1.0 PURPOSE

To establish guidelines governing the timely and systematic method used to provide law enforcement personnel with firearms training.

2.0 REFERENCES AND DEFINITIONS

.1 References


b. Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), §703, General Principles of Justification.

c. Policy LAW.09.01, Use of Force – Law Enforcement

.2 Definitions

a. Practical Firearms: Firearms training which enables the officer to acquire weapons skills needed to survive when faced with imminent danger.

b. Judgmental Shooting: Firearms training in both the officer’s shooting abilities under stress and their decisions on whether to shoot or not to shoot based on the circumstances presented to the officer.

3.0 POLICY

.1 To provide Law Enforcement personnel with firearms training designed to ensure that they have the skills and judgment to effectively employ firearms.

.2 To educate the officer in marksmanship, tactics, techniques and guidelines in an effort to enhance the survivability during life threatening situations which the officer may encounter.

.3 Law Enforcement personnel shall be trained in the responsible use of firearms, to enhance the ability to protect or safeguard the public should the use of force be justified.
4.0 PROCEDURES

.1 Practical Firearms

a. All Law Enforcement officers shall receive on an annual basis, firearms training designed to enhance their ability to survive when faced with imminent danger.

b. Practical firearms training shall include but not be limited to:

1. Rapidly drawing the firearm and engaging single and multiple targets with multiple shots per target.

2. Firing from varied positions including the officer simulating being shot and wounded and shooting from the ground, on his side, on his back, and on his stomach.

3. Firing while moving.

4. Firing while using available cover such as vehicles, fire hydrants, and trees.

5. Firing with multiple officers engaging single and multiple targets.

6. Firing while removing a wounded officer from an area under attack.

c. Law Enforcement Division shall establish guidelines defining course design, standards, and frequency of training.

.2 Judgmental Shooting

a. All Law Enforcement officers shall receive annually, firearms training which tests their shooting abilities in simulated life threatening situations, and which tests their judgment in deciding whether to employ their firearms in each scenario.

b. An interactive computer controlled video system using modified service handguns shall be used. If an interactive system is not available, an interactive slide program or a suitable alternative training system may be used depending upon the system but shall not be limited to any specific ammunition.
c. Judgmental shooting shall reinforce and test but not be limited to:

1. Decision making in deadly force situations. This includes evaluating the threat and using the lowest level of force justified under the given circumstances.

2. Judgment in employing firearms considering bystanders, unknown backstop (glass windows of shopping mall...), and other uninvolved persons.

3. Use of verbal commands to suspects.

4. Use of available cover.

5. In justified shooting situations continuing to fire until the threat is stopped.

6. In justified shooting situations ceasing fire once the threat has stopped.

7. Firing for center mass.

8. Assessing the area after a shooting for other possible threats.

.3 Law Enforcement Division shall be the approving authority in adopting judgmental programs and authorizing the use of each judgmental scenario.

5.0 **SCOPE**

This policy applies to all Law Enforcement Divisions within the Department.
APPROVAL RECOMMENDED:

Deputy Director for Administration

Date

Deputy Director for Law Enforcement

6-19-08

APPROVED:

Date

Director

6/24/08