



Public Safety Committee

COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS REPORT

JUNE 24, 2020

PRESENTED BY: MARIA VILLAGOMEZ, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

City Council Public Safety Committee - Listening Sessions

VIRTUAL: Monday, June 15 - 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

IN-PERSON: Thursday, June 18 - 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Council Chambers

VIRTUAL: Saturday, June 20 - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Provide comments:



SASpeakUp.com



Text SAPolice to 55000



**Leave a voicemail
210-207-6991**



Community Input Received

Council District	Number of Comments
1	25
2	15
3	10
4	4
5	4
6	19
7	23
8	20
9	28
10	19
Did not Indicate	174
Total	341

Comments Received: Highlights

- Changes to Discipline Process
- Police Reform
- Repeal Chapter 143 & 174
- Reallocate funds from Police to other services/priorities
- Defund Police
- Do not reduce Police Budget
- Support Police



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8 Can't Wait Police Recommendations

Major Texas City Policy Comparison

City	8 Can't Wait Score	EXHAUST ALL ALTERNATIVE BEFORE SHOOTING	REQUIRE ALL USE OF FORCE BE REPORTED	BAN CHOCKHOLDS & STRANGLEHOLDS	ESTABLISH USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM	REQUIRE DE-ESCALATION	DUTY TO INTERVENE	BAN SHOOTING AT MOVING VEHICLES	REQUIRE WARNING BEFORE SHOOTING
San Antonio	8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dallas	4	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Austin	3				✓		✓		✓
Houston	3		✓		✓		✓		
El Paso	3	✓			✓				✓

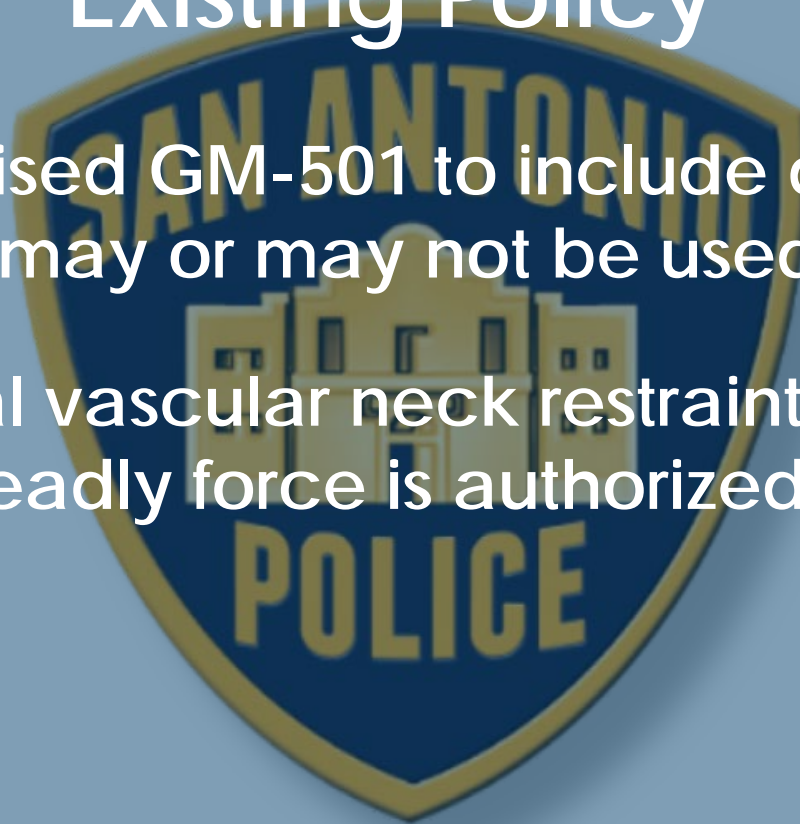
Source: www.8cantwait.org

8 Can't Wait Recommendations

Ban Chokeholds & Strangleholds

Existing Policy

- In 2014, SAPD revised GM-501 to include definition of choke hold and when it may or may not be used.
- It states, "A lateral vascular neck restraint (LVNR) shall not be used unless deadly force is authorized"



8 Can't Wait Recommendations

Establish Use of Force Continuum

Existing Policy

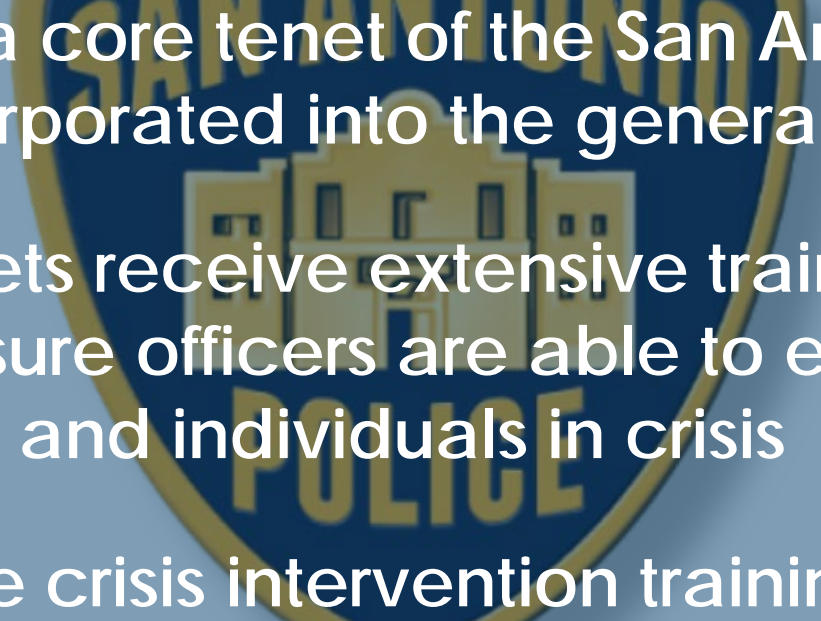
- The use of force continuum table was included in GM-501 in 2004

