

USE OF FORCE

NON-VIOLENT CIVIL RIGHTS DEMONSTRATION

Purpose: The purpose of this directive is to establish policy for the North Little Rock Police Department regarding the use of force in connection with non-violent civil rights demonstrations.

Policy Statement: It is the responsibility of the Department to preserve the peace while protecting the rights of individuals to peacefully assemble and exercise free speech. The Department will intervene only when necessary and will take the least intrusive action necessary to maintain the peace.

Summary of Changes: New format.

Procedure:

1. Officers responding to non-violent civil rights demonstrations will be mindful and protective of the rights of all participants in such demonstrations, as well as any on-lookers, bystanders, or other persons located in the vicinity or owning property in the vicinity.
2. In connection with such demonstrations, the use of force shall only be permitted when necessary to protect the rights of individuals or to uphold the law.
3. Officers will enforce applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent demonstrations.
4. In **no** event shall the use of force in excess of that necessary to achieve the lawful goals of the Police Department be permitted.

Mike Davis
Chief of Police