



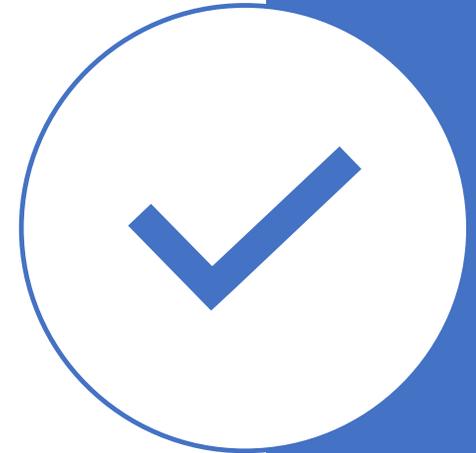
Use of Force Recommendation 25

*Combine "Strikes" and "Limited Strikes"
into One Category*



Agenda

- Objective
- Recommendation Highlights
- Current Policy
- Gap Analysis
- Industry Trends
- Pros and Cons
- Proposed Action
- Questions



Objective

- *Combining the terms would streamline policy.*
- *Simplify Use of Force tracking.*



Recommendation Highlights

- *PERF suggests MPD should combine the terms “strikes” and “limited strikes” into one category to streamline policy and training.*
- *PERF states because the only difference between the two is the location of the strike, and location is already noted in the BlueTeam Use-of-Force Report, separating the two terms is unnecessary.*
- *PERF states both definitions refer to a hands-on approach, and there is little utility in keeping these two categories separate.*

Current Policy

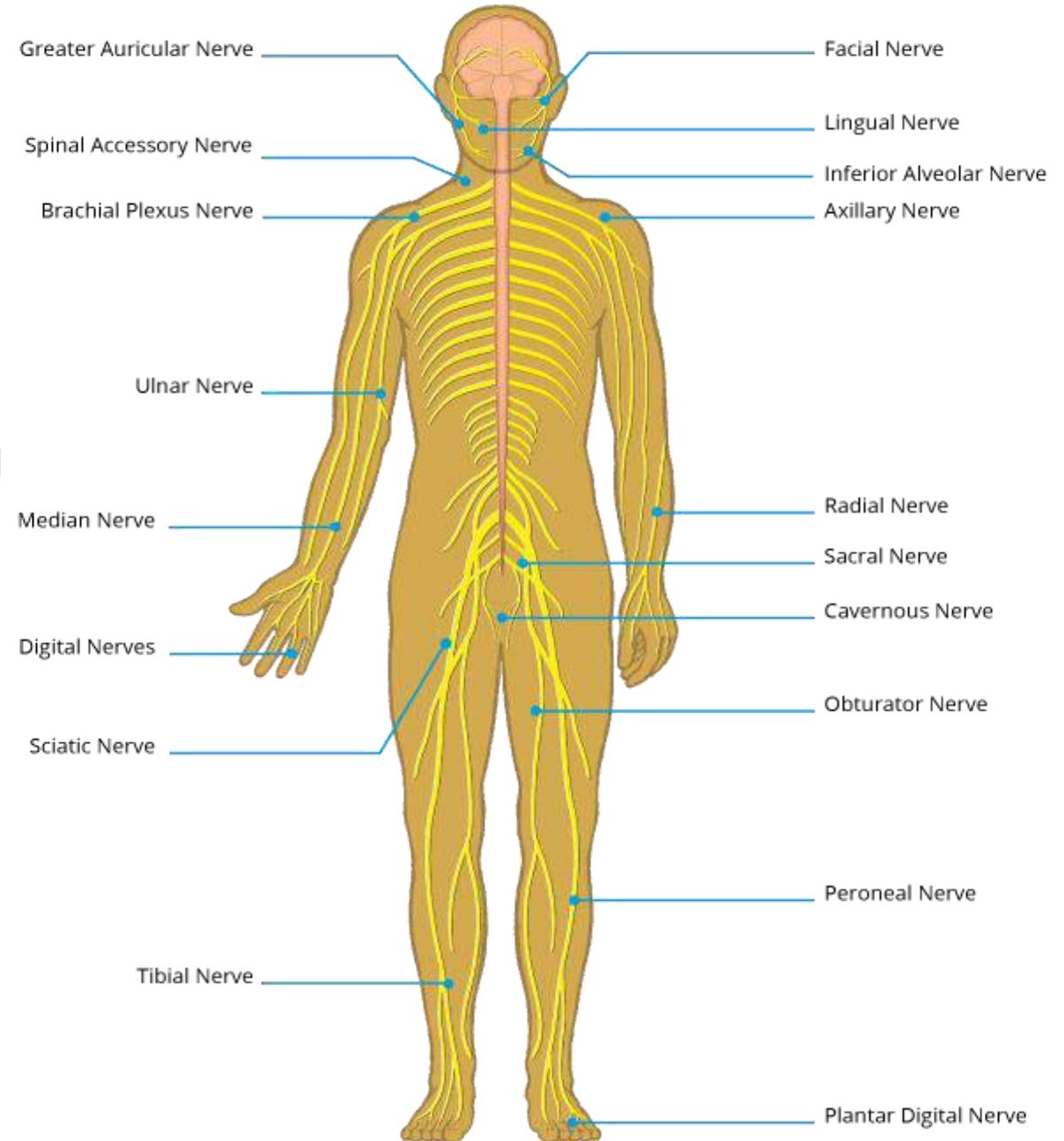
Definitions for “Strikes” and “Limited Strikes” are in **DPM 2.1.1, Use of Force Philosophy & Definitions** and **DPM 2.1.5, Use of Force**:

- **Strikes:**

- Techniques that have more than a minimal chance of injury. (Examples: Kicks, elbow, palm or knee strikes, and punches).
- The officer will consider the totality of circumstances in evaluating which area of the body to strike.