OFFICER'S PERCEPTION OF SUSPECT'S ACTIONS					
	Compliant (Cooperative)	Passive Resistant	Active Resistant	Imminent Assault (Bodily Injury)	Imminent Serious Bodily Injury/Death
<i>Officer's Presence</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Verbal Communications</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Open/Empty Hands Control</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Physical Force</i>			✓	✓	✓
<i>Intermediate Weapon</i>			✓	✓	✓
<i>Deadly Force</i>					✓

8 Can't Wait Recommendations

Require De-Escalation

Existing Policy

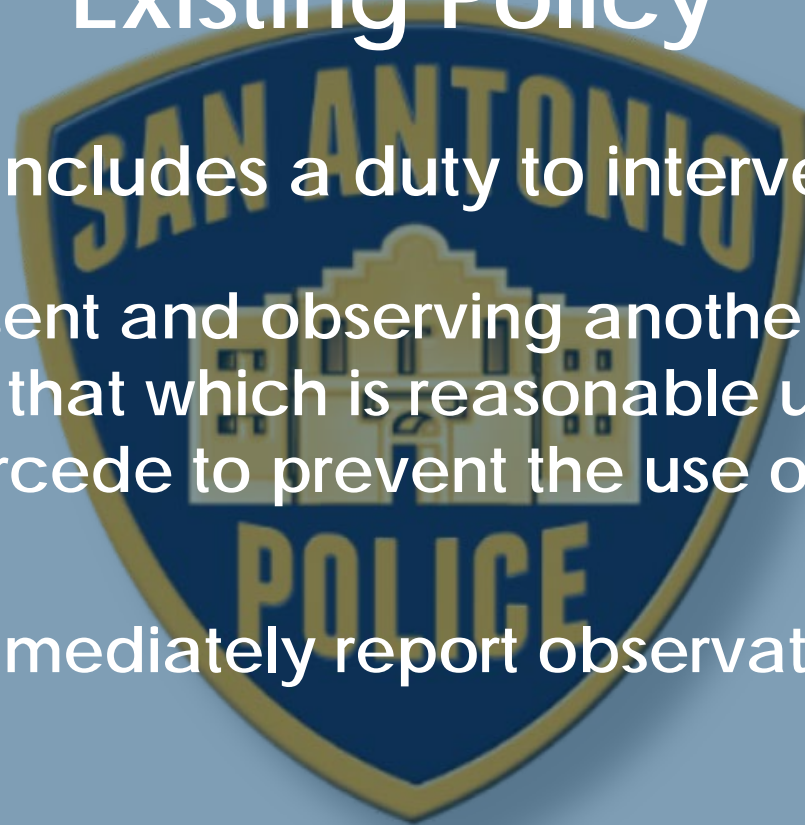
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- The badge is a shield-shaped emblem. The top half is blue with the words "SAN ANTONIO" in gold, serif, all-caps font. The bottom half is gold with the word "POLICE" in blue, serif, all-caps font. In the center, there is a blue silhouette of the Alamo building.
- De-escalation is a core tenet of the San Antonio Police Department and was first incorporated into the general manual in 2014
 - Officers and cadets receive extensive training on de-escalation techniques to ensure officers are able to effectively interact with victims, offenders and individuals in crisis
 - All cadets receive crisis intervention training

8 Can't Wait Recommendations

Duty to Intervene

Existing Policy

- General Manual includes a duty to intervene requirement:
 - Any officer present and observing another officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is reasonable under the circumstances shall safely intercede to prevent the use of such excessive force.
 - Officers shall immediately report observations to a supervisor

