

USE OF FORCE

LESS-LETHAL SHOTGUNS

Purpose: This directive establishes departmental policy concerning the employment of less-lethal shotgun ammunition.

Policy Statement: It is the policy of the North Little Rock Police Department to provide for the use of less-lethal options by on-duty sworn members trained and certified in the use of less-lethal shotgun ammunition. It is recognized that "less-lethal" does not mean "non-lethal." With this understanding, less-lethal weaponry must be employed only in those circumstances where such force is clearly warranted and justified.

Summary of Changes: Section 1-Removed requirement for supervisor authorization and ammunition selection prior to using less lethal shotguns. Changed the supervisor notification requirements of using less lethal shotgun in exigent circumstances. Section 2.1- Changed wording from "the supervisor and other officers" to "all officers"

Procedure:

1 Responsibility:

- 1.1 Less-lethal action is intended primarily for armed subject "stand off" incidents and riot situations where time factors are not normally constrained; however, if exigent circumstances exist, it will be the officer's discretion (shotgun operator and safety officer) on employment and type of less-lethal option to be used.
- 1.1.1 In the case of exigent circumstances where a supervisor has not yet arrived, the responding supervisor will be contacted and informed of the situation as soon as possible after the employment of less-lethal action.

2 Employment of less-lethal ammunition:

- 2.1 The shotgun operator/safety officer will inform all officers in the immediate area of the code word "ORANGE" before less-lethal action is employed.
- 2.1.1 The announcement of "ORANGE" will be made verbally and via radio to all officers in the immediate area.

3 Reporting:

- 3.1 If less-lethal action is employed, Policy Directive 11-1, Use of Force and 11-2 Reporting Use of Force will be followed. [CALEA 1.3.6c]
- 3.2 If a person is killed as a result of less-lethal action, Policy Directive 11-6, Officer Involved Shooting, will be followed.

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Chief of Police