

Frisco Police Department

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The Frisco Police Department is an internationally accredited law enforcement agency, accredited by the **Commission for the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)** for more than a decade. The Frisco Police Department has earned the distinction of being one of 476 municipal law enforcement agencies in the nation CALEA accredited, and one of 21 CALEA accredited agencies in the State of Texas. Through this process, FPD has complied with more than 400 standards of excellence, benchmarking itself with standards that are continuously evolving. This voluntarily participation is a way to constantly ensure we are: keeping our policies and practices current with the ever changing needs of our industry, on the front edge of technological and legal advancements, and in keeping with community standards and expectations of the citizens we serve.

The link provided to the www.8cantwait.org site provides what we will call eight guideposts to help prevent police brutality and ensure fair treatment of the public. These are, without question, noble and valid expectations every city must have to ensure everyone's civil rights are respected, maintained, and protected. Frisco has in the past and continues to model these tenets on a daily basis.

1 BANNING CHOKEHOLDS AND STRANGULATION

FPD Policy prohibits officers from using an intermediate weapon to strike the head, neck, sternum and spine in any instance other than where deadly force would be authorized. Officers are prohibited to use neck restraints, choke holds, hogtieing, or other techniques and actions that involve the deprivation of oxygen unless deadly force is authorized. Furthermore, officers are taught to use only the amount of reasonable force necessary to accomplish their needs in overcoming resistance. (G.O. 6.03.07.F.1.d, G.O. 6.03.07.H.11, 6.03.02.A)

2 REQUIRE DE-ESCALATION

Policy recognizes and encourages de-escalation where possible/practical. Several personnel throughout the department have been trained as de-escalation instructors in de-escalation training. Such instruction includes simulated scenarios as part of our ongoing new and mandatory training. (G.O. 6.03.07.B)

3 REQUIRE WARNING BEFORE SHOOTING

The standard recognizes this should be a consideration "when possible." Our policy, practice and training all support ongoing dialogue and the use of verbal commands and instructions as part of our strategy, as well as when actively engaged with citizens in the field. (G.O. 6.03.07.B.)

4 EXHAUST ALL OTHER MEANS BEFORE SHOOTING

Our policy, practice and training afford officers a myriad of force options to consider, depending on the situation. Deadly force is considered the most severe option of force within the spectrum. Officers are trained to assess the dynamics of their situation and to choose the level of force necessary to respond to the specific situation at hand. As an example, while verbal dialogue and empty hand control techniques are on the lower end of the spectrum, it would not be reasonable for an officer to be expected to have to exhaust these methods before resorting to deadly force when engaging an in-progress active shooter who is engaged in killing civilians at a high capacity venue. (G.O.6.03.02.C, G.O.6.03.06 and G.O.6.03.07)

5 DUTY TO INTERVENE

Our policy specifically outlines the duty to intervene in cases where unreasonable force, under the circumstances, is witnessed by another officer. The policy also requires this be reported to a supervisor. Caselaw also supports this requirement. (G.O 6.03.02.B)

6 BAN SHOOTING AT MOVING VEHICLES

Our policy prohibits firing at or from a moving vehicle except in circumstances where the vehicle is being used or attempted to be used as deadly force against an officer/civilian, or as a last resort to death or substantial harm to the officer or others. (In recent years, vehicles have been used to inflict serious harm upon crowds as an overt tactic. This would be an example where restricted justification would be allowed. (G.O.6.03.07.H.4.)

7 REQUIRE USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM

Our policy contains a response to resistance spectrum which provides officers with relevant and appropriate options which guide their decisions based upon the circumstances they are faced with at any given moment. This spectrum of options is supported through training. (G.O.6.03.06 and G.O.6.03.07)

8 REQUIRE COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING

Any response to resistance or use of force requires mandatory documentation, chain of command supervisory review, and Response to Resistance Review Board review. Assessed during this oversight is the appropriateness of the response, the appropriateness of the level of response, factors such as tactics, language, and the cessation of force once the resistance stops. Lastly, pre-event factors are reviewed to ensure officer actions did not unnecessarily contribute to events. (G.O.6.03.10)