



**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM POLICE
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**



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| TITLE: USE OF FORCE | | |
| POLICY NUMBER: C-3 | EFFECTIVE DATE: 09/01/04 | RESCINDS / AMENDS: II-91-18...05/01/91 |
| RELATED LAWS: Texas Penal Code, Chapter 9 | RELATED STANDARD(S) / RULE(S): System Police Standard 1.3 | |

I. PURPOSE:

To establish a uniform policy concerning the use of force by a University of Texas System Police Officer.

II. IDENTIFICATION:

It is the responsibility of the arresting officer to identify themselves as a police officer and to state their purpose before effecting an arrest. The officer should communicate this in a clear, audible voice.

III. PHYSICAL FORCE:

Police officers are permitted to use only the amount of physical force, which is reasonable and immediately necessary to effect custody and overcome all resistance, for the purpose of ensuring the safety of the arresting officer, the arrested person and others. **When the arrested person ceases to resist, the officer must also immediately cease using force.**

IV. RESTRAINING DEVICES:

Temporary restraining devices, such as handcuffs, shackles, and belts, may be used to safeguard a person lawfully arrested. Police officers are expected to employ sound judgment in the use of these devices and to resolve any doubt in the favor of their use.

V. DEADLY FORCE:

A. Policy:

A University of Texas System police officer shall only use deadly force as necessary in self-defense or the defense of another, when that officer has reason to believe they, or another person, are in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury. **Deadly force should be used as a last resort.**

B. Warning Shots:

No warning shots are to be fired by University of Texas System police officers in an effort to stop a fleeing person or for any other purpose.

VI. DEPARTMENT POLICY:

- A. Each U. T. System Police Department will have in effect a policy on Use of Force that comports with this policy and with System Police Standard 1.3.
- B. Department's will insure that officers receive training sufficient for full understanding regarding this policy and the Department's own policy related to use of force. Departments should also assure that officer's knowledge regarding all requirements related to use of force be periodically tested.

Roy R. Baldrige

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