

f. Figure 2-1 is provided as a training tool suitable for use with law enforcement and security personnel. The use of similar forms, locally modified to cover situations that may be encountered by law enforcement and security personnel is encouraged.

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INDIVIDUAL'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS
FOR ARMED SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL
REGARDING THE USE OF FORCE

Name (Last, First, M.I.)	Rank	Date
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1. Inherent Right of Self Defense. Unit commanders always retain the inherent right and obligation to exercise unit self-defense in response to a hostile act or demonstrated hostile intent. Unless otherwise directed by a unit commander as detailed below, I may:

a. ___ Exercise individual self-defense in response to a hostile act or demonstrated hostile intent.

b. ___ However, I understand that when I am assigned and acting as part of a unit, my individual self-defense should be considered a subset of unit-self defense. As such, my unit commander may limit my individual inherent right of self-defense.

2. De-Escalation and the Use of Non-Deadly Force. I understand that:

a. ___ When time and circumstances permit, the threatening force should be warned and given the opportunity to withdraw or cease threatening actions.

b. ___ Normally, force is to be used only as a last resort, and the force used should be the minimum necessary. The use of force must be reasonable to counter the threat. If force is required, non-deadly force is authorized and may be used to control a situation and accomplish the mission, or to provide self-defense of DOD forces, defense of non-DOD persons in the vicinity if directly related to the assigned mission, or in defense of the protected property, when doing so is reasonable under the circumstances.

21 Aug 2013

3. The Use of Deadly Force. Deadly force is to be used only when all lesser means have failed or cannot reasonably be employed. Deadly force is authorized under the following circumstances:

a. ____ When there is reasonable belief that a person(s) poses an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm to DOD persons. Self-defense includes defense of other DOD persons in the vicinity.

b. ____ In defense of non-DOD persons in the vicinity, when directly related to the assigned mission.

c. ____ When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the actual theft or sabotage of properly designated assets vital to national security.

d. ____ When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the actual theft or sabotage of inherently dangerous property (i.e., explosives, weapons ammunition, etc.).

e. ____ When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the sabotage of national critical infrastructure. For the purposes of DOD operations, "national critical infrastructure" is defined as President-designated public utilities, or similar critical infrastructure, vital to public health or safety, the damage to which the President determines would create an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm.

4. Additionally, when directly related to the assigned mission, deadly force is authorized under the following circumstances:

a. ____ When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the commission of a serious offense that involves imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm (for example, setting fire to an inhabited dwelling or sniping), including the defense of other persons, where deadly force is directed against the person threatening to commit the offense. Examples include murder, armed robbery, and aggravated assault.

b. ____ When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the escape of a prisoner, provided there is probable cause to believe that such person(s) have committed or attempted to commit a serious offense, that is, one that involves imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm, and would pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm to DOD forces or others in the vicinity.

26 Aug 11

c. _____When deadly force reasonably appears necessary to arrest or apprehend a person who, there is probable cause to believe, has committed a serious offense (as indicated in paragraph 3, above).

5. Additional Specific Instructions:

a. _____I am prohibited from firing warning shots.

b. _____I will remove my pistol from my holster only when:

(1) The use of deadly force is imminent, or to affect the apprehension of a suspect I believe to be armed or dangerous, or to gain control of a dangerous situation.

(2) Ordered to do so by competent authority.

(3) Returning it to storage.

(4) Cleaning it in an authorized area.

c. _____I will show due regard for the safety of innocent bystanders when using force.

6. _____I will not point any firearm at any person, except:

a. To gain control of a situation.

b. When I intend to use deadly force.

c. During on-duty reaction drill, only after I have checked the firearm and it has also been checked by my supervisor to ensure no rounds are in the weapon.

7. _____If I chamber a round in a rifle or shotgun, or remove my pistol from its holster, proper notifications will be made and a Statement of Force form completed.

8. _____When clearing a firearm, I will follow current policies and procedures pertaining to firearms handling, clearing, and safety.

a. No weapon will be cleared without a supervisor (sergeant or above) present and clearing will be accomplished only in the designated area (i.e., clearing barrel).

26 Aug 11

b. When drawing a weapon from the armory/arms room, rounds will be drawn after ensuring the weapon is clear.

c. When returning a weapon to the armory/arms room, rounds will always be properly accounted for and turned in prior to clearing the weapon, unless a round has been chambered.

d. I will report any violation of these policies or procedures immediately to the proper authority.

9. ___ I am prohibited from using a privately owned firearm or ammunition on duty.

10. ___ During training exercises and testing, I will check my firearm and have it double checked by another person, to ensure that no live rounds are in the weapon and that there is no magazine inserted in the weapon.

11. ___ I will comply with these principles when using non-lethal weapons or techniques in such a manner that could cause death or serious bodily harm.

12. Acknowledgement. I have been instructed on the use of deadly force and acknowledge that I understand and will comply with the basic rules for the use of force and weapons safety. I acknowledge that failure to comply with the basic rules for the use of force and weapons safety may result in administrative, disciplinary, and/or criminal penalties.

Date

Rank/Printed Name

Signature

Figure 2-1.--INDIVIDUAL'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SPECIFIC
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ARMED SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT
PERSONNEL REGARDING THE USE OF FORCE

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