

Communication from Public

Name: Sandy Roxy Reyna
Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 09:32 AM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: I support this movement

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 10:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I support this motion for the park rangers to be armed.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Warner
Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 11:49 AM
Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of Motion 201-0190, the LA City Park Ranger should be issued full safety equipment including firearms because they are trained law enforcement professionals. I work as a Park Ranger for a different county and can relate some of what a daily life of LA City Park Ranger is like. Within a given year An average Ranger for us will make over 2,500 public contacts (which includes contacting and educating people or enforcing the park ordinances). On top of this we also respond to several wild land fires, approximately 20-25 medical / rescue / lost hiker calls, and preform about 400 hours of small maintenance projects / resource management projects. We have approximately 250,000 citizens in our jurisdiction while LA City has close to 4,000,000 . I can image the volume of work the LA City Park Ranger have to deal with is 16 times what our staff and I deal with on a normal basis. Secondly arming the rangers would be a more efficient expenditure of taxpayers money. Right now for public safety coverage the city has to pay for both police and rangers on a daily basis to operate in the city parks. Equipping the rangers will allow for the rangers to handle most of not all issues with in the parks and police to be able to prioritize their calls for the rest of the city's citizens. This would save hundreds of thousands of dollars in the long run. Finally if you don't think this model could work in the LA area please look at The Mountains Conservation Recreation Authority Rangers or any State Park Rangers operating in the LA area. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 12:48 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I support the motion to arm the Park RA gets of the city of Los Angeles. Park Rangers are an important asset to keeping the parks safe, clean, and educational for all visitors. Arming the Park Rangers would give them tools that they are already trained to use and would help to create an even safer environment for both the Rangers and the people they have sworn to serve. Park Rangers have a duty to protect the public, the parks and resources of L.A, and their fellow Rangers. Please consider forwarding this motion and also keeping the Park Rangers as an important staple of the community.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 03:32 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of the proposal to arm the Peace Officer Park Rangers of Los Angeles. Firearms are standard, common sense, safety tools that any and all law enforcement officers should carry In order to protect the public and themselves. The challenges faced by resource oriented law enforcement officers are in many ways greater than what a municipal officer must face. Less resources, less backup, isolated locations and leadership that is often civilian and with a lack of understanding of the law enforcement profession. It is completely irresponsible of any agency to not provide appropriate safety tools, including firearms, to their Peace Officer personnel. Please don't allow your parks to deteriorate to the extent that the parks in San Jose and much of the Bay Area have. Be the force for change that will protect and conserve your natural resources for generations to come. Thank you, MM Law Enforcement Officer Bay Area, Ca

Communication from Public

Name: Tim Miller

Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 03:50 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Having been a Park Ranger for 31 years in the Los Angeles area. I support the Los Angeles City Rangers being allowed to carry firearms while on duty. Fire Arms are another tool available for them to use during the course of their duties.

Communication from Public

Name: Mauricio Camacho

Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 04:00 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles is one of the largest cities in the US, and therefore must have diverse agencies that accomplish different tasks and require different equipment. All peace officers share the goal to enforce laws and assist those in need by contacting individuals in uncertain and unsafe situations and environments and because of this all peace officers within Los Angeles are armed except for the Park Rangers. The Los Angeles Park Rangers respond to all calls in the city parks even in areas considered remote. The Los Angeles Park Rangers should be armed so that they can be on par with all other Law Enforcement Agencies to create a safer environment for Los Angeles when there is a call for help from any of its citizens.

Communication from Public

Name: M.R
Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 04:11 PM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: I fully support that Rangers should be armed. As a Ranger myself I've found myself in very dangerous situations that I've been lucky to have the situation NOT go south. I've found fire arms in homeless encampments before too and there are plenty of deadly force options for the people hiding in illegal encampments, knives, needles, hatchets and more. All Rangers should be armed and given the tools they need to get the job done right and safely.

Communication from Public

Name: Peter Delgadillo
Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 06:51 PM
Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Hello all, My name is Peter Delgadillo, and I am a local resident of El Sereno as well as a long time public servant for the City of Los Angeles. I am a peace officer Park Ranger with the LA Recs and Parks Dept. and a former LAPD officer. Attached is a letter The Rangers worked on to better clarify to our communities, who and what we are and provide an explanation on why it is paramount that we finally be armed. This is not a new concept, but it is crucial as the Pak Ranger rebuild and grow. We need our Rangers to be able to safely and effectively do the job we are tasked to do. We are certified Wildland Firefighters, and we would not go and fight the brush fires in our parks if we did not have the proper tools/equipment and training to do so. We would not respond to a medical call sand not have our medical bag, oxygen tank, AED, and Narcan, and utilizing our training when treating a patient. We would not respond to a stuck hiker call on a cliff without taking our assigned rope gear to created a lowering system to safely send a ranger down to the hiker and bring them safely up, but yet we are tasked and expected to conduct law enforcement duties, (such as responding to robbery in progress, domestic violence, fights, brandishing fire arms or knives, battery, traffic stops, building searches, and the list goes on), without the specific tool of a firearm. I am recovering from a surgery for my right shoulder an abrasion and human bite puncture wound to my left arm, wile involved with taking an individual into custody. I did not know at the time that he had a warrant for “Assault with a deadly weapon”, I did not know that he had a long criminal history or resisting arrest, I did not know that he had a knife in his pocket, and I did not know that he had illegal narcotics on his person. This person fought desperately to get away from me causing me harm. Our Job is dangerous an being alone in locations where there is no specific address, it is very dangerous. Your LA city Park Rangers are the only agency to send it’s officers to the LAPD police academy and have them return the tool (firearm) that they had trained with for the last 6 and a half months, and are expected to conduct law enforcement duties safely and effectively. All law enforcement agencies adhere to CA Assembly Bill 392 Ch. 170 (peace officer authority to use deadly force) and we follow LAPD Special Order No. 5 (LAPD Use of Force Policy). Respectfully, Peter Delgadillo

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 5

April 18, 2017

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS ON APRIL 18, 2017

SUBJECT: POLICY ON THE USE OF FORCE – REVISED

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Order is to revise the use of force policy preamble to include the need to control an incident by using time, distance, communications, and available resources, in an effort to de-escalate the situation, whenever it is safe and reasonable to do so. Additionally, changing circumstances and the amount of time an officer has to determine the type and amount of force that appears reasonable have been added as factors that will be used to determine the reasonableness of a use of force.

