcome any resistance by the person being arrested.

State of Wisconsin

Contact Officer Override

This concept grows out of the contact-cover principle, a mode of police/jail operation that gives officers different roles. In this mode, one officer serves as the contact officer (making actual contact with a subject) while another officer (or more than one) serves as a cover officer (observing to ensure that all goes well and ready to intervene if necessary).

Contact officer override is a corollary of the concept of shared responsibility. It means that cover officers have the proactive responsibility to intervene in a situation if the contact officer behaves inappropriately, or is otherwise not handling the situation effectively. One of the ways in which a contact officer might behave inappropriately is through verbal communication to a subject. Inappropriate communication might involve unwarranted anger, use of profanity, threats, or other unacceptable and unprofessional responses. In other words, there are no innocent bystanders. As professionals, we are responsible for each other.

In such a situation, the cover officer must intervene and override the contact officer. The cover officer might do so by stopping the contact officer from his/her behavior, taking the contact officer aside to talk to him or her, taking over the contact officer's role, and so on. Sometimes the cover officer may simply need to step in and take over for the contact officer because the contact officer is not being effective or is not getting through to the subject.

Because officers share responsibility for what happens during incidents and for their outcome, cover officers must sometimes step out of their normal role of providing back-up and support and override the contact officer even when outranked.

Contact Officer Override – Steps

- Listen for changes in partner’s tone of voice.
- Develop key words to let partner know of a control problem.
- Offer to take over this contact.
- Call your partner over to your location.
 - Have partner take a couple of deep breaths
 - Attempt to reason with partner
 - Threaten to call the supervisor to the scene
 - Call your supervisor to the scene
- Physically place yourself between your partner and the subject.
- Physically separate your partner and subject.
- Physically move subject away from your partner.
- Physically prevent your partner from striking the subject.
- Prevent your partner from striking the subject again.

EXAMPLES

During Police Officer Candidate interviews, the 5-member Police Administrative panel asks each candidate the following question:

Question: While on a call you overhear a senior officer inappropriately use profanity towards a citizen who is obviously trying to test the officer’s patience. What would you do and why?

Answer Expected: **Officer Override and report situation to a supervisor.**

The reason that this is the expected answer is that every police recruit that has passed through the Wisconsin State Law Enforcement Academy curriculum will have been trained in this exact manner.

SHOOTING AT MOVING VEHICLES

POLICIES

La Crosse Police Department

General Order 1.3 Use of Firearms/Deadly Force

3. Procedures

C. Restrictions on the use of a firearm as a deadly force:

1. Warning shots are generally prohibited.
2. **No shooting from or at a moving vehicle** unless 3(B)(1) or 3(B)(2) apply. (Those sections state: As a last resort in the defense of oneself when s/he reasonably believes s/he is in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm. As a last resort in the defense of another who the officer reasonably believes is in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm.)

USE-OF-FORCE CONTINUUM

The La Crosse Police Department follows a Use-of-Force Continuum covered by the State of Wisconsin Disturbance Resolution model and the Defense and Arrest Tactics Intervention Options – all of which are adapted and trained by the La Crosse Police Department and referred to in policy. However, every possible type of resistance that officers may encounter cannot be covered.

POLICIES

La Crosse Police Department

General Order 1.2 Use of Force

3. Procedures

B. Use of Non-Deadly Force

1. The Disturbance Resolution as set forth by WI Training and Standards is a guide for force.
2. Officers shall use only that amount of force reasonably necessary to control a situation effect the arrest of an offender or to control a person.

State of Wisconsin

Disturbance Resolution Guide

Wisconsin's system of Defensive and Arrest Tactics is defined as a system of verbalization skills coupled with physical alternatives. This definition reflects the goal of gaining voluntary compliance. Achieving your objective by verbal persuasion is always preferable to having to use physical intervention.

