

PUBLIC SAFETY & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE

Meeting of October 24, 2001

Use of Force Task Force Status Update of Recommendations

Forty-seven of the 100 recommendations have been reviewed; many have been or are in the process of being implemented. The Use of Force Task Force is being updated on the status of each recommendation as they progress through the internal process.

The following 14 recommendations and their associated objective(s) are some examples of the 47 recommendations that have been reviewed:

- Rec. 2** Adopt revised force “matrix,” *Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee*
The objective of this recommendation is to provide a better understanding of the force “matrix” by the community, department members or any other entity with an emphasis on considering lesser force options.
- Rec. 5** Increase Canine Unit, *Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee, Partially Implemented, four canines teams have been added.*
The objectives of this recommendation are to reduce the response time to critical incidents, provide field personnel with an effective and proven alternative to deadly force, and reduce the levels of potential harm to the public and department personnel.
- Rec. 13** More F.A.T.S. (Firearms Training Simulator) training with emphasis on other force options, *Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee, Implemented, current department training meets Task Force recommendation criteria.*
The objective of this recommendation is to increase training of the officers’ abilities to consider less lethal force options in highly stressful scenarios.
- Rec. 17** Adopt revised DP 1.05, Firearms Procedure, *Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee, with minor word changes.*
The objectives of this recommendation are to reinforce the Department’s “Vision, Values, and Mission Statement” throughout force related policies, provide better guidance on firearms handling and seek to eliminate circumstances where the appearance of impropriety is possible.

- Rec. 19** Migrate “deadly force language” in DP 1.05 to DP 1.04, Use of Force, *Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee, DP being revised.*
The objectives of this recommendation are to increase the knowledge and understanding of use-of-force options and develop one Department Procedure that explains all force options.
- Rec. 45** Mediation as an alternative for resolving citizen complaints, *Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee, Implemented, selecting personnel to train the trainers, creating training video, working with Mediation Center on Department’s complaint process.*
The objective of this recommendation is to provide a more timely resolution to complaints of procedure, courtesy, and service through negotiation and constructive communication between citizens and officers.
- Rec. 50** Application of force training, *Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee, Implemented, will issue restatement of force function.*
The objectives of this recommendation are to increase officer’s confidence and comfort level with the use-of-force continuum and to incorporate all force options into one department procedure for clarification. The emphasis will be that each application of force is unique to a particular situation.
- Rec. 61** Video, “Recognizing Mental Illness: A Proactive Approach,” *Implemented, Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee, video to be completed within 30 days, line-up and Academy training schedule to be developed.*
The objective of this recommendation is to provide additional training and knowledge for officers to deal effectively with persons with mental illness.
- Rec. 63** Training in stress debriefing, *Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee, Awaiting final presentation from sub-committee.*
Developing a three component program to deal with police related stress. Program will include pre-incident education, intervention services and follow-up services. The goal is to create an environment where the organization recognizes the internal and external stressors on employees and provides the appropriate assistance.
- Rec. 65** Maintain Serial Inebriate Program, *Approved by Chief’s Executive Committee, Implemented, program has continued at Western and has been expanded to Central and Northern Divisions.*
The main objective of this recommendation is to provide a viable alternative from traditional law enforcement intervention.

- Rec. 74** Partner with Deaf Community Services, *Approved by Chief's Executive Committee, Implemented, is an on-going program.*
The objective of this recommendation is to increase the quality of contacts and speed of response time to the deaf community.
- Rec. 79** Provide business cards, *Approved by Chief's Executive Committee, exploring cost-effective ways to implement.*
The objectives of this recommendation are to increase access and communication between police department personnel and the public, improve morale and sense of professionalism.
- Rec. 84** Start Youth Forums, *Approved by Chief's Executive Committee, Implemented, Youth Advisory Council, officers making presentations on juvenile crime issues, Elementary School Safety Program, partnerships with churches.*
The objective of this recommendation is to reduce crime and improve relationships by establishing an early relationship with youth and their families.
- Rec. 87** PSA's on emergency vehicle right of way, *Approved by Chief's Executive Committee, Implemented, PSA is in production, release date not expected before December 2001.*
The objective of this recommendation is to increase safety on city streets.

