



# Control Tactics



## 2022

# MPOETC In-Service Training

## INSTRUCTOR GUIDEBOOK

OFFICER REVOCATION:

**§ 203.14. Revocation of certification.**

(a) The Commission maintains the right to revoke certification after notice and an opportunity to be heard under Subchapter G (relating to notice and hearings) for one or more of the following:

- (1) Failure to maintain employment as a police officer under the act.
- (2) Failure to maintain first aid or CPR certification.
- (3) Failure to qualify with firearms as specified in the Commission newsletter.
- (4) Failure to successfully complete annual Mandatory In-Service Training as specified in the Commission newsletter.
- (5) Physical or psychological impairment which renders the officer permanently unable to perform his duties.
- (6) Conviction for a disqualifying criminal offense.
- (7) Submission to the Commission of a document that the police officer knows contains false information including fraudulent application.
- (8) A certification issued in error.
- (9) Cheating.

CHEATING POLICY:

**§ 203.54. Commission cheating policy.**

(a) The contents of all examinations are confidential. An individual may not cheat or tamper in any manner with an official examination either conducted or sponsored by the Commission by obtaining, furnishing, accepting, or attempting to obtain, furnish or accept answers or questions to examinations, or portions thereof. Individuals may not copy, photograph or otherwise remove examination contents; nor may they use any misrepresentation or dishonest method while preparing, administering or participating in examinations. Unauthorized possession of a test, examination, quiz or a questions, answers or answer keys relating to a test, examination or quiz shall constitute cheating. An individual violating this section shall be barred from further participation in any Commission-required training and ineligible for certification. Individuals will receive notice and have an opportunity to be heard under Subchapter G (relating to notice and hearings).

(b) A written notice of the cheating incident shall immediately be sent to the individual's employing municipality by the school, with a copy forwarded to the Commission and the individual.

## **CONTROL TACTICS**

### **USE OF FORCE REVIEW:**

“It is not enough for our officers to know the statutory and case law on use of force at the academic level. They must know and understand it to the point that they can apply it on the street, under the enormous stress, fear, and confusion of mortal danger.”  
McKenna (2021)

“The basic purpose for an officer’s use of force is to gain control of a person and to stop any threatening action by that person.” Siddle (2005)

- The officer making an arrest must decide on the spur of the moment what force should be used to accomplish that purpose.
- Statutory law, civil case law, and department policy provides the officer with guidelines to aid in the decision-making process.
- Police officers are also subject to civil liability and criminal prosecution if they use more force than is necessary.

Acceptable use of force must:

- Be within the boundaries of U.S. Constitutional and Statutory law.
- Be within the boundaries of Pennsylvania Constitutional and Statutory law.
- Be within the acceptable limits of the applicable department policies, procedures, and training.

Justified Use of Force:

- Officers must have lawful authority.
- Officers must have a lawful objective for taking action (Detention, frisk, arrest, involuntary commitment, etc.)
- An officer need not retreat from a known threat. However, the officer may choose to retreat to de-escalate the situation or to gain tactical advantage.

### **True or False?**

**Three types of encounters police have with citizens are: mere encounter, investigative detention, and arrest.**

In which of these encounters could an officer justify putting handcuffs on a citizen?

- Investigative Detention (when able to articulate safety concerns)
- Arrest (comes into custody and control of the law either by submission or physical restraint)

**True** or False?

**A law enforcement officer is justified in using handcuffs to secure a subject when the officer can articulate that the subject is an escape risk.**

Three situations in which an officer is justified in using handcuffs to secure a subject are:

- When the subject has committed a crime
- When the subject is an escape risk
- When the subject is a safety hazard

True or **False**?

**An officer must stop trying to make an arrest when a subject threatens to resist the arrest.**

Reference: Title 18: Section 508a1

Peace Officer's Use of Force in Making Arrest –

A peace officer – need not retreat or desist from effort to make a lawful arrest because of resistance or threatened resistance to the arrest.

