



MARYLAND STATE POLICE  
OPERATIONS DIRECTIVE



**Use of Firearms**

<b>Distribution:</b> All Troopers	<b>Index:</b> <b>OPS 10.02</b>
<b>DLI Reference:</b> N/A	<b>Rescinds:</b> CHAPTER 22, SEC. II
<b>Issued:</b> 06/10/2014	<b>Revised:</b> 07/01/2022

**.01 Purpose**

To provide troopers with guidance on the use of firearms.

**.02 Policy**

Troopers will use firearms in accordance with this directive.

**.03 Definitions**

SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY: physical injury that creates a substantial risk of death, or causes permanent or protracted serious disfigurement, or loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ.

**.04 CALEA Standards**

**LE:** 1.2.2 4.1.3      **TA:** N/A      **CM:** N/A

**.05 Procedures**

**A. Firearm Use Permitted**

Troopers may discharge a firearm:

1. when deadly force is permitted in accordance with [OPS 10.03](#);
2. to kill a dangerous animal that is jeopardizing the safety of the public or a trooper;
3. to kill an injured wild animal to relieve its suffering;
4. to give an alarm or to call assistance when no other means is available;
5. when used in practice on a firing range; and
6. to kill an injured domesticated animal to relieve its suffering, if the trooper has:
  - a. the consent of the owner;
  - b. been requested to do so by a veterinarian; or
  - c. made a reasonable attempt to locate the owner and has failed and a veterinarian is not readily available.

OPS 10.02  
**Use of Firearms**

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B. Firearm Use Prohibited

1. Troopers will not discharge a firearm:
  - a. as a warning; or
  - b. at or from a moving vehicle except:
    - (1) to counter an immediate threat of death or serious physical injury to the trooper or another person, by a person in the vehicle using means other than the vehicle; or
    - (2) to counter a situation where the trooper or another person is unavoidably in the path of the vehicle and cannot move to safety. Troopers will not position themselves in the path of a moving vehicle where they have no option but to use deadly force.
2. Troopers must reasonably anticipate a situation justifying the need to display or use a firearm before removing it from its holster or otherwise displaying it.
3. Under no circumstances will troopers display a firearm in a flagrant manner.
4. Troopers will use prudence and good judgment when carrying firearms at any activity where they will be consuming alcoholic beverages.
5. The use or display of firearms in circumstances other than those described in this directive is prohibited.

C. Carrying and Using a Firearm Outside of Maryland While On Duty

1. The authority to carry a firearm while on-duty outside of Maryland is governed by federal laws and the laws of the other state.
2. The authority to use a firearm, and any liability which may arise from such use, are governed by the laws of the other state.
3. The immunity from civil liability that is applicable to troopers and the MSP under Maryland law does not apply to actions taken outside of Maryland.
4. While on official duty outside of Maryland, troopers will only carry or use their MSP-issued firearm or an MSP-approved secondary firearm.
5. A trooper intending to carry a firearm outside of Maryland on an assigned extradition or other official duty must know and abide by the relevant law of the states in which he expects to travel.

D. Carrying and Using a Firearm Outside of Maryland While Off Duty

1. [18 U.S.C. § 926\(B\)](#) authorizes off-duty law enforcement officers to carry a firearm outside of the state in which the agency they are employed is located.
2. Troopers who, while in an off-duty status, are outside of Maryland and elect to carry a firearm will not carry their MSP-issued firearm.
3. An off-duty trooper who elects to carry a firearm outside of Maryland:
  - a. will carry his MSP identification card;
  - b. does not have law enforcement powers outside of Maryland; and
  - c. will be considered a private citizen in all aspects of firearm use outside of Maryland.

OPS 10.02  
**Use of Firearms**

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Approved:

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Colonel Woodrow W Jones III  
Superintendent 07/01/2022

Attachment #2 2A Maryland HB 824



# MARYLAND STATE POLICE OPERATIONS DIRECTIVE



## Use of Force

<b>Distribution:</b> All Troopers	<b>Index:</b> <b>OPS 10.03</b>
<b>DLI Reference:</b> N/A	<b>Rescinds:</b> CHAPTER 22, SEC. V (A) - (D)
<b>Issued:</b> 06/15/2014	<b>Revised:</b> 12/30/2022

### .01 Purpose

To outline when troopers may use force, and to establish duties before, during and after the use of force.

