

State of Connecticut
Department of Administrative Services
State Marshal Commission
das.ct.gov/statemarshal

W. Martyn Philpot, Jr., Esq.
Chairperson

Jeffrey Beckham
Staff Director

DATE: December 16, 2016

TO: State Marshals

FROM: Jeffrey Beckham, Staff Director



SUBJECT: Revised Use of Force Policy

ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN
16-26

At its December 15, 2016 meeting, the State Marshal Commission voted to adopt a revised Use of Force Policy. (See attached Use of Force Policy rev. 12/15/2016). This revised policy replaces the previous Use of Force Policy adopted on April 30, 2013. Previous versions of this policy should be discarded.

Summary of Revisions:

Additional Training

The revised Use of Force Policy makes additions to the training requirements for both 1) state marshals seeking or maintaining membership on the Capias Unit (See attached Use of Force Policy, Section H); and 2) state marshals seeking or maintaining authorization to carry a firearm during the course of their official duties (See Use of Force Policy, Section G). In addition, the training for both of these categories of marshals will now be held at the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) Training Academy. Commission staff is currently working with officials at the Academy to develop training modules to meet these training requirements. The Commission will establish a date by which marshals must come into compliance with these training requirements and Commission staff will advise you of this deadline when it is set.

450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 1504
Hartford, Connecticut 06103
Tel. (860) 713-5372 Fax (860) 622-2938

Less-Than-Lethal Force Options

Under this policy, state marshals who carry firearms while conducting their official duties are now required to carry, while carrying a firearm, one or more less-than-lethal weapon options (i.e. pepper spray or baton) (See Use of Force Policy, Section G.1.e).

Use of Force/Medical Aid 72-Hour Reporting Requirements

State marshals must report certain uses of force to the Commission within **72 hours**. (See attached Use of Force Policy, Section F). In addition, marshals must also report medical aid rendered to a person as a result of the marshal's use of force to the Commission within **72 hours**. (See attached Use of Force Policy, Section E). Note that these reporting requirements are not new and existed in the previous Use of Force Policy. This policy simply mandates that such reporting occur within a set timeframe. The Commission has developed a form for making such mandatory reports (Attached hereto). This form will be available on the State Marshal Commission website. Reports can be made by filling out and signing this form and sending it via email to Marshal.Commission@ct.gov or fax to (860) 622-2938. You may attach any additional relevant documents (i.e. a police report) to this form that you wish to be considered by the Commission as part of your report.

Handcuffs

Under this policy, only marshals who are on the Capias Unit may carry or utilize handcuffs during the course of their official duties. Note that the only use of handcuffs authorized by the Commission is use while making a civil capias arrest under a valid capias warrant.

Authorization to Carry Pepper Spray/Batons

Under this policy, marshals who are not on the Capias Unit or authorized to carry a firearm, in order to obtain authorization to carry pepper spray or a baton during the course of their official duties, must complete the applicable POSTC-approved Less than Lethal (OC or Baton) training course under the supervision of a Connecticut POST certified law enforcement instructor **every three years** and submit a certificate of completion to the State Marshal Commission. Only those marshals who have submitted the requisite training certificate and have subsequently received written authorization from the Commission are authorized to carry pepper spray or a baton during the course of their official duties.