

FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION
USE OF FORCE STRATEGY STATEMENT

Introduction

One of the most important duties and public expectations of the Fire and Police Commission (FPC) is to ensure that there are appropriate policies and standards in place to address the use of force by Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) officers.

The FPC has implemented a strategy to oversee and monitor the use of force by MPD officers. The purpose of this strategy is to:

- a. Reduce the need for the use of force
- b. Ensure that when force is used it is deployed correctly and minimally
- c. Limit exposure of the City of Milwaukee to liability
- d. Minimize injury to both citizens and officers
- e. Increase community trust and confidence in the MPD

Strategy

1. The FPC will continuously evaluate police policies, practices, and patterns and periodically issue public reports on issues concerning the use of force.
2. The FPC will audit use of force internal investigations to ensure thorough, fair, and credible results while identifying any systemic problems and opportunities for improvement.
3. The FPC will independently monitor and review the use of force reports and records of the MPD to identify patterns or trends and take corrective action to revise training, policies, standards, or procedures.
4. The MPD will utilize a department Use of Force Committee to review:
 - a. Appropriateness of use of force by department members
 - b. Field supervision of use of force incidents
 - c. Effectiveness of department rules, procedures, and training
 - d. Proper use and effectiveness of equipment
5. The FPC will monitor the MPD Use of Force Committee and review its quarterly and periodic reports and recommendations.

(4/9/09)