### .02 Policy

Troopers may not use force against a person unless, under the totality of the circumstances, the force is reasonable, necessary and proportional to prevent an imminent threat of physical injury to a person or to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement objective. The decision to use force requires careful attention and continual assessment of the situation, threats, options, and risks, with the goal of resolving the encounter peacefully. Troopers who use force that is not reasonable, necessary, and proportional will be subject to corrective action and possible discipline, possible criminal prosecution, and/or civil liability.

### .03 Definitions

**CHOKEHOLD:** a physical maneuver that restricts an individual's ability to breathe for the purposes of incapacitation. Chokeholds are prohibited unless the use of deadly force is justified.

**DEADLY FORCE:** force which is intended to cause death or serious physical injury or which creates some specified degree of risk that a reasonable and prudent person would consider likely to cause death or serious physical injury.

**DE-ESCALATION TECHNIQUES:** taking action or communicating verbally or non-verbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation without the use of force or with a reduction in the force necessary. De-escalation may include, but is not limited to: the use of techniques, such as command presence, advisements, warnings, verbal persuasion and tactical repositioning.

**IMMINENT THREAT:** a person presents an imminent threat when the person has the means and ability to harm themselves or another person, and the trooper reasonably believes the person intends to deliver that harm.

**LESS-LETHAL FORCE:** force that, when employed as designed, intended, and consistent with policy and training, is not likely to cause death or serious physical injury. Devices may include, but are not limited to: batons, O.C. spray and electronic control weapons (ECWs).

OPS 10.03  
**Use of Force**

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REASONABLE, NECESSARY, AND PROPORTIONAL: the review of every use of force will be to determine whether the force used was reasonable, necessary, and proportional in light of the totality of the circumstances that were known, or should have been known, to the trooper and in light of MSP policy.

1. REASONABLE: a trooper uses reasonable force when he uses no more force than is required to perform a lawful purpose.
2. NECESSARY: force is necessary only when no reasonably effective alternative exists. When force is necessary, troopers will use force in a manner that avoids unnecessary injury or risk of injury.
3. PROPORTIONAL: proportionality measures whether the force used by the trooper is rationally related to the level of resistance or aggression confronting the trooper, or the law enforcement objective.

SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY: physical injury that creates a substantial risk of death, or causes permanent or protracted serious disfigurement, or loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ.

TOTALITY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES: consists of all facts and circumstances surrounding any event that are known or reasonably should have been known at the time. The facts and circumstances may include, but are not limited to: whether an offense has occurred; the nature of the offense; the seriousness of the offense; the size and strength of the subject; the number of subjects; the availability of weapons; whether the subject is exhibiting signs of mental illness or is experiencing a behavioral health crisis; whether the person suffers from a medical or behavioral health disability, physical or hearing impairment, is impaired by alcohol or drug use, or may be non-compliant due to a language barrier; other force options; availability of non-force options including tactical repositioning, moving to cover, or other de-escalation techniques; environmental factors such as backdrop; and the availability of backup and specialized units.

USE OF FORCE: any physical strike or contact with an instrument of a person; any intentional attempted physical strike or instrumental contact that does not take effect; any significant physical contact or action that restricts the movement of a person other than that normally required to handcuff a suspect; intentional K-9 bites; and the ramming of a suspect's vehicle. The term includes: discharge of a firearm, use of chemical agents, use of impact weapons, use of an ECW, use of a violent prisoner restraining device, taking a subject to the ground, and any physical contact that includes control techniques. The term does not include a trooper's mere presence, verbal commands, escorting, or handcuffing a person with minimal or no resistance.

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**.04 CALEA Standards**

<b>LE:</b>	1.2.10	4.1.1	4.1.2	<b>TA:</b>	N/A	<b>CM:</b>	N/A
	4.1.3	4.1.4	4.1.5				
	4.1.6	4.1.7	4.2.1				
	4.3.1	4.3.2	4.3.3				
	4.3.4	4.1.6					

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**.05 References**

- [MD. CODE ANN., CRIM. LAW §3-201](#)
- [MD. CODE ANN., PUB. SAFETY §3-524](#)

