



Use of Force Recommendation 18

*Add a Sentence Emphasizing "the Sanctity
of Life"*



Agenda

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



Objective

- *Emphasize to MPD members that the sanctity of human life is a core value of great importance.*

***Definition of Sanctity:**

- *The state or quality of being holy, sacred or saintly.*
- *Ultimate importance and inviolability (having to be respected and not ignored)*



Recommendation Highlights

- *MPD should add a sentence emphasizing the sanctity of human life as a core value in its use-of-force policy.*
- *Baltimore PD is given as an example. Their Use of Force policy states, “The policy of the Baltimore Police Department is to value and preserve human life in all situations.”*

Current Policy

DPM 2.1.1, Use of Force Philosophy & Definitions

The very first sentence of our Philosophy states:

*“The MPD is committed above all to the **sanctity and preservation of life**, human rights, the dignity of every individual, and the Constitution of the United States and the State of Arizona”.*

*This can be traced back to *at least* **2012**.

DPM 2.1.2, Use of Force Special Order

- A “supplement” to **Use of Force Philosophy & Definitions** and **Use of Force** policy.

The Conclusion states:

*“A reverence and respect for the dignity of all persons and the **sanctity of all human life** shall guide all training, leadership, and direction as well as guide officers in the use of force.”*

*Effective since **2018**.



Gap Analysis

Recommendation

*If MPD's use of force policies are consolidated as recommended, [sanctity of life] ...only need to be included once. If policies remain separate, however, it is important that the concept...of the **sanctity of human life**...be included in both the **Special Order...and Use of Force Philosophy and Definitions**.*

*"...The sanctity of life should be included in this **initial Policy Statement**..."*

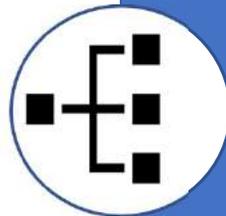
Current Policy

- **DPM 2.1.1, Use of Force Philosophy & Definitions**, includes the concept of **sanctity of life** in the **beginning**.
- **DPM 2.1.2, Use of Force Special Order** includes the concept of **sanctity of life** at the **end/conclusion**.



Industry Trends

DEPARTMENT	POLICY
Chicago PD	<p>USE OF FORCE (2018)</p> <p><u>II. Policy</u> A. Sanctity of Human Life. <i>The Department's highest priority is the sanctity of human life. In all aspects of their conduct, Department members will act with the foremost regard for the preservation of human life and the safety of all persons involved.</i></p>
LVMPD	<p>USE OF FORCE (2017)</p> <p><u>I. Policy</u> ...The Department respects the value of every human life...</p>
IACP Model Policy	<p>USE OF FORCE (2015)</p> <p><u>II. Policy</u> <i>It is the policy...officers use only the force that is necessary...while protecting the lives of the officer and others.</i></p>
Chandler PD	<p>USE OF FORCE (2017)</p> <p><u>B. Policy</u> <i>The department respects the value and sanctity of every human life...</i></p>
Phoenix PD	<p>USE OF FORCE (2019)</p> <p>1. <u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u> A. Sanctity of Life – <i>The Department respects the dignity of all persons and recognizes the sanctity of human life, rights, and liberty.</i></p>



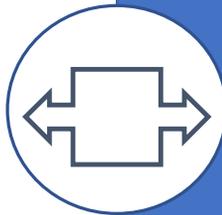
Pros and Cons

List the reasons **for** adopting the recommendation

- *This currently appears to be the standard.*
- *It's a reminder of our core values.*

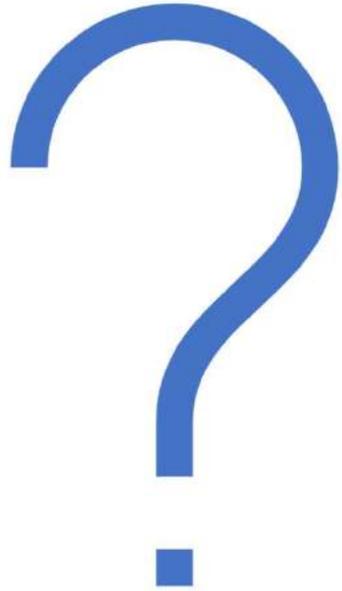
List the reasons **against** adopting the recommendation

- *No negatives.*
- *..but for the most part, it's already been implemented pre-PERF recommendation.*



Proposed Action

- For the most part, we are already in compliance with this recommendation.
- Our current **Use of Force Philosophy & Definitions** already includes a “sanctity of life” statement in the **first line of Philosophy**, and this will very likely begin our comprehensive Use of Force policy.
 - Simplify the phrase “sanctity of life” to layman’s terms: “The policy of the MPD is to **value and preserve** human life in all situations”.



Discussion