**True** or False?

**An officer can use any force the officer believes to be necessary to effect an arrest or to defend him/herself or another from bodily harm while making an arrest.**

Reference: Title 18: Section 508a1

Peace Officer's Use of Force in Making Arrest –

The officer is justified in the use of any force the officer believes to be necessary to effect the arrest and of any force which the officer believes to be necessary to defend him/herself or another from bodily harm while making the arrest.

**True** or False?

**The U.S. Supreme Court decided that a police officer can justifiably use deadly force if the officer believes that a suspect is posing “a significant threat of death or serious physical injury to the officer or others” in the 1985 case *Tennessee vs. Garner*.**

True or **False**?

**In the case, *Graham vs Conner*, the test for determining whether unreasonable or excessive force was used in making an arrest is determined by a judge looking at the facts with 20/20 hindsight.**

Reference Note: The test for determining whether unreasonable or excessive force was used in making an arrest is not what in hindsight seems prudent; but it is what a reasonable officer would do in the heat of the moment.

**True** or False?

In *Graham v. Conner*, the U.S. Supreme Court decided that the standard for an officer's use of force upon a "seized, free citizen" was to determine whether the officer's use of force was objectively reasonable under the Fourth Amendment.

**True** or False?

A reasonably prudent and well-trained officer knows the law and department policy and understands what use of force practices are acceptable or unacceptable within the boundaries of law and policy.

Reference Note: A reasonable use of force is based upon four (4) use of force Justifications:

- Was there a need for the application of force?
- Was the relationship between the resistance and the level of force proportional?
- Was the extent of the subject's injury proportional to the subject's level of resistance or threat to the officer or another?
- Was the force applied on good faith, based upon the objectively reasonable facts the officer had at the time of the incident?

*Officers must be able to articulate in court, the critical factors (above) that led to the decisions he/she made when choosing force options. The court will look at the "totality of circumstances" to determine if the factors stated justify the specific level of force used in each instance.*

True or **False**?

Some of the "Graham Factors" that should be taken into consideration when determining if the force used was objectively reasonable are: the severity of the crime, was the subject a threat to the officer's safety, were there multiple subjects for the officer to deal with, and had the officer eaten in the last half hour prior to the incident.

A list of some of the Graham Factors to be taken into consideration:

- Severity of Crime
- Whether the suspect poses an immediate threat to the safety of officers or others
- Number of actors police must contend with at one time
- Actor is actively resisting arrest
- Duration of the action taking place
- Actor is known to be violent or has committed a violent act
- Actor is known or believed to be armed
- Actor is attempting to evade arrest by flight
- What was the relationship between the need and amount of force used?
- Was the force applied in good faith or maliciously and sadistically?

**True** or False?

**The person who claims injury in a 1983 civil action called the plaintiff.**

Reference Note: More actions are initiated in civil court against police officers and administrators than in criminal court because it is less difficult to prove that a duty has been breached and the plaintiff is more likely to obtain a civil judgement.

**True** or False?

**When a civil action is initiated against a police officer or a police administrator, the plaintiff must prove that:**

- The defendant had a duty
- The defendant breached that duty
- There was a causal connection between the breach of the duty and the injury; and
- The injury to the plaintiff resulted from that breach.

True or **False**?

**One defense a defendant (officer) would be able to put forth in a 1983 lawsuit is that they were unaware of the law.**

*A defense in a civil suit for a law enforcement officer is "Qualified Immunity."*

Reference Note: To determine if "Qualified Immunity" should be granted, a court Has two tests:

- Whether a constitutional right would have been violated on the facts alleged.
- Whether it would be clear to a reasonable officer that the conduct was unlawful in the situation he or she confronted.

**True** or False?

**Qualified immunity protects all but the plainly incompetent and those who knowingly violate the law.**

**True** or False?

**Police officers who are not in a supervisory position but are present when a fellow officer deprives a citizen of constitutional rights are creating a liability known as "failure to intervene."**

Reference Note: In *Crawford v. City of Kansas City*, the plaintiffs alleged that the officer should be liable because he failed to intervene to stop a shooting.

"...that an officer who has the *opportunity* to prevent, but does not prevent, a fellow officer's use of allegedly excessive force may be liable under 1983."