- **Limited Strikes:**

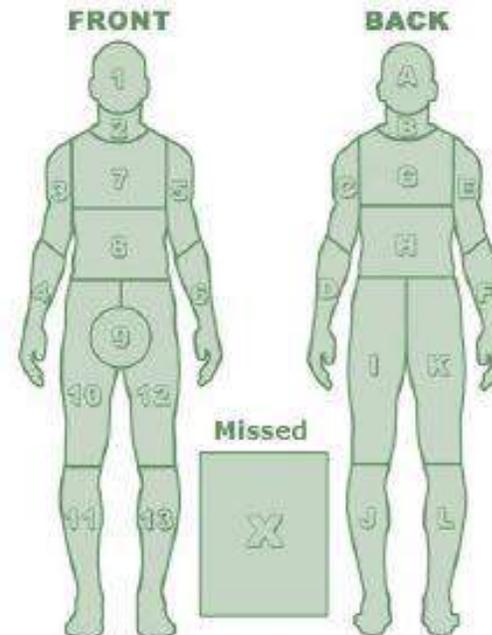
- Strikes applied to limited target areas. Refer to "Strikes" definition. Example target areas: brachial plexus (tie-in), radial, median, femoral, common peroneal and tibial nerves.
- *Per Training, these limited target areas are large muscle groups and nerves, which minimize chance of injury.



Force Reporting in BlueTeam

- When tracking Uses of Force in BlueTeam, “limited strikes” and “strikes” are currently both options that can be selected on the template.
- Combing them would make statistical tracking of specific types of strikes more burdensome.

Force Used (check all that apply):	Was Force Effective In Controlling Subject:
<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal Commands	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Control Holds	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Chemical Agents	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Strikes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Strikes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> TASER CEW	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Impact Weapons	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Flexible Baton (Bean Bag)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Baton Round (Sage/Pentarns)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Police Service Dog (K9)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Carotid Control Technique	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Deadly Force	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



Gap Analysis

Recommendation

- Remove “Limited Strikes” and merely keep “Strikes” in both policy and BlueTeam.

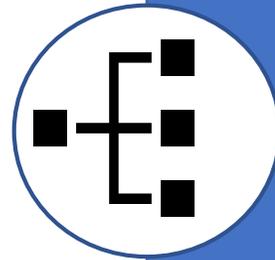
Current Policy

- Both “Strikes” and “Limited Strikes” are included in two **Use of Force** policies.
- Both are included in BlueTeam Use of Force tracking.
- Both are taught in training as well.



Industry Trends

DEPARTMENT	USE OF FORCE POLICY
Maricopa PD	Uses terms “ strikes ” and “ limited strikes ” but appears to utilize Mesa’s policy.
Gilbert PD	No mention of “limited strikes” but does mention “ strikes to nerve points ” as an “ intermediate level of force ”. Other strikes with more than a minimal chance of injury are a “high level of force”.
Phoenix PD	Lists Intermediate Control Techniques such as Hard Empty Hand Techniques , which includes but is not limited to: Closed fist strikes, Hammer fist strikes, Palm-heel strikes, Knee strikes, Elbow strikes and Head Strikes. (No mention of limited target areas).
Chandler PD	Lower Level Force includes Empty Hand Control , which includes techniques such as strikes. Mentions “ Hard ” control techniques is a type of Empty Hand Control using the hands, knees, or feet directed at pressure points...



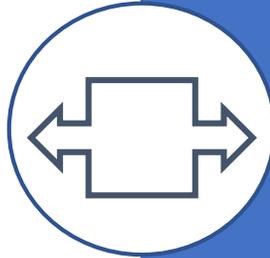
Pros and Cons

Reasons **for** adopting the recommendation

- *It shortens/streamlines policy*
- *It appears “limited strikes” is not a commonly used term with other agencies, although many agencies have a similar concept.*

Reasons **against** adopting the recommendation

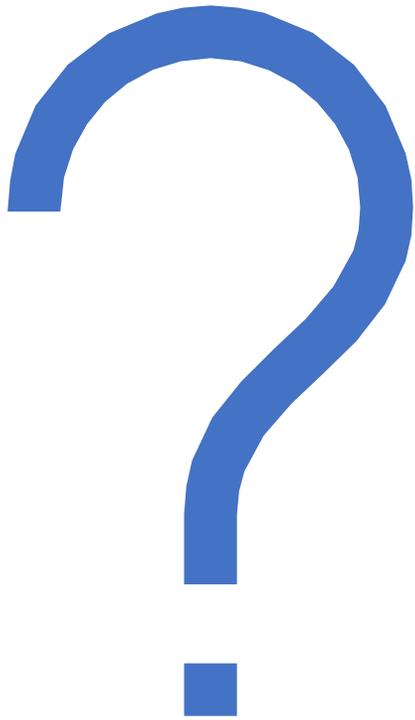
- *We are trained on limited strikes; it’s good to have a definition in policy.*
- *Limited Strikes give officers additional options that minimize risk of injury.*
- *It’s easier for Recruits & Officers to understand the concept of a limited strike by utilizing a unique term. It’s a specific type of strike targeted to limited areas.*
- *It’s easier to tally specific monthly statistics by having unique categories for strikes and limited strikes. Otherwise, we’d have to dig deeper and separate statistics manually.*



Proposed Action

DO NOT adopt recommendation.

- *Instead of removing “Limited Strikes”, include it as a subcategory of the “Strikes” definition for ease of understanding.*
- *Only include the terms/definitions in **Use of Force Philosophy & Definitions** policy; no need to list the terms/definitions twice.*
 - *This meets PERF’s goal of “streamlining policy”.*
- *Keep policy, BlueTeam Use of Force reporting, and training the same.*



Discussion