The remaining 33 of the 47 are as follows:

- Rec. 1** - Adopt revised DP 1.04, Use of Force policy
Rec. 3 - Adopt revised DP 4.01, Stops, Detentions and Pat-down policy
Rec. 10 - Application of handcuffs
Rec. 15 - Tuition reimbursement
Rec. 16 - Accountability for items missed during searches
Rec. 18 - Adopt revised DP 1.36, Specialty Munitions policy
Rec. 20 - Adopt revised DP 1.03, Pursuit Procedures policy
Rec. 21 - Adopt revised DP 1.13, Emergency Vehicle Operation policy
Rec. 22 - Violation of traffic laws
Rec. 25 - Replacement of light bars
Rec. 31 - Review past internal and external reviews of SDPD processes
Rec. 34 - Evaluate officers stress levels, bias, and coping skills
Rec. 35 - Real time information regarding citizen complaints
Rec. 37 - Stress management/education resources
Rec. 38 - Peer counseling telephone hot-line
Rec. 43 - Continue Vehicle Stop Program as a regular process
Rec. 46 - Professional assistance for stress-related problems
Rec. 47 - Commitment to change

- Rec. 55** - Dialogue on what San Diego wants its police department to be
- Rec. 60** - Periodic column in newspapers
- Rec. 68** - Adopt revised DP 6.20, Mental Health Procedures policy
- Rec. 69** - New DP 6.28, Psychiatric Emergency Response Team policy
- Rec. 71** - Develop Early Warning System to identify problem employees
- Rec. 72** - Upgrade website
- Rec. 77** - Chief on-line to talk with public
- Rec. 80** - Update wallet size public information cards
- Rec. 85** - Community information program about 911
- Rec. 86** - Recognition of various police uniforms
- Rec. 95** - Amend DP 1.30, Press Release and Media Relations
- Rec. 96** - Information release at Officer involved shootings
- Rec. 98** - PIO to work weekends
- Rec. 99** - Ride-along with Media
- Rec. 100** - Release of information (See Recommendation 95)

Six of the remaining 53 recommendations concerning policy directions are being reviewed for implementation in the near future. The six recommendations are:

- Rec. 9** - Create the best defensive tactics training in the country.
- Rec. 32** - Evaluation of training curriculum.
- Rec. 42** - Community/Department Partnership as Fundamental Tenets.
- Rec. 57** - Officers impact on citizen contact.
- Rec. 70** - Implement recommendations & provide feedback to Task Force.
- Rec. 75** - Increase collaboration in schools.

26 of the remaining 53 recommendations are scheduled for consideration by August 2002. The 26 recommendations are:

- Rec. 4** - Capture force information in AFR
- Rec. 6** - Equip supervisors with large pepper spray
- Rec. 7** - Evaluate current defensive tactics curriculum
- Rec. 8** - Evaluate issuing pepper ball system to all field officers
- Rec. 12** - Drug test officers involved in shootings
- Rec. 14** - Issue a collapsible baton to all officers
- Rec. 24** - Increase "in service" time for helicopters
- Rec. 33** - Establish physical fitness requirements
- Rec. 39** - Cultural instruction and interaction
- Rec. 40** - Conduct racial/cultural sensitivity training
- Rec. 41** - Racial profiling as element of recruiting, hiring and training
- Rec. 53** - Continual review of quality of content and instructors
- Rec. 54** - Encourage officers to live in their Division neighborhoods
- Rec. 56** - Formal mentoring program
- Rec. 59** - Identify perishable skills and provide periodic training
- Rec. 62** - Increase level of mental health training

- Rec. 66** - Resource guide for officers for homeless/mental health issues
- Rec. 67** - Create educational video involving persons with mental illness
- Rec. 78** - Review Communications hiring, retention, promotion process
- Rec. 81** - Video/audio PSA's regarding Community Partnerships
- Rec. 82** - Neighborhood Watch Program
- Rec. 83** - Role of Crime Stoppers
- Rec. 88** - Award from Department to media
- Rec. 92** - Increase Canine demonstrations
- Rec. 94** - Media guidebook
- Rec. 97** - Roundtable discussions

18 of the remaining 53 recommendations are scheduled for consideration by August 2003. The 18 recommendations are:

- Rec. 11** - Create the best training in carotid restraint in the country
- Rec. 23** - Emergency Vehicle Operations Course
- Rec. 26** - Install sirens with a higher decibel level
- Rec. 28** - Pursuit Intervention
- Rec. 29** - Pursuit/Emergency Vehicle Operation training
- Rec. 36** - Training in customer-oriented communications
- Rec. 44** - Mediation training
- Rec. 48** - Refine training process in dealing with threat situations
- Rec. 49** - Training in the principles of equity and fairness
- Rec. 51** - Education process with San Diego Unified School District
- Rec. 52** - Integrate customer-oriented approach throughout training
- Rec. 58** - Government/Community relations' specialist
- Rec. 64** - Expand PERT and HOT
- Rec. 73** - Re-establish Public Affairs Unit
- Rec. 89** - Open House
- Rec. 90** - Public series of academy-like classes
- Rec. 91** - F.A.T.S. taken to community meetings
- Rec. 93** - Refresher media training

The three remaining of the 53 recommendations are scheduled for consideration by August 2004. The three are:

- Rec. 27** - Continue research into Video Teleconferencing/Downlinks
- Rec. 30** - Evaluate Global Positioning Satellite Systems
- Rec. 76** - Police houses similar to Fire Stations