*A police officer cannot be held liable if he or she does not have a realistic opportunity to prevent the attack.*

**True** or False?

**The Critical Decision-Making model establishes an organized way of making decisions about how to act in any situation, including situations that may involve potential uses of force.**

Reference Note: The Critical Decision-Making Model not only helps officers to make better decisions; it also helps officers to explain their actions after the fact.

The five steps in Critical Decision-Making are:

Step 1: Collect Information

Step 2: Assess the situation for threats and risks

Step 3: Consider police powers and agency policies

Step 4: Identify options and determine best course of action

Step 5: Act, review, and re-assess

True or **False**?

**Rushing into a scene will allow officers to deal with an incident quickly, will most likely catch the subject off guard and is the best way to safely resolve the situation.**

- It is better for everyone at the scene if police can de-escalate the incident and *avoid ever reaching a point* where the use of lethal force is necessary.
- Don't rush into situations unless immediate action is required.
- Slowing down the response is not only a question of providing a greater likelihood of safety for the subject of the call; it is a matter of officer safety as well.

**True** or False?

**It is important for officers to manage their own reactions and stay as calm as possible because being stressed and rushing ahead tends to cloud thinking, inhibit mental flexibility and hinder the ability to make accurate threat assessments.**

True or **False**?

**Officers can slow down a situation by getting as close to the subject as possible to be able to maintain eye contact, establish rapport and give a hug if needed.**

Reference Notes: Officers can slow down a situation by:

- Maintaining distance from the subject.
- Utilizing cover (e.g.: cars, fences, trees, etc.)
- Communicate! Communicate! Communicate!
  - Establish rapport & trust
  - Verbally de-escalate, bring subject to state where they can function and reason more clearly
  - Provides officers with time to strategize and get additional resources
- By slowing situations down, officers in many cases can de-escalate the situation peacefully, rather than rushing toward the point of significant danger that would justify lethal force.

True or **False**?

**Officers should automatically view non-compliance as a threat.**

Reference Note: There are many reasons why a subject may not hear or comprehend your directions. Disabilities, Alcohol, Drugs, Distractions, etc.

**True** or False?

**De-escalation does not take away or restrict an officers' discretion to make an arrest if necessary, or to use force against an imminent threat.**

Reference Notes:

- Subject action and officer response are dynamic, and escalation and de-escalation of resistance may fluctuate throughout an incident.
- As a subject de-escalates his/her actions, the officer must reduce the amount of force used proportionally and be alert and ready to respond to any attempt by the subject to escalate resistance or assault the officer or others.
- As a subject escalates his/her actions, officers must respond with an objectively reasonable amount of force that will control the subject. Control is established when the subject's actions are neutralized and there is not longer an immediate threat to the officer or others.

**END OF USE OF FORCE REVIEW** 😊



## HANDCUFFING CONCEPTS

Next to an officer's firearm, handcuffs will be the most important piece of equipment the officer carries.

Handcuffing is meant to assist in the temporary control of a subject by restraining the wrists and hamper the subject's ability to move the arms and hands.

### CHAIN LINK HANDCUFFS:

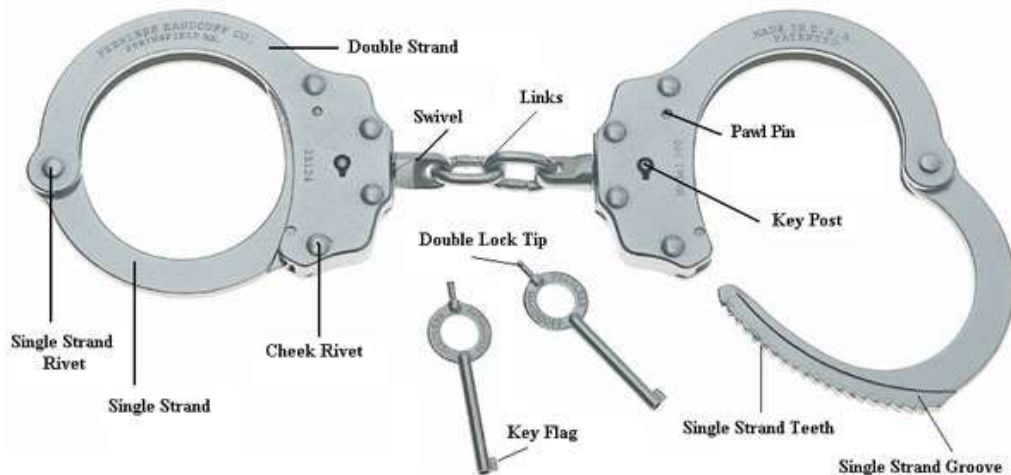
- Offers more tactical flexibility
- Easier to apply to a resistive subject
- Ability to rotate the chain link 360 degrees
  - Advantage when the officer is getting tired.