**.06 Procedures**

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A. Core Principles

1. ASSESSMENT: troopers will continuously assess each situation and change their response as circumstances change. Troopers may be justified in using force in one instance, but not justified in using force later in the same incident. The actions of the suspect and the trooper will be assessed throughout the entire encounter, not simply the moment the trooper used force.
2. DE-ESCALATION TECHNIQUES: when time, circumstances, and safety allow, troopers will take steps to gain compliance and de-escalate conflict without using physical force in accordance with OPS 10.05.
3. PEACEFUL RESOLUTIONS: troopers will avoid the use of force unless it is not reasonably possible to do so.
4. RETALIATORY FORCE: troopers are prohibited from using force against persons solely to punish persons for fleeing, resisting arrest or assaulting a trooper, or for any other retaliatory reason.
5. USE OF FORCE (REASONABLE, NECESSARY AND PROPORTIONAL): troopers will use only the force reasonable, necessary and proportional to respond to the threat or resistance to effectively and safely resolve an incident, and will immediately reduce the level of force as the threat or resistance diminishes.
6. VALUE AND DIGNITY OF ALL PEOPLE: troopers will respect and uphold the value and dignity of all people at all times. Troopers will make every effort to preserve human life in all situations.

B. General Provisions for Use of Force

1. Troopers have the authority to use force that is reasonable, necessary and proportional.
2. When practical, troopers should announce force will be utilized prior to the application of force.
3. Troopers may only use weapons and/or techniques that are authorized by policy and on which the trooper is trained, unless warranted by the totality of circumstances.
4. Troopers will cease the use of force as soon as:
  - a. the person on whom the force is used is under their control or no longer poses an imminent threat of physical injury or death to themselves or to another person; or
  - b. they determine the force will no longer accomplish a legitimate law enforcement objective.

C. Critical Thinking

1. To the extent that time and circumstances allow, prior to using force, troopers will use a critical thinking and decision-making framework to analyze and respond to incidents. This framework will allow troopers to uphold the sanctity of life and protect themselves by slowing down and stabilizing a situation to minimize the likelihood of a use of force incident. Using this framework, troopers will:
  - a. assess the situation, threats and risks;
  - b. gather relevant facts about the incident;
  - c. consider their police powers and the law/MSP policy;
  - d. identify other options and determine the best course of action (the trooper might have to delay or even abandon a law enforcement objective if the only way to accomplish the objective is through using force that, under the circumstances, would likely result in harm that far exceeds the value of the interest the trooper seeks to protect through the use of force); and
  - e. act, review and re-assess the situation.

D. Restrained Persons

1. Troopers will not use force against those who are handcuffed or otherwise restrained, except when the totality of circumstances makes it reasonable and necessary to prevent injury or escape, to conduct a search incident to arrest, or accomplish another lawful law enforcement objective.
2. Troopers are cautioned that force that may be proportional against an unrestrained person may not be proportional when used on a restrained person. As with any use of force, troopers are required to use de-escalation techniques and critical thinking in order to avoid the use of force.
3. Troopers will not position restrained persons face-down as it may cause positional asphyxia. Additionally, troopers will avoid placing suspects on their backs as it can cause nerve damage to the wrist and forearm area. Restrained persons should be seated or placed on their side.

E. Use of Deadly Force

1. Troopers may use deadly force only when the trooper reasonably believes the action is in defense of any human life in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury.
2. Troopers will not use deadly force unless de-escalation and less-lethal force options have been tried and failed, or are not safe based on the totality of circumstances.
3. The use of deadly force will always be the last resort.

F. Restrictions on Force

1. Prior to the decision to employ deadly force, troopers will consider environmental conditions such as field of fire, backdrop, bystanders, potential for ricochet, possibility of over penetration, and other risks to life.
2. When safety permits, troopers should identify themselves as law enforcement and state their intention to use deadly force before using a firearm or employing any form of deadly force.
3. Deadly force will not be used to subdue people whose conduct is a threat only to property or against those who are only a threat to themselves.
4. The following actions are prohibited unless the use of deadly force is authorized and no reasonable alternatives exist:
  - a. discharge of a firearm at a person;
  - b. intentional strikes with any hard object, such as a baton, flashlight, radio, weapon stock/handle, etc. to the person's head, neck, sternum, or spine;
  - c. intentional kneeling or kicking a prone person in the head, neck, sternum, or spine;
  - d. intentional strikes of a person's head against a hard, fixed object including, but not limited to, a roadway, concrete floor, wall, or iron bars;
  - e. use of chokeholds or vascular neck restraints;
  - f. discharge of a less-lethal launcher to the chest, neck, or head at close range; and
  - g. the use of any force on a person whose health, age, condition, or circumstances are reasonably known to make it likely that death or serious physical injury will occur.
5. Generally, firing at a suspect in a crowd is prohibited; however, this is not to prevent troopers from taking necessary action during incidents including but not limited to active shooter and hostage-related events.