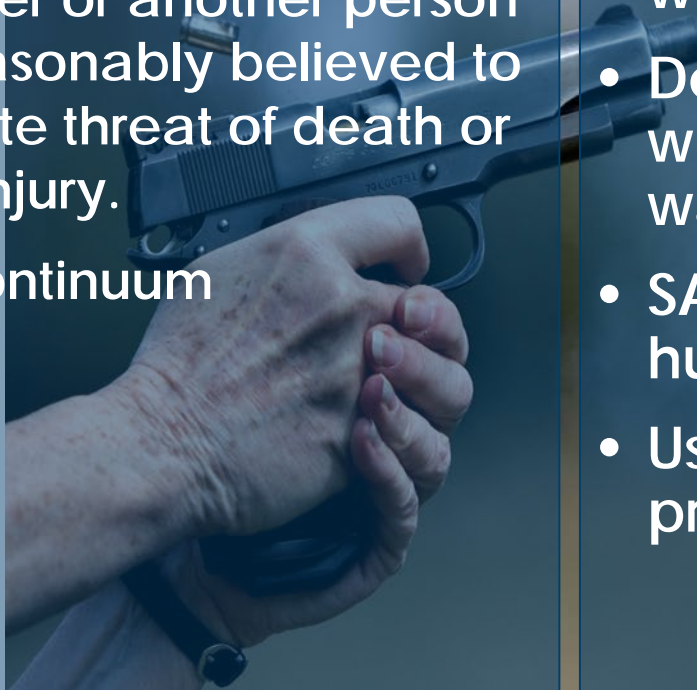


8 Can't Wait Recommendations

Exhaust All Alternatives Before Shooting

Current SAPD Policy

- Deadly force is authorized only to protect an officer or another person from what is reasonably believed to be an immediate threat of death or serious bodily injury.
- Use of Force Continuum



Revised SAPD Policy

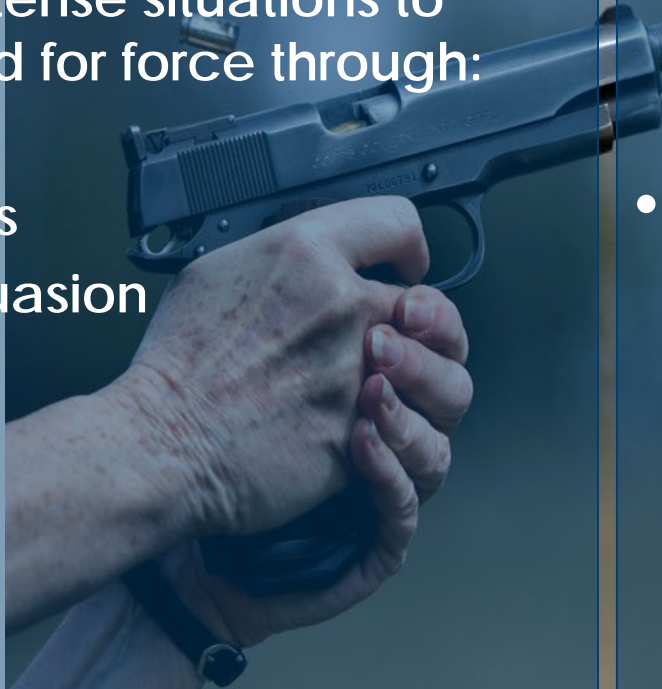
- Added deadly force will be used with great restraint
- Deadly force as a last resort only when the level of resistance warrants its use
- SAPD places greater value on human life than personal property
- Use of deadly force not allowed to protect property interests

8 Can't Wait Recommendations

Require Warning Before Shooting

Current SAPD Policy

- De-escalation policy requires officers to de-escalate tense situations to reduce the need for force through:
 - Warnings
 - Advisements
 - Verbal Persuasion
 - Tactics



Revised SAPD Policy

- States more explicitly the requirement to give a verbal warning before using deadly force, including shooting
- Expand on the avoidance of use of deadly force

8 Can't Wait Recommendations

Require all Use of Force be Reported

Current SAPD Use of Force Policy

- All use of force is reported in the officer's Departmental report; and
- Additional report required if:
 - Greater than empty hand control
 - Injury which requires medical treatment
 - Causes death to an individual
 - Discharging a firearm to an individual
 - Use of an intermediate weapon
 - When Police dog bites individual

This is a screenshot of the San Antonio Police Department's current use of force report form. The form is titled "POLICE REPORT" and "San Antonio Police Department". It contains various fields for reporting an incident, including "Offense Case #", "Offense Type", "Primary Offense", "Date / Time Occurred", "Date / Time Reported", "Location of Stop", "Victim Information", "Officer Information", and "Property Information". The form is divided into sections for "Offense", "Victim", "Officer", and "Property".

Revised SAPD Use of Force Policy

- Expands the use of force reporting requirement for specific incidents
- Added the following:
 - the pointing of a firearm at an individual
 - Reported injury by individual
 - Causes any injury to individual

This is a screenshot of the San Antonio Police Department's revised use of force report form. The form is titled "POLICE REPORT" and "San Antonio Police Department". It contains various fields for reporting an incident, including "Offense Case #", "Offense Type", "Primary Offense", "Date / Time Occurred", "Date / Time Reported", "Location of Stop", "Victim Information", "Officer Information", and "Property Information". The form is divided into sections for "Offense", "Victim", "Officer", and "Property". The revised form includes additional fields for "Victim Injury", "Victim Injury by Individual", and "Victim Injury by Individual".

8 Can't Wait Recommendations

Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles

Current SAPD Use of Force Policy

- SAPD prohibits officers shooting at a moving vehicle except as the ultimate measure of self-defense or defense of another



Revised SAPD Use of Force Policy

- Added section to specifically address prohibition on discharge of firearm from or at a moving vehicle
- Unless action is necessary for self defense or to protect another person