Mode	Purpose
A. Presence	To present a visible display of authority
B. Dialog	To verbally persuade
C. Control Alternatives	To overcome passive resistance, active resistance, or their threats
D. Protective Alternatives	To overcome continued resistance, assaultive behavior, or their threats
E. Deadly Force	To stop the threat

Which mode you choose in a given situation depends on your tactical evaluation and threat assessment. Note that the same tactic may, depending on the circumstances and the purpose for which it is used, fall into more than one mode. The criterion (as articulated in *Graham v. Connor*) is whether the level and degree of force is objectively reasonable. Five fundamental principles apply:

1. The purpose for use of force is to gain control in pursuit of a legitimate law enforcement objective. If verbalization is effective in gaining control, it is always preferable to physical force.
2. You may initially use the level and degree of force that is reasonably necessary to achieve control. You need not escalate step-by-step through the Intervention Options.
3. At any time, if the level of force you are using is not effective to gain control, you may disengage and/or escalate to a higher level of force. This involves transitioning to a different level of force or different tactics based on the totality of circumstances.
4. Once you have gained control of a subject, you must reduce the level of force to that needed to maintain control.
5. You must always maintain a position of advantage.

Defensive and Arrest Tactics (DAAT): A system of verbalization skills coupled with physical alternatives.

DAAT Concepts:

- Control is a perception based on an officer's training, experience and the fact situation.
- Control is not a 50/50 proposition.
- Proper police action balances safety and efficiency.

DAAT Rules:

- No officers are injured.
- No suspects are injured needlessly.
- No one is accepted/detained or released improperly.

Safety Priorities:

- You.
- Fellow Officers.
- Civilians.
- Criminals.

When Can Officers Use Force?

- To achieve and maintain control of resistive subjects.
- To detain persons reasonably suspected of criminal behavior.
- To make lawful arrests.
- In defense of self or others.
- To prevent escapes.

Key Rules for Use of Force:

- The purpose is control.
- You can always disengage and/or escalate.
- Escalation does not need to follow step by step through options.
- Once control is achieved, you must reduce the level of force to that needed to maintain control.
- You must always maintain a position of advantage.

Categories of Force:

- A trained technique.
- A dynamic application of a trained technique.
- Not trained by justified under the circumstances.

INCIDENT RESPONSE (RESPOND)

REPORT

- Become aware
- Plan response
- Arrive/Assess
- Alarm/In form

EVALUATE

- Look for Dangers
- Determine back up needs
- Enter when appropriate/tactically sound

STABILIZE

- Subject/s
- Scene

PRESERVE

- Life
 - Conduct an initial medical assessment
 - Treat to level of training
 - Continue to monitor subject
- Evidence

ORGANIZE

- Coordinate additional responding units (if necessary)
- Communicate with dispatch and others
- Organize the collection of evidence (if appropriate)

NORMALIZE

- Provide for long term monitoring (as appropriate)
- Restore scene to normal
- Return radio communications to normal

DOCUMENT/DEBRIEF

- Debrief self, others, subjects
- Document incident appropriately

DISTURBANCE RESOLUTION

1. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

A. Decision-Making

- Justification
- Desirability

B. Tactical Deployment

- Control of Distance
- Relative Positioning
- Relative Positioning with Multiple Subjects
- Team Tactics

C. Tactical Evaluation

- Threat Assessment Opportunities

- Officer/Subject Factors

- Special Circumstances

- Level/Stage/Degree of Stabilization

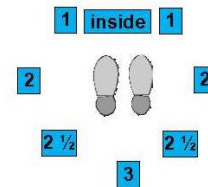
2. INTERVENTION OPTIONS

3. FOLLOW THROUGH CONSIDERATIONS

CONTROL OF DISTANCE

- Public >12 ft
- Social 4-12 ft
- Personal 1.5-4 ft
- Intimate 0-1.5 ft

Positioning



THREAT ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Resistive Tension (Level of agitation in a person's body)
- Early Warning Signs
- Pre-attack Postures
- Indications of mental illness, emotional disturbance, or medically significant behavior
- Weapon Control Factors

OFFICER/SUBJECT FACTORS

- Age
- Size
- Relative Strength
- Skill Level

EARLY WARNING SIGNS

Signals or certain behaviors provided by the subject that are often associated with a high level of danger to officers

