



Use of Force Policy

Purpose:

To ensure members use force professionally and reasonably in accordance with the law and in compliance with the Provincial Use of Force Guidelines published by Alberta Justice and Public Safety and Emergency Services. This policy sets out the principles and responsibilities of sworn members in applying force in the exercise of their policing duties.

Statement of Principle:

Any force used must be objectively reasonable in the circumstances to be in compliance with the *Criminal Code* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. Section 25 of the *Criminal Code* sets out the circumstances and limitations on when force may be used. Anyone found using force determined to be excessive by the court may be criminally and civilly liable and or subject to EPS disciplinary action for that excess, according to the nature and quality of the act.

Policy Statement:

Sworn members must apply the objective reasonable test set out below to determine what a reasonable amount of force is in order to achieve the officer's lawful purpose, given the facts and circumstances perceived by the officer at that time.

[Objective Reasonable Test](#)