

ICMA



A FRAMEWORK FOR DISCUSSING USE-OF-FORCE



The Use-of-Force Policy



- a. Do the police use both deadly and nondeadly force consistent with legal and professional standards?
- b. Do the police address all available use-of-force options? Note that not all resources, such as SWAT teams, conducted energy devices (CEDS, commonly known as Tasers), beanbag guns, pepper spray, and canines, are available to all departments.

Training and Testing on the Use of Force

- c. Is state-of-the-art training provided, such as in active scenario-based models and positive, nonaccusatory techniques?
- d. Are officers trained in equal protection, diversity, antiracism, multiculturalism, and mental illness awareness to enable them to come to terms with any biases they may have as a first step in overcoming them?
- e. Is training provided in verbal de-escalation techniques? Are police adequately trained to “slow down” difficult encounters so they can think through tactics and avoid a perception that any resultant shooting was unnecessary?



Video Recording Equipment (Dashboard and Body Camera)



- f. Is video recording equipment deployed?
- g. What are the policies that guide its use?
- h. What video will be publicly released and when?
- i. How long will video be maintained?

Accountability

- j. What are the policies for reporting the use of force?
- k. How are incidents reviewed for consistency with the policies?
- l. How are the data on use of force compiled and analyzed?
- m. What reports are compiled on individual cases and on use of force overall, and to whom are they made?
- n. Are there accountability mechanisms outside of the police department?