### HINGED HANDCUFFS

- Provide a higher degree of prisoner control
- Can be left on for a longer period of time
- Generally, the choice of correctional officers

**\*GET OUT YOUR HANDCUFFS – MAKE SURE THEY WORK! \***

### HANDCUFF NOMENCLATURE:



HANDCUFF NOMENCLATURE

Quickly review:

Handcuffs: Single Strand, Double Strand, Keyhole, Double Lock

Handcuff Key: Key Flag, Key Post (for double lock)

Which is better – key that comes with the cuffs? Or “Pen” key?

### **MECHANICAL FAILURES:**

- Trouble unlocking with our key or damaged/ defective key
  - FIX: Try a different key – OR – Buy new cuffs or a new key!
  
- Single bar will not rotate smoothly.
  - FIX: Dirty cuffs – may need to be cleaned & oiled.
    - Some brands just don't operate smoothly.
    - Double Bars may have squeezed together preventing the single bar from rotating smoothly: try using the single bar to gently pry open
    - OR – Buy new cuffs! (They cost \$20 - \$70)
    -

***\*\*Make sure participants can work the single strand through the double strand easily or use training cuffs you are familiar with to avoid bruising or scratching injuries to the wrist. \*\****

### **BASIC HANDCUFFING CONCEPTS:**

- ***Instructor Note: There are multiple ways to accomplish the following concepts and techniques. We will show you one or more options; however, if your Department uses a different way – we suggest you use that way for training consistency. The goal of this course is to provide the participating officers with options consistent with your Department training which would allow them to gain confidence and proficiency in their ability to apply handcuffs on a cooperative subject.***
  
- ***Certainly, there is a need for all officers to be proficient in handcuffing. This course is to be taught as an awareness level course, allowing students to participate at their own level of capability – taking into consideration their strengths and weaknesses and working through whatever issues may arise.***

***Instructor Note: Demonstrate each of the below concepts either now or while practicing techniques.***

**Applying Handcuffs Smoothly:**

- Match the oval shape of the cuffs to the oval shape of the wrists.
- After initial hand is cuffed, rotate that wrist to the outside. This helps to rotate the torso and causes the uncuffed hand to come to the officer.
- Practiced speed cuffing allows the officer to cuff a person within three (3) seconds.

**Pistol Grip:**

- Keep your index, middle, and ring fingers in between the cuffs to maintain control.
  - Keeps the index finger off the cuff near the single bar
  - Minimizes finger dislocation
  - Minimizes fingers interfering with rotation of the single bar

**Double Push Principle:**

- Requires that you to simultaneously apply a thumb lock and push the hand into the handcuff, as you push the handcuff onto the wrist.
  - Fundamental skill
  - Ensures speedy application of the first cuff
  - Minimizes the subject's ability to pull away

**Double Lock Handcuffs**

- Once control has been established
- Unless not safe to do so

**Check Tightness of Cuffs**

Using the width of the little fingers

If complaint of "too tight," check again & document

**HANDCUFFING MYTHS:**

- Keyhole Must Face Out
  - Done for ease of removal.
  - More important to get handcuffs on quickly – stops potential resistance
  - Generally, removal is accomplished in a safer location, with other officers nearby.
- Injuries Can Occur if Cuffs Are Not Double Locked
  - Injuries can occur if cuffs are too tight or too loose.
  - Better to be tight to ensure secureness & then double lock
  - If injury is claimed or noticed – document & seek medical attention

### **RESISTANCE DURING HANDCUFFING:**

- Assume every subject is a potential resistor.
- Most of the time, resistance will occur immediately after the first handcuff is applied.