6. Troopers will not fire a weapon from or at a moving vehicle, except to counter:
  - a. an immediate threat of death or serious physical injury to the trooper or another person, by a person in the vehicle using means other than the vehicle; or
  - b. a situation where the trooper or another person is on foot in the path of the vehicle and cannot move to safety. Troopers will not intentionally position themselves in the path of a moving vehicle where they have no option but to use deadly force.

#### G. Required Actions

1. Duty to Intervene
  - a. All troopers have a duty to intervene to prevent or stop the use of force by another law enforcement officer beyond what is authorized by law, if they have a reasonable opportunity and ability for intervention.
  - b. Troopers will immediately report such incidents to a supervisor.
2. Duty to Provide Medical Assistance
  - a. Whenever there is a visible injury, complaint of injury, signs of medical distress, or when medical attention is requested by any person, troopers will render basic first aid consistent with their training and will promptly request medical assistance through communications personnel.
  - b. If a person has been subjected to impact by any type of less-lethal force including ECWs or O.C. spray, he will be provided medical treatment. If the person refuses medical treatment or leaves the location (e.g., an unlawful gathering dispersed by less-lethal force that voluntarily leaves without aid), troopers must document the actions taken to identify and render aid to the person.
3. Children, Youth and/or Persons Experiencing Behavioral Health Disorders or a Crisis
  - a. During encounters with children, youth, and/or persons experiencing behavioral health disorders or a crisis, troopers will employ developmentally-appropriate, trauma-informed tactics including, but not limited to, using a calm and natural demeanor, and avoiding threatening language.
  - b. Troopers should account for any fear-based reactions that children, youth, and/or persons experiencing a behavioral health disorder or a crisis may experience during an encounter with law enforcement.
  - c. If attempts to de-escalate an encounter with a child, youth, or person experiencing a behavioral health disorder or a crisis are unsuccessful to resolve the incident, and the use of force is reasonable, necessary, and proportional, troopers should consider personalized factors of the individual, including: apparent age; body size; strength of the member relative to the individual; and the risk posed by the individual.
  - d. In the case of injury resulting from a use of force, in addition to the other requirements outlined in this policy, the trooper will ensure the child or young person's parent, guardian, or other responsible adult, is promptly notified.

#### H. Reporting

1. Following a use of force incident, troopers will notify a supervisor immediately.
2. In addition, any trooper with knowledge that another trooper used force, must also immediately report the incident to a supervisor.



OPS 10.03  
**Use of Force**

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3. Troopers will fully document all use of force and show of force incidents that they were involved in or observed in accordance with [OPS 10.04](#).

I. Less-Lethal Force

1. When reasonable, necessary and proportional, a trooper may use various forms of less-lethal force within the scope of his MSP training and only after he has received:
  - a. initial training and demonstrated proficiency with the weapon or technique;
  - b. a copy of the policy that addresses the use of the weapon or technique; and
  - c. training on the policy that addresses the use of the weapon or technique.
2. Certain less-lethal weapons (e.g. ECWs) are authorized for use by certain units (e.g., STATE) and the use of these weapons will be governed by a local Standard Operating Procedure approved by the Planning and Research Division.

J. Training

1. All troopers will:
  - a. undergo training on when a law enforcement officer may or may not draw a firearm or point a firearm at a person and on enforcement options that are less likely to cause death or serious physical injury, including scenario-based training, de-escalation tactics and techniques, and reasonable alternatives to decrease physical injury; and
  - b. sign a training completion document stating the trooper understands and will comply with the Maryland Use of Force statute.
2. All troopers will receive initial and annual training on the law and the Department's Use of Force policy and will demonstrate proficiency with all approved lethal weapons and electronic controlled weapons that they are authorized to use. Training for all other less lethal weapons and weaponless control techniques will be provided initially and at a minimum, biennially.
  - a. All proficiency training will be monitored by a certified instructor.
  - b. All training and proficiency will be documented.
  - c. Remedial training will be completed and documented in accordance with the procedures established by the Education and Training Division for those who are unable to qualify with an authorized weapon prior to resuming their duties.