- Conspicuously ignoring
- Excessive emotional attention
- Exaggerated movement
- Ceases all movement
- Known violent behavior

PRE-ATTACK POSTURES

Behaviors that may indicate imminent danger of physical assault

- Boxer Stance
- Shoulder Shift
- Hand set
- Target Glance
- Thousand Yard Stare

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Factors or situation that may justify rapid escalation of force or selection of higher force options

- Reasonable perception of threat
- Special knowledge of subject
- Sudden assault
- Subject's ability to escalate force rapidly
- Your physical positioning
- Injury or exhaustion
- Equipment or training
- Availability of backup
- Other special circumstances

LEVEL/STAGE/DEGREE OF STABILIZATION

- Presence stabilization
- Verbal stabilization
- Standing stabilization
- Wall stabilization
- Ground stabilization
- Special restraints

INTERVENTION OPTIONS

MODE

PURPOSE

A. Presence

1. Open Stance
2. Ready Stance
3. Defensive Stance

To present a visible display of authority

B. Dialogue

1. Search Talk
2. Persuasion
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To verbally persuade

C. Control Alternatives

1. Escort Holds

- Blanket the Arm
- Escort Position

To overcome passive resistance, active resistance, or their threats

To safely initiate physical contact

2. Compliance Holds

- Come Along
- Pressure Points
- Mandibular Angle
- Hypoglossal

To overcome passive resistance

3. Control Devices(OC/ECD)

- Oleoresin Capsicum
- Electronic Control Devices

To overcome active resistance or it's threat

4. Passive Countermeasures

- Secure the Head
- Hug Yourself
- Lower Your Center
- Pull in-Push Down

To Decentralize

D. Protective Alternatives

1. Active Countermeasures

- Vertical Stuns
- Focused Strikes
 - Reaction Hand Strike
 - Reaction Forearm Strike
 - Strong Hand Strike
 - Strong Forearm Strike
 - Reaction Front Kick
 - Reaction Knee Strike
 - Strong Angle Knee Strike
 - Strong Angle Kick

To overcome continued resistance, assaultive behavior, or their threats

To create dysfunction

2. Incapacitating Technique

- Diffused Strike from the front
- Diffused Strike from the rear

To cause immediate temporary cessation of violent behavior

3. Intermediate Weapons

- Baton
 - Baton Jab
 - Baton Jab-Multiple Strikes
 - Angle Strike
 - Angle-Cross Strike
 - Multiple/Overload Strikes
- 40mm/12g Impact Munitions

To impede

E. Deadly Force

To stop the threat

REACT

- Request Cooperation
- Explain Reason
- Allow Choice
- Check Decision (Is there anything I can say to?)
- Take Action

DONE

- Danger
- Overriding Concern
- No Progress
- Escape

Passive Resistance: Non-threatening and non-complaint behavior

Active Resistance: Behavior which physically counteracts an officers control efforts and which creates risk of bodily harm to the officer, subject and/or other person.

Continued Resistance: Maintaining a level of counteractive behavior that is not controlled by an officers current efforts.

Fighting Rules:

- Be effective from the beginning.
- Never spar with anyone.
- Hit as hard as you can.
- Attempt to create a dysfunction.
- Get the confrontation over quickly.

Assaultive Behavior: Direct actions or conduct that generate bodily harm

Deadly Force Definition: The intentional use of a firearm or other instrument that creates a high probability of death or great bodily harm.

Deadly Force Justification: Behavior which has caused or imminently threatens to cause death or great bodily harm to you or another person or persons.

Great Bodily Harm: Bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious permanent disfigurement, or which causes a permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ or other serious bodily injury.

Target Requirements:

- **Acquisition:** The process of locating your adversary.
- **Identification:** The process of recognizing the subject as the adversary placing you/others in "Imminent Danger"
- **Isolation:** The process of separating the subject from innocent persons.

Imminent Threat Criteria/Attack Theory:

- Imminent means "About to Happen" Suspect displays:
- Weapon
 - Intent
 - Delivery System

Greater Danger Exception: Exception to Isolation Rule.

Preclusion: The elimination of all other viable alternatives.

