

RECOMMENDATION 102215-7

Other Requirements: Each officer present at an encounter where the use of force is possible or underway has the responsibility of making an individual determination regarding the use of force.

FULL TEXT:

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Each officer present at an encounter where the use of force is possible or underway has the responsibility of making an individual determination regarding the use of force. This responsibility is manifested at a minimum in the following ways:

a. Force shall not be used on a subject by an officer solely because another officer is using force. As examples: (i) “ dogpiling” is usually unreasonable and should be avoided unless determined objectively reasonable, necessary and proportionate to the threat, if any, posed by the subject, and (ii) intentional strikes with impact weapons, such as batons, or an officer’s hands, elbows, knees and feet, just because another officer is making such intentional strikes, is prohibited.

b. An officer has a duty to intercede to prevent the unreasonable use of force by another officer if the officer has reason to know that unreasonable force is being used.

c. If the use of force is being discussed among officers, an officer has a duty to speak out against the use of force if the officer believes it is not objectively reasonable, necessary or proportionate to the threat, if any, posed by the person who force may be used against.