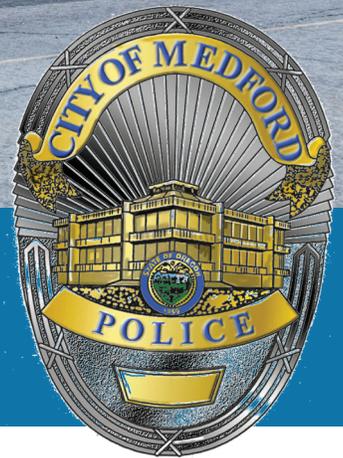


WHERE WE STAND



MEDFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY HIGHLIGHTS



MEDFORD
OREGON

The City of Medford and the Medford Police Department have received many inquiries from the community about our policies and how they align with the guidelines being advocated by many of the police reform organizations. Below is how the Medford Police Department's policies compare.

BAN CHOKEHOLDS & STRANGLEHOLDS

The Medford Police Department does not train in the use of chokeholds or carotid restraints.

This practice is not viewed as an acceptable use of force except in matters where deadly force would be justified (life-threatening, extreme circumstances which require the officer to act in defense of their own life or another person's). Our Officers are trained annually on how to prevent positional asphyxia.



“Our officers and I take the authority the public has entrusted to us very seriously and we understand that recent events may have you questioning that trust. You have my word that the men and women of your Police Department will continue to honor your trust by protecting and serving you ethically and professionally.”

–Chief of Police, Scott Clauson

REQUIRE DE-ESCALATION

The Medford Police Department trains all of its officers in de-escalation techniques.

Officers use de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to limit use of force incidents consistent with department training whenever possible. Officers are required to complete a forty hour Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and receive annual training on de-escalation techniques. See MPD Policy 465.6 for more details.



REQUIRE WARNING BEFORE SHOOTING

Officers engaged in a use of force incident face tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving circumstances.

A warning that deadly force will be applied is not required but should be given when circumstances allow. MPD Policy section 300.4 (b) provides more detail regarding these unique circumstances.



EXHAUST ALL ALTERNATIVES BEFORE SHOOTING

Officers shall use only that amount of force that is objectively reasonable given the totality of the circumstances and the facts perceived by the officer at the time of the incident.

Given that no policy can realistically predict every possible situation an officer might encounter, officers are trained to use well-reasoned discretion in determining the appropriate use of force in each incident. MPD Policy section 300.3 provides more detail regarding these unique circumstances.



DUTY TO INTERVENE

The Medford Police Department requires an officer who views excessive force to intercede immediately when in a position to do so.

All members of the Medford Police Department receive Leadership Training, which promotes a culture of accountability and moral courage. Policy 300.2.1 further requires officers to report their observations to a supervisor promptly.





BAN SHOOTINGS AT MOVING VEHICLES

Shooting at a moving vehicle is an extremely rare occurrence and oftentimes is ineffective. The Medford Police Department trains Officers to deploy and use other tactics to disable a vehicle and apprehend suspect(s) safely. An Officer should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle when the officer reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means to avert the threat (Policy **300.4.1**).

REQUIRE USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM

The Medford Police Department uses scenario based training to prepare officers for multiple types of encounters.

The Use of Force Continuum is an aged concept from previous decades and has given way to more knowledgeable, science-based use of force training and policies. Officers can never predict how a use of force incident may unfold. Given this reality, officers must have the ability to promptly apply that amount of force which appears objectively reasonable given the set of circumstances the officer is facing. Use of Force Policy **300**.



REQUIRE COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING

The Medford Police Department requires officers to thoroughly document any use of force in a police report.

Use of force incidents are documented in a supplemental reporting system. This process includes an Early Warning Intervention tool, tracks use of force statistics and identifies future training needs. Documentation requirements are covered in policy sections **300.5**.

THE MPD POLICY MANUAL IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT MEDFORDPD.COM

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