



CHATHAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

A COMPREHENSIVE LOOK
AT OUR USE OF FORCE POLICY

Chatham County Police Department officers are held to the highest standards in our committed effort to maintain a safe community. These standards are reflected in our Use of Force policy, which all officers must adhere to every day and in all circumstances. Our policy, in part, states:

The Chatham County Police Department does not train or authorize the use of any neck restraint or choke hold.

Officers may use deadly force to protect themselves or others from what is reasonably believed to be an imminent threat of death or serious injury to the Officer or others.

A verbal warning will be issued prior to the discharge of a firearm, if practical.

Officers WILL NOT discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle in an attempt to disable the vehicle.



**HONOR.
INTEGRITY.
SERVICE.**

All Officers who encounter a situation where the possibility of non-compliance to a lawful arrest exists should, if possible, attempt to defuse the situation through verbal warning and persuasion.



Any employee who becomes aware of possible misconduct by another employee of CCPD will immediately report the incident to a supervisor or directly to the Office of Professional Standards. Any employee that observes misconduct will take appropriate action to cause the misconduct to immediately cease regardless of rank.

Police response to Aggression/Resistance/Use of Force Reports are required for incidents where Officers:

1. Discharge a firearm for other than training or recreational purposes or the destruction of an animal. A preliminary incident report will be completed for the destruction of an animal.
2. Take an action that results in, or is alleged to have resulted in, injury or death of another person.
3. Apply force through the use of deadly or less lethal weapons.
4. When pointing a less lethal weapon at another person.
5. Apply weaponless physical force at a level of force commensurate with the amount of non-compliance offered by a subject. Officers will employ only the amount of force reasonably necessary to accomplish the task when force is necessary.

TRAINING

Our commitment to community-oriented policing is reflected in the training our officers and command staff receive in an effort to make sure fairness, cultural awareness and impartiality are a part of every interaction, both inside and outside of our department. This training includes:



PROCEDURAL JUSTICE

The Chatham County Police Department mandates procedural justice training for all of its officers in an effort to ensure that the principals of fairness, voice, transparency, and impartiality are part of all its interactions with the public.

The training is part of a program by the U.S. Department of Justice designed to help law enforcement agencies incorporate principals of 21st Century policing into their standard operating procedures.

FAIR AND IMPARTIAL POLICING

The Chatham County Police Department requires training centered on the concept of implicit bias and how it has the potential to influence decisions and behavior. The training makes officers aware of implicit bias, and gives them tools and strategies to appropriately minimize conflicts that it may cause.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Chatham County Police Department holds diversity and inclusion training designed to give officers the tools to avoid any issues that could arise from cultural differences or cultural misunderstandings. This training often includes citizens representing various communities who participate and give feedback.

YOUR CONCERNS WILL BE HEARD

Anyone who believes they have information regarding police misconduct can contact the Chatham County Police Department's Office of Professional Standards at 912-650-6101, or by emailing Capt. Dean Fagerstrom at dfagerstrom@chathamcounty.org.

The Chatham County Police Department adheres to the standards and best practices of The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

To obtain a copy of the Chatham County Police Department's Response to Aggression/Resistance/Use of Force Policy, please send a written request to Betsy Nolen, Chatham County Public Information Officer, by emailing bnolen@chathamcounty.org or by mail to 295 Police Memorial Drive, Savannah, Georgia, 31405.