



The Santa Barbara Police Department wants our community to be knowledgeable about our policies and understand the guidelines of the service we provide. Recently, some nationwide attention has been given to campaigns seeking police policy changes. The following information provides our community a comparison with SBPD policy, and some of the more common demands regarding policy reform.

Where our policy does not meet the entirety of the demand, further explanation is provided.

Please refer to our policy, available at SBPD.com, for a more in-depth explanation.



1

BAN CHOKEHOLDS AND BAN STRANGLEHOLDS:

SBPD Policy does not approve the use of the Carotid Control Hold

2

REQUIRE DE-ESCALATION:

SBPD Policy requires officers to use de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to higher levels of force before resorting to force and to reduce the need of force

3

REQUIRE DUTY TO INTERVENE:

SBPD policy requires any officer, in a position to do so, to intercede when they observe another officer using force clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable

4

SHOOTING AT MOVING VEHICLES:

Permitted only when the officer believes there is no other reasonable means to avert the threat

5

REQUIRE USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM:

A use of force continuum does not require officers to start with the lowest level of force before moving to the next level. SBPD policy uses the reasonably necessary standard for use of force and requires de-escalation and alternatives to higher levels of force when possible

6

REQUIRE COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING:

SBPD policy requires any use of force by officers to be documented promptly, completely, and accurately

7

EXHAUST ALTERNATIVES BEFORE SHOOTING:

SBPD Policy requires that an officer shall only use that amount of force that appears reasonably necessary and requires de-escalation and other alternatives to higher levels of force when possible

8

REQUIRE WARNING BEFORE SHOOTING:

SBPD Policy requires officers, where feasible, to make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as peace officers and warn that deadly force may be used