#### **PASSIVE RESISTANCE –**

- The subject does not attempt to defeat the officer's attempt to touch or control; but does not voluntarily comply with the officer's verbal and physical attempts of control.

Examples: Dead weight & locking arms to the front or to the side.

#### **ESCORT POSITION RESISTANCE –**

- Usually is in the form of Passive or Defensive Resistance
- Generally spontaneous.

Examples: Side Curl or Straight-Arm Lockout

***\*To be demonstrated during practical portion\****

#### **TOTALLY COOPERATIVE SUBJECT –**

- Most common type of subject that officers will face.
- Subject complies with commands of officer.
  - **Officer should remember that a cooperative subject can become uncooperative and resistant at any moment.**

**\*Good place to remind students – they will ALL be COOPERATIVE SUBJECTS\***

#### **POTENTIALLY UNCOOPERATIVE SUBJECT-**

- Most dangerous subject to handcuff!
- Intoxicated Subjects account for over 70% of resisting incidents.
- Experienced criminals – don't want to go to jail.
- Resistance with these subjects, most often occurs upon first touch.

#### **TOTALLY UNCOOPERATIVE SUBJECT –**

- Common sense rule – Do NOT attempt to handcuff a subject unless under control. There is no effective handcuffing method that works on a totally uncooperative subject.
- CONTROL FIRST, THEN CUFF.

***\*To be demonstrated during practical portion\****

## **PAIN COMPLIANCE:**

*“The use of the stimulus pain to control resistive behavior.”* Siddle (2005)

- Pain is a formidable opponent to the cognitive thought process of the brain.
- We learn from infancy that if an action causes pain, stop!

### **Key to Pain Compliance Techniques:**

- A combination of verbal commands with pain compliance techniques are used to discourage the subject from continuing to resist.
- Once the pain exceeds the subject's pain threshold, the subject usually decides to stop resisting.
- When the subject stops resisting, the officer rewards the subject by resisting the pressure, thus relieving the pain.
- Pain is used to influence the subject's compliance.
  
- The average Pain Compliance Technique should be effective within three (3) seconds.

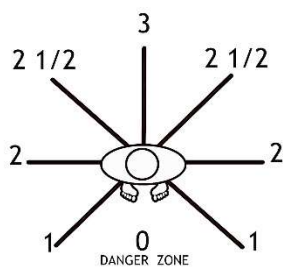
**Remember!** *A person has to feel pain for a pain compliance technique to work.*

These techniques may have little effect on:

- Subject's heavily under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Subject's having a mental health episode.

**Officers should always be prepared to escalate and then de-escalate accordingly.**

## **OFFICER POSITIONING:**



### **INSIDE POSITION (ZERO):**

Standing directly in front of a subject.

Danger Zone! Position of advantage for the other guy.

Avoid whenever possible.

**POSITION 1:** Normal Field Interview Stance

**POSITION 2:** Side by Side

**POSITION 2 ½:** Escort Position

Position of Advantage for Officer.

**POSITION 3:** Directly behind.

**REACTIONARY GAP:**

- A safety zone between the officer and the subject that affords the officer more time to react to any aggression.
- Distance should be enough to allow the officer to react (for the subject to take at least a step)
- Minimum safe distance – Six (6) feet.

**RESPONDING AS A TEAM:**

- Everyone should have a defined role
- Everyone should know and understand their role.

**CONTACT OFFICER:**

Primary communicator. Communicates with the subject. Establish rapport.

**COVER OFFICER:**

Focuses on protecting safety of officers and bystanders.

**ADDITIONAL OFFICERS:**

Minimizes distractions. Also provides cover. Provides less-lethal options.  
Establishes perimeters. Manages and contains scene.  
Responsible for internal communications.

