

Use of Force: Totality of the Circumstances

Trainee Name	Date
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As you watch the video, follow along and complete the questions in this guide. You can stop the video and view a section again if needed. The goal is for you to complete this guide and then discuss the material with your designated agency trainer or facilitator.

In the “Force Equation,” what does “835 squared” refer to?

- A. Eight force options available to most officers, three legal instances where force may be used, five Graham factors to consider when using force, and five levels of force that may lawfully be applied
- B. Eight instances when force may lawfully be applied, three levels of force to consider, five court cases that relate to Graham vs. Connor, and five force option tools officers may use
- C. Eight officer-subject factors, three levels of force, five Graham factors, and five incidents when an officer may lawfully use force
- D. Eight Graham factors that allow officers to lawfully use force, three methods of force application granted by the Penal Code, five environmental factors that may be considered when employing force, and five levels of resistance that would justify using force

Why is it important to give subjects time to comply with commands directing them to cease their resistance?

- A. It increases the possibility that less force will be necessary
- B. This is one of the required “8 Graham factors” for a use of force incident
- C. It demonstrates to the public and to courtroom professionals that you exhibited fairness in your use of force
- D. It gives the subject the opportunity to absorb your commands and act on those
- E. All of the above
- F. A, C and D only

Explain your understanding of “objectively reasonable under the totality of the circumstances”



What are the levels of force as defined by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals?

- A. Active, passive, intermediate, deadly, and non-deadly
- B. Non-deadly, intermediate, and deadly
- C. Voice, hands, intermediate tool, deadly
- D. Active, passive, intermediate

What is meant by the term, “make a good movie?”

- A. Law enforcement can showcase their professionalism through narration during a use of force incident recorded on digital media
- B. Law enforcement can memorialize professionalism in giving clear appropriate commands to an individual to cease their resistance
- C. With constant narration, law enforcement can essentially point out to the public and other viewers the resistance of the individual
- D. Law enforcement can demonstrate the desire to de-escalate a situation through proper commands and then pausing to allow the subject time to comply with the commands
- E. All of the above
- F. A, B and C only

Why is narration so important during a use of force incident?

Which of the following clarifies the term, “you only get one chance to tell your story for the first time?”

- A. Anything you add or change later may be perceived as “spin” or “fabrication” by the public and/or defense attorneys
- B. Defense attorneys may make the argument that you are now testifying to facts after talking to your attorney
- C. Judges and/or juries will be judging your truthfulness, and testifying to facts not in your report may have an adverse effect on their judgment of you
- D. All of the above
- E. A and C only