Approved:

Colonel Woodrow W. Jones III  
Superintendent 12/30/2022

Attachment #2 2A Maryland HB 824



# MARYLAND STATE POLICE OPERATIONS DIRECTIVE



## De-Escalation

<b>Distribution:</b> All Troopers	<b>Index:</b> OPS 10.05
<b>DLI Reference:</b> N/A	<b>Rescinds:</b> N/A
<b>Issued:</b> 07/01/2022	<b>Revised:</b> N/A

### .01 Purpose

To ensure troopers use de-escalation techniques to reduce threats, gain the voluntary compliance of persons, and safely resolve a situation. When feasible, reducing the need for force allows troopers to secure their own safety as well as the safety of the public.

### .02 Policy

When time, circumstances, and safety allow, troopers are required to take steps to gain compliance and de-escalate conflict without using physical force. Troopers will attempt de-escalation techniques consistent with their training, before resorting to force, unless such a delay will compromise their or another person's safety or will result in the destruction of evidence, escape of a suspect or commission of a crime.

### .03 Definitions

**DE-ESCALATION TECHNIQUES:** taking action or communicating verbally or non-verbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation without the use of force or with a reduction in the force necessary. De-escalation may include the use of techniques, such as command presence, advisements, warnings, verbal persuasion and tactical repositioning.

**TOTALITY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES:** consists of all facts and circumstances surrounding any event that are known or reasonably should have been known at the time. The facts and circumstances may include but are not limited to: whether an offense has occurred; the nature of the offense; the seriousness of the offense; the size and strength of the subject; the number of subjects; the availability of weapons; whether the subject is exhibiting signs of mental illness or is experiencing a behavioral health crisis; whether the person suffers from a medical or behavioral health disability, physical or hearing impairment, is impaired by alcohol or drug use, or may be non-compliant due to a language barrier; other force options; availability of non-force options including tactical repositioning, moving to cover, or other de-escalation techniques; environmental factors such as backdrop; and the availability of backup and specialized units.

**USE OF FORCE:** any physical strike or contact with an instrument of a person; any intentional attempted physical strike or instrumental contact that does not take effect; any significant physical contact or action that restricts the movement of a person other than that normally required to handcuff a suspect; intentional K-9 bites; and the ramming of a suspect's vehicle. The term includes: discharge of a firearm, use of chemical agents, use of impact weapons, use of an electronic control weapon, use of a violent prisoner restraining device, taking a subject to the ground, and any physical contact that includes control techniques. The term does not include a trooper's mere presence, verbal commands, escorting or handcuffing a person with minimal or no resistance.

### .04 CALEA Standards

LE: 4.1.1

TA: N/A

CM: N/A

**.05 References**

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MD. CODE ANN., PUB. SAFETY, § 3-524

**.06 Procedures**

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A. Core Principles

1. **ASSESSMENT:** troopers will continuously assess each situation and change their response as circumstances change. Troopers may be justified in using force in one instance, but not justified in using force later in the same incident. The actions of the suspect and the trooper will be assessed throughout the entire encounter, not simply the moment the trooper uses force.
2. **AVOIDING ESCALATION:** troopers will not do or say anything that escalates an encounter, unless necessary to achieve a lawful purpose.
3. **IMPORTANCE OF DE-ESCALATION IN CERTAIN ENCOUNTERS:** the use of de-escalation techniques is especially important to maintain trooper and citizen safety during encounters with children, youth, and persons experiencing a behavioral health disorder or crisis.
4. **PEACEFUL RESOLUTIONS:** troopers will avoid the use of force unless it is not reasonably possible to do so.
5. **SOUND TACTICS:** troopers will comply with Departmental policy, follow training, exhibit sound tactics, and will be held accountable for failure to de-escalate and uses of force that violate the law or MSP policy.
6. **USE OF FORCE (REASONABLE, NECESSARY AND PROPORTIONAL):** troopers will use only the force reasonable, necessary and proportional to respond to the threat or resistance to effectively and safely resolve an incident, and will immediately reduce the level of force as the threat or resistance diminishes.
7. **VALUE AND DIGNITY OF PEOPLE:** troopers will respect and uphold the value and dignity of all people at all times. Troopers will make every effort to preserve human life in all situations.

