

Seattle Police Department

DIRECTIVE

October 24, 2014

Directive Number 14-00045

Interim Policy: Changes in Blue Team for Reporting and Review of Type I Use-of-Force Incidents

Based on the Chief's recent e-mail about Type I use-of-force reviews, Assistant Chief Gleason of the Compliance & Professional Standards Bureau has authorized **the elimination of all Type I use-of-force review forms.**

This is effective immediately for all Type I use-of-force reports and includes all entries currently in the system that require review. **This directive shall serve as interim policy until Manual Section 8.300 is revised.**

Sergeants should give a brief summary of their review of the incident and give their approval [or disapproval] in the comments section.

Lieutenants and captains should assess the quality of the sergeant's review and briefly indicate why the approval of the force is warranted.

- *Type I for [handcuffing, pointing a fire arm, complaint of pain only] reviewed and approved [or disapproved if deemed unreasonable/unjustified]*

Please read the attached policy.

Questions may be directed to the Audit, Policy & Research Section:

- IdeaScale (<https://seattlepolice.ideascale.com/>)
- email (SPD_aprs@seattle.gov)
- Phone (206-684-4116)

Sender Information	
From:	Police Sergeant Gabriel Shank (original entry person)
To:	Acting Police Lieutenant Randal Woolery
Sent Date/Time:	9/30/2014 1:36 PM
Instructions from sender:	
2014-123456	
Comments/Response	
After reviewing the incident, please take an action below.	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Approved <input type="radio"/> Not approved	
Comments:	
<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;"> I.E. - Type 1 for Pointing a Firearm reviewed and Approved I.E. - Type 1 for Handcuffing Reviewed and Approved </div>	
<input type="button" value="Forward Incident >"/>	
<small>(by forwarding this incident, you are digitally signing your review decision)</small>	

The officer narrative in 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 narrative in the Blue Team summary section by writing a brief entry describing what occurred:

- *Brief summary of the incident*
- *Description of the Type I force*
- *Why the force was necessary*
- *Who screened the incident*
- *Where the screening occurred*
- *Anything else noteworthy*
- **Note:** 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.

Please read the attached policy.

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Sergeants should continue to include the GO number, the involved officer's name and that it is a Type I in the **instruction section** of the Blue Team routing.

Forward the incident for review	
* - required field	
*To:	Lt. Michael Blumberg <...Change Recipient...>
Cc:	<...Add Cc...>
From:	Sergeant William Sears
*Instructions:	2014-111999 Ofc Webster Level 2, 06/19/14

There is still only one officer per Blue Team entry. Witness officers do not have to complete a witness statement but are still listed on the entry. A witness officer is one who saw the event; merely being on the call does not make them a witness to the force even being reviewed unless they have some relevant personal knowledge of it.

Officers **upload** and **flag** in-car video (ICV) as specified in 8.300-TSK-1 before going off shift.

- **No ICV or other video review is required of the sergeant or anyone else in the chain of command.**

The IT Section is also in the final process of testing the network to support Blue Team from the vehicle computers. This may eliminate the need for officers to come into the Precinct for the sole purpose of doing a Type I UOF entry as it may be done from the terminal in the car.

A/Lt. Randy Woolery or Sgt. Gabe Shank are available to assist with Blue Team related questions and any changes related to this review policy. They can be reached via Department e-mail. They are available to come out to the precincts for refresher or follow-up training.

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