**SUPERVISOR/SENIOR OFFICER:**

Works to slow down the incident. Manages overall response.

**COMMUNICATION:**

- Nearly every encounter between a police officer and a member of the public starts and ends with words.
- Remember that **you are the person in control**, so exercise that control, with your words, actions, and attitude, in order to take the situation to the resolution you want.
- Fair, cool headed officer behavior can significantly reduce danger and de-escalate a situation.
- An arrogant, insensitive officer can escalate a situation.
- The more the subject talks to you, the more you may learn, the more likely you will understand and be able to empathize.
- The longer you can keep the person talking, the more time you will have to bring additional resources to the scene or to plan and prepare.

## **TRAINING RULES**

*(Suggestion: use flip chart or large post-it paper for written rules in gym)*

- **NO LIVE WEAPONS** (Safety check will take place before practice.)
- Disruptive behavior or aggressive actions which may cause injury to a student or instructor will not be tolerated.
- Remove all jewelry.
- Trim fingernails.
- If you have a pre-existing injury or health condition, please let the instructor know.
- Follow the directions of the instructor.
- Position yourself on the training mats properly to avoid injury.
- **All students are safety officers.** Report unsafe conditions to the instructor.
- All injuries, no matter how slight, must be reported to the instructor as soon as possible after they occur, but no later than the end of class.

**TIME TO DO PRACTICAL EXERCISES!** 😊

**SAFETY CHECK PRIOR TO PRACTICAL EXERCISE!**

**WARM UP!**

**HANDCUFFING TECHNIQUES**

*(See Handcuffing Techniques Pull Out for written directions)*

*(Suggestion: Write techniques in order on flip chart for ease of maintaining order in class.)*

**ORDER OF TECHNIQUES**

- #1: Standing Handcuffing – Felony Stop/Single Officer
- #2: Standing Handcuffing – Hands on Head/ Single Officer
- #3: Standing Handcuffing – Hands Behind Back/Single Officer (2 Options)
- #4: Standing Handcuffing – Hands Behind Back – Resistance/ Single Officer  
[Demonstration]
- #5: Standing Handcuffing – Hands Behind Back/Two Officers (Contact/ Cover)
- #6: Standing Handcuffing – Hands on Head/ Two Officer (Contact/ Cover)
- #7: Prone Handcuffing/ Single Officer (2 Options)
- #8: Move Actor, Prone to Standing Position
- #9: Escort Hold – Actor in Handcuffs (Cooperative & Uncooperative)
- #10: Removing Handcuffs
- #11: Straight Arm Bar Takedown (3 Options)  
[Demonstration]
- #12: Actor Prone on Ground – Hands Underneath Body/Multiple Officers (2 Options)
- #13: Actor Prone on Back, Move to Belly/ Single Officer
- #14: Actor Prone on Back, Move to Belly/ Multiple Officers (Kimura Rollover Technique & 2<sup>nd</sup> Option)



## **WRAP UP:**

- According to the U.S. Justice Department, approximately 63 million residents of the U.S. age 16 or older – more than ¼ of the population – have at least one contact with the police over the course of a year.
- Police make more than 10 million arrests a year.
- In the vast majority of these millions of encounters, ***police use no force of any kind.***
- In a small fraction of all these encounters, officers have used force in ways that have proved intensely controversial.
  - These cases have a dramatic impact on police/ community relationships.
  - Trust becomes an issue.
- In cases where use of force is fatal – stakes are high.
  - To the person that dies (obviously)
  - To the family of that person
  - To the community
  - To the law enforcement community
  - To the officer (obviously)
- Consequences to the officer
  - Civil
  - Criminal
  - Emotional – even though legally justified, the officer's life may never be the same again.

## **CONTROL TACTICS:**

- Train frequently for smooth execution & proficiency
- Emphasize good tactics – puts you in a good position to respond to danger if attacked.
- Practicing consistently
  - Brings confidence in ability to act.
  - Reduces stress.
  - Allows you to think clearly.
  - Improves decision making!

**CLASS OVER – COMPLETE PAPERWORK AND SEND TO ACADEMY.**

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