

Village of Scarsdale Police Department

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Scarsdale Police Department Use of Force Policy

NYS Executive Law 840 was amended to require every agency in the state that employs a police or peace officer to adopt a use of force policy consistent with the Municipal Police Training Council's (MPTC) model use of force policy. This requirement became effective June 11, 2019.

The Federal and State standards by which use of force is measured are founded in the basic premise of objective reasonableness. The amount of force that is used by the officers shall be the amount of force that is objectively reasonable under the circumstances for the officer involved to effect an arrest, prevent an escape, or in defense of themselves or others.

As such, the Scarsdale Police Department adopts the use of force policy consistent with the NYS MPTC's model use of force policy.

Scarsdale Police Department use of force policy:

"A police officer, in the course of effecting or attempting to effect an arrest, or of preventing or attempting to prevent the escape from custody of a person whom he reasonably believes to have committed an offense, may use less lethal force to the extent he reasonably believes such to be necessary to effect the arrest, or to prevent the escape from custody, or to defend himself, or a third person from what he reasonably believes to be the use or imminent use of physical force.."

"Members of the Scarsdale Police Department may use deadly physical force only when the officer reasonably believes that the action is in defense of human life including the officer's own life or in defense of any person in immediate danger of serious physical injury."

"A police shall use only the amount of force that is objectively reasonable and under the circumstances for the Officer involved to affect lawful objectives. Any officer present and observing another officer using force that he/she reasonably believes to be clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force, if an when the officer has a realistic opportunity to prevent harm."

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