FOLLOW-THROUGH CONSIDERATIONS

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| A. Stabilize | Application of restraints, if necessary |
| B. Monitor/Debrief | |
| C. Search | If appropriate |
| D. Escort | If necessary |
| E. Transport | If necessary |
| F. Turn-Over/Release | Removal of restraints, if necessary |

STABILIZE

- Presence stabilization
- Verbal stabilization
- Standing stabilization
- Wall stabilization
- Ground stabilization
- Special restraints

Monitor/Debrief

- Calm self and partner
- Calm subject
- Provide initial medical assessment
- Reassure the subject
- Rebuild subjects self esteem

04-30-18

TRAINING

Our Training Reports from [2017](#), [2018](#), and [2019](#) offer the following snapshot of total hours of general use of force training:

Topic	2017	2018	2019
Use of Force Training	467.71	453.85	332.85

COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING

The La Crosse Police Department implemented a response to resistance reporting addendum over 15 years ago. Additionally, it was at that time that we required EACH officer that applied force to individually complete the addendum and a detailed narrative in their report documenting the justification for the force used.

POLICIES

La Crosse Police Department

General Order 1.2 Use of Force

3. Procedures

J. Documenting and Reporting

1. Whenever force is used to control/impede/stop a subject at a level of O.C. or greater when following the Disturbance Resolution, a Response to Resistance Report shall be completed as well as an Incident Report detailing the circumstances in which the force was applied.
 - a. One Response to Resistance Report is required for each subject whom force was used on and one for each officer applying force. See also General Order 1.5.
 - b. Officers shall notify an on-duty supervisor as soon as practical for uses of force at a level of O.C. or greater when following the Disturbance Resolution.
2. The Response to Resistance and Incident Reports documenting an officer's use of force shall be completed and reviewed by a supervisor prior to ending a tour of duty.
 - a. The Response to Resistance report will receive a final approval by the Administrative Captain after the front-line supervisor's approval.
3. Copies of all reports when force results in injury shall be routed to the Asst. Chief. If the officer is unable to do the reports, his/her supervisor or designee will initiate the report.

State of Wisconsin

Defense and Arrest Tactics

Documentation: One of the most important steps in managing any emergency is documenting it. Your report serves to document the event, including any use of force. Your actions will be reviewed based, at least in part, upon your report. The report format below will help ensure that your use of force includes the Graham v. Connor reasonableness factors specified by the U.S. Supreme Court, including:

- The severity of the crime at issue
- Whether the suspect poses an immediate threat to the safety of the officers or others
- Whether the suspect is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight

Use of force reports should follow the following format:

1. Describe. Describe the physical and environmental factors that you observed. Use plain English or layman's terms.
2. Identify. Explain what your trained observations told you. Use DAAT terminology, i.e. early warning signs, pre-attack postures etc.
3. Forced Actions. Explain what your trained observations forced you to do. What trained technique or dynamic application you used.

LA CROSSE POLICE ACTION PLAN

This review has confirmed that the La Crosse Police Department policies and practices are already consistent with the recommendations in the eight key policies.

It was also determined that we can strengthen our current policies and training. As a result, we will take the following action:

1. Add language to our Policy Manual to reinforce that our Use of Force policy prohibits neck restraints/choke holds unless deadly force parameters exist. Implement department-wide training on the revised policy.
2. Add language to our Use of Force policy specifically adding the term “de-escalation” – while de-escalation is already trained, we will re-train with the added policy language and emphasis.
3. Add language to both our Use of Force policy and our Code of Conduct policy specifically addressing “Contact Officer Override”. Follow-up the added policy language with scenario-based training.
4. With recent launch of the “Transparency in Policing” page, the La Crosse Police Department is committed to reviewing our “Response to Resistance” database to ensure the best information is being provided to the community.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

La Crosse Police Department Transparency in Policing Website:

www.cityoflacrosse.org/police/transparency

La Crosse Police Department General Orders Policy Manual:

<https://www.cityoflacrosse.org/home/showpublisheddocument?id=4144>

Final Report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, May 2015:

https://cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce_finalreport.pdf