

# GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

**General Order 518.00**

**Reviewed: 03/19**

## **518.00 USE OF FORCE – SPECIAL TACTICS AND CIRCUMSTANCES**

- The purpose of this directive is to establish procedures governing the use of force via special tactics or devices, specifically the use of Noise Flash Distraction Device (NFDD) the ARWEN, chemical agents (other than individual officer's mace), and the use of canine units.
- NFDD Procedures
  - The use of NFDD is authorized in the following circumstances:
    - An armed barricaded suspect,
    - Hostage situations,
    - High-risk warrant service,
    - Distracting an unarmed but uncontrollably violent mentally deranged person during which conventional non-lethal weapons have failed, or
    - During times of civil disorder, when the need arises to provide a diversion as part of crowd control.
  - Use considerations:
    - The NFDD is not a substitute for good tactics. Prior to their use, officers will consider other forms of diversionary tactics and if they will resolve the situation.
    - If very young children, the elderly or infirm are present and their presence is known to the officer, the NFDD shall not be deployed, unless aggravating circumstances merit its use; and a supervisor approves the use.
    - The use of a NFDD is a fire hazard and in some circumstances this would prohibit their use, such as the presence of flammable chemicals in the circumstance of a drug lab.
    - Although the NFDD is not a fragmentation producing device, the explosion may produce projectiles if the device lands on loose objects.
  - Training: Only those officers trained on the carrying and delivery of the NFDD will be issued such equipment and deliver or deploy such equipment.

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- ARWEN
  - The ARWEN may be used in the following situations:
    - The suspect's combative behavior threatens the safety of an officer or citizen, and other attempts to subdue the suspect by conventional means have not been or would not be effective.
    - The suspect is armed with an edged weapon or blunt striking weapon and is maintaining a stand-off position and officers or citizens are not in imminent danger.
    - The use of less lethal force is justified and it is unsafe for the officer(s) to approach within contact range of the suspect(s).
    - In riot or crowd control situations where less lethal force is justified and approved by the on-scene Commander.
  - Equipment/Training
    - The ARWEN is available for use by authorized personnel on a 24-hour a day basis. It is stored in the SWAT locker in a bag also containing ammunition for the weapon.
    - Only those trained and qualified in the use of the ARWEN will use the device.
- Chemical Agents (other than individually-issued OC) Procedures
  - Chemical agents may be used in:
    - Barricaded suspect situations,
    - Hostage situations,
    - High-risk warrant service,
    - To overcome an unarmed but uncontrollably violent person on whom conventional non-lethal weapons have failed, or
    - Riotous situations involving violence, property damage and officer safety issues, in order to deny mob access to areas combined with the provision of avenues of dispersal.

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- In crowd control circumstances involving passive demonstrators, chemical agents would not be justified.
- Officers deploying chemical agents by use of a firearm will not intentionally fire the weapon at a suspect unless deadly force is justified.
- Only officers trained in the use of a firearm to deliver chemical munitions, will deploy them.
- Use considerations:
  - Only authorized chemical agents, to include OC (oleoresin capsicum), CS (chlorobenzylidene malononitrite), and CN (chloracetetophenone) will be deployed.
  - Chemical agents affect individuals in a variety of ways. Evidence indicates that individuals under the influence of alcohol or emotionally disturbed may not respond as expected.
  - The unpredictability of the effect on mobs needs to be considered. The mob may panic; therefore avenues of escape/dispersal free of chemical agent will be designed into a chemical agent deployment plan. The best use of chemical agents in this instance is to deny the mob access to an area, such as a building or other specific location, by the presence of chemical agent.
  - Factors to consider in any chemical agent deployment are the wind and terrain and that effect on the dispersal of the agent.
  - If very young children, the elderly or infirm are present, and their presence is known to the officer, chemical agents shall not be deployed, unless aggravating circumstances merit their use and the use is approved by a supervisor.
  - The use of chemical agents may create a fire hazard. If chemical agents are used against a building or structure, the Fire Department will be notified and stand by in case of fire.
  - Prior to the use of chemical agents, a trained chemical agent officer will develop a deployment plan addressing: the type of agent used, quantity and concentration, dispersal system, and the other use considerations described in the preceding subsections.
  - The use of chemical agents excluding individual officer's mace against an individual suspect will require SWAT activation. In

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barricade, hostage, or riot situations, SWAT will be activated and be used for chemical agent deployment.

- Training: Only certified, trained chemical agent officers will develop and implement chemical agent deployment plans. Other officers trained in delivery system may assist this officer.
- Authority: the decision to utilize chemical agents will be made by the Commander on scene.
- Police Service Dog (Canine Unit):
  - Use of the Greeley Police Canine Unit will conform to Greeley Police General Order 515.00 Use of Force and Patrol Manual – Canine Unit.
- Medical Assistance
  - When a NFDD, the ARWEN, chemical agents, or canine units (when the suspect has been bitten), have been used, medical assistance will be offered.
  - Once the suspect(s) is under control, the officer will check the suspect(s) for injury and apply first aid if required. The suspect(s) will be transported to the most accessible medical facility for examination as soon as practical and prior to processing into jail.
- Destruction of Animals: The destruction of an animal is justified for self-defense, to prevent substantial harm to the officer or another person, or to destroy an injured animal upon direction and with prior approval of the Watch Commander. A seriously wounded or injured animal may be destroyed only after reasonable attempts have been made to request assistance from the agency (Division of Wildlife) responsible for the disposal of the type of animal in question. The destruction of vicious animals is authorized when it is apparent the animal will injure someone if not dealt with immediately and capture is not practical.

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**Authorized by Mark Jones, Police Chief**

**Effective Date: March 25, 2019**

*Mark Jones*  
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**Signature**

**Date: March 25, 2019**