B. Examples of De-Escalation Techniques

De-Escalation Techniques may include, but are not limited to:

1. Communication techniques to calm an agitated subject and promote rational decision making such as:
  - a. ensuring whenever possible, only one trooper communicates and addresses the person (the presence of multiple troopers issuing commands to an agitated subject may escalate the incident by increasing the likelihood of miscommunication, and is less likely to result in a peaceful resolution);
  - b. regulating vocal tone, pitch and body language (e.g., speaking slowly in a calm voice, rather than shouting commands);
  - c. sharing the trooper's name, asking the person their name, and exhibiting a genuine willingness to listen;
  - d. practicing procedural justice techniques, such as explaining the trooper's actions and responding to questions (e.g., directly answering questions about why the police are there or taking action);
  - e. verbal persuasion (e.g., explaining how the person would benefit from cooperation);

- f. verbal advisements (e.g., respectfully explaining the person's rights or what the police want the person to do);
  - g. verbal warnings (e.g., notifying the person of the consequences of continued non-cooperation and then offering the person a chance to cooperate); or
  - h. avoiding unnecessary display of weapons, including a firearm, an MEB, or OC Spray.
2. Decreasing exposure to the potential threat by moving to a safer position. This may involve:
    - a. creating distance;
    - b. seeking cover;
    - c. tactical repositioning; or
    - d. in appropriate circumstances, concealment.
  3. Slowing down the pace of the incident by slowing speech and/or applying the critical thinking framework, including:
    - a. waiting out the person;
    - b. avoiding immediate physical confrontation;
    - c. calling for extra resources, whenever possible, such as:
      1. additional troopers;
      2. specially trained troopers and/or resources (e.g., negotiators, behavioral health care providers, STATE, bilingual troopers, etc.); or
      3. troopers equipped with less-lethal weapon; and
    - d. identifying other options and determining the best course of action (the trooper might have to delay or even abandon a law enforcement objective if the only way to accomplish the objective is through using force that, under the circumstances, would likely result in harm that far exceeds the value of the interest the trooper seeks to protect through the use of force).

#### C. Required Action by Troopers

1. As part of their tactical planning, troopers should begin to think through de-escalation techniques prior to arriving on the scene.
2. Troopers will use de-escalation techniques to attempt to reduce threats, gain voluntary compliance of persons, and safely resolve a situation.
3. Troopers will perform their work in a manner that avoids unduly jeopardizing their own safety or the safety of others through poor tactical decisions including, but not limited to, immediately approaching a subject without proper evaluation of the situation, failing to leave sufficient space between the trooper and the subject, closing the reactionary gap, or escalating a situation.
4. When time and circumstances reasonably permit, troopers should consider whether a subject's lack of compliance is a deliberate attempt to resist or an inability to comply based on factors including, but not limited to: medical conditions; behavior health disability; developmental disability; physical limitation; language barrier; drug interaction; and/or behavioral health crisis.
  - a. A trooper's awareness of these factors, when time and circumstances reasonably permit, will then be balanced against the facts of the incident facing the trooper when deciding which options are most appropriate to bring the situation to a safe resolution.

OPS 10.05  
**De-Escalation**

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5. During encounters with children, youth, and/or persons experiencing behavioral health disorders or a crisis, troopers will employ developmentally-appropriate, trauma-informed tactics including, but not limited to, using a calm and natural demeanor, and avoiding threatening language.
  - a. Troopers should account for any fear-based reactions that children, youth, and/or persons experiencing behavioral health disabilities or in crisis may experience during an encounter with law enforcement.
  - b. If attempts to de-escalate an encounter with a child, youth, or persons experiencing a behavioral health disability or in crisis are unsuccessful to resolve the incident, and a use of force is reasonable, necessary and proportional, troopers should consider personalized factors of the individual, including: apparent age; body size; strength of the member relative to the individual; and the risk posed by the individual.
6. Any force used will be de-escalated immediately as resistance decreases. If the individual stops resisting, the trooper will stop using force.

**D. Required Training**

1. The Education and Training Division (ETD) will provide troopers with de-escalation training, in the Academy and during annual in-service training.

Approved:

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Colonel Woodrow W. Jones III  
Superintendent      07/01/2022

Attachment #2 2A Maryland HB 824