



Lacey Police Department Use of Force Analysis

The Lacey Police Department is committed to working with our community to promote and enhance public safety. We ensure all of our personnel are committed to fulfilling the expectations and reflecting the values of the Lacey community. The police department's use of force policy and practices are in compliance with all national, state, and local regulations and has met the accreditation standards of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC).

The Lacey Police Department has created strict policies on the use, documentation, and administrative review of force used by police officers in the performance of their duties. We are strong proponents and practitioners of de-escalation whenever possible, and only permit the application of the minimum level of force necessary when an officer must resort to the use of force. Officers are required to report and document all uses of force, or any use of force they observe used by another officer. Officers have a duty to intervene if they observe inappropriate conduct by another police employee. All uses of force are reviewed operationally and administratively to ensure the force used was proper, necessary, and appropriate.

Law enforcement throughout the nation have experienced an increase in the potential for violent encounters. The reasons are complex and numerous: increase in substance abuse and lack of adequate treatment facilities, an increase in the number of mentally ill among the homeless population due to inadequate mental health services, social service resistant individuals among the homeless population, and the release of numerous chronic and violent offenders without adequate anti-recidivism strategies are only a few of the reasons our society is observing an increase in the potential for violent encounters.

Lacey Police Officers are provided training on interactions with persons experiencing mental health crises, identification and response to persons experiencing medical emergencies, and de-escalating potentially violent encounters. Officers actively participate in implicit bias training to gain insights on themselves and to understand other perspectives. The Lacey Police Department has embraced the principles of the "8CantWait" initiative that strives to reduce the potential for violence during police encounters.

The Lacey Police Department conducted a review of our enforcement activities to ensure that our actions are consistent with our community's values and that our policies and training are effective in minimizing the use of force by our officers:

[2019 Use of Force Analysis](#)

[2020 Use of Force Analysis](#)

The Lacey Police Department is committed to conflict de-escalation, minimizing the use of force, and documentation and review of all uses of force.

Thank you for being engaged with your Lacey Police Department. We are committed to public safety, social justice, and accountability of our personnel.



Robert Almada
Interim Chief of Police
Lacey Police Department