

Seattle Police Department

DIRECTIVE

September 26, 2014

Directive Number 14-00038

Type I Reporting Requirements Clarified:

The Department makes the following clarifications concerning Type I use-of-force reporting and investigation requirements:

Only Brief Narrative Statements are Required:

Type I reporting is not intended to be comprehensive or burdensome. In nearly all Type I use-of-force cases, it should be sufficient to complete the form in Blue Team and write a brief narrative entry describing what occurred.

Handcuffing with Complaint of Pain but No Apparent Injury:

When complaint of pain from handcuffing is the only reportable force used in an incident, officers shall complete a brief narrative entry in the Type I Use-of-Force Report in Blue Team, noting handcuffs were applied, that the subject complained of pain from the handcuffs, what steps the officer took to ensure proper fit and address the complaint of pain, and that no injury was apparent. No other statement is required. A supervisor must inspect the suspect to confirm there is no visible injury, with the caveat that officers may not extend a detention solely to await the arrival of a supervisor.

Witness Officer Statements are not Required:

Witness officer statements are not required for a Type I use-of-force. Only the involved officer and the screening sergeant fill out statements.

The Chain of Command Does Not Review Video For Type I use-of-force:

Officers upload and flag in-car video (ICV) before going off shift. No ICV or other video review is required of the Sergeant or Chain of Command.

Pointing of a Firearm is Reportable Force; Drawing a Firearm, or Holding a Firearm in the "Sul" or "Low Ready Position" is Not Reportable Force.

(8.300-POL-1.2)