PROCEDURE:

- I. PREAMBLE TO USE OF FORCE.** The use of force by members of law enforcement is a matter of critical concern both to the public and the law enforcement community. It is recognized that some individuals will not comply with the law or submit to control unless compelled to do so by the use of force; therefore, law enforcement officers are sometimes called upon to use force in the performance of their duties. It is also recognized that members of law enforcement derive their authority from the public and therefore must be ever mindful that they are not only the guardians, but also the servants of the public.

The Department's guiding value when using force shall be reverence for human life. *Officers shall attempt to control an incident by using time, distance, communications, and available resources in an effort to de-escalate the situation, whenever it is safe and reasonable to do so.* When warranted, Department personnel may objectively use reasonable force to carry out their duties. Officers who use unreasonable force degrade the confidence of the community we serve, expose the Department and fellow officers to legal and physical hazards, and violate the rights of individuals upon whom unreasonable force is used. Conversely, officers who fail to use force when warranted may endanger themselves, the community and fellow officers.

- II. DEFINITIONS.**

Objectively Reasonable. The legal standard used to determine the lawfulness of a use of force is the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution. See *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989). *Graham* states in part, "The reasonableness of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight.

The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments - in circumstances that are tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving - about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation. The test of reasonableness is not capable of precise definition or mechanical application."

The force must be reasonable under the circumstances known to the officer at the time the force was used. Therefore, the Department examines all uses of force from an objective standard rather than a subjective standard.

Deadly Force. Deadly Force is defined as that force which creates a substantial risk of causing death or serious bodily injury.

Imminent. Black's Law Dictionary defines imminent as, "Near at hand; impending; on the point of happening."

Serious Bodily Injury. California Penal Code Section 243(f)(4) defines Serious Bodily Injury as including but not limited to:

- Loss of consciousness;
- Concussion;
- Bone fracture;
- Protracted loss or impairment of function of any bodily member or organ;
- A wound requiring extensive suturing; and,
- Serious disfigurement.

Warning Shots. The intentional discharge of a firearm off target not intended to hit a person, to warn others that deadly force is imminent.

III. POLICY.

Use of Force — General. It is the policy of this Department that personnel may use only that force which is "objectively reasonable" to:

- Defend themselves;
- Defend others;
- Effect an arrest or detention;
- Prevent escape; or,
- Overcome resistance.

Factors Used To Determine Reasonableness. The Department examines reasonableness using *Graham v. Connor* and from the articulated facts from the perspective of a Los Angeles Police Officer with similar training and experience placed in generally the same set of circumstances. In determining the appropriate level of force, officers shall evaluate each situation in light of facts and circumstances of each particular case. Those factors may include, but are not limited to:

- Seriousness of the crime or suspected offense;
- The level of threat or resistance presented by the subject;
- Whether the subject was posing an immediate threat to officers or a danger to the community;
- The potential for injury to citizens, officers or subjects;
- The risk or apparent attempt by the subject to escape;
- The conduct of the subject being confronted (as reasonably perceived by the officer at the time);
- *The amount of time and any changing circumstances during which the officer had to determine the type and amount of force that appeared to be reasonable;*
- The availability of other resources;
- The training and experience of the officer;
- The proximity or access of weapons to the subject;
- Officer versus subject factors such as age, size, relative strength, skill level, injury/exhaustion and number officers versus subjects; and,
- The environmental factors and/or other exigent circumstances.

Deadly Force. Law enforcement officers are authorized to use deadly force to:

- Protect themselves or others from what is reasonably believed to be an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury; or,
- Prevent a crime where the suspect's actions place person(s) in imminent jeopardy of death or serious bodily injury; or,
- Prevent the escape of a violent fleeing felon when there is probable cause to believe the escape will pose a significant threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or others if apprehension is delayed. In this circumstance, officers shall, to the extent practical, avoid using deadly force that might subject innocent bystanders or hostages to possible death or injury.

The reasonableness of an officer's use of deadly force includes consideration of the officer's tactical conduct and decisions leading up to the use of deadly force.

Warning Shots. Warning shots shall only be used in exceptional circumstances where it might reasonably be expected to avoid the need to use deadly force. Generally, warning shots shall be directed in a manner that minimizes the risk of injury to innocent persons, ricochet dangers, and property damage.

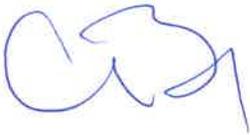
Shooting At or From Moving Vehicles. Firearms shall not be discharged at a moving vehicle unless a person in the vehicle is immediately threatening the officer or another person with deadly force by means other than the vehicle. The moving vehicle itself shall not presumptively constitute a threat that justifies an officer's use of deadly force.

An officer threatened by an oncoming vehicle shall move out of its path instead of discharging a firearm at it or any of its occupants. Firearms shall not be discharged from a moving vehicle, except in exigent circumstances and in the immediate defense of life.

Note: It is understood that the policy in regards to discharging a firearm at or from a moving vehicle may not cover every situation that may arise. In all situations, Department members are expected to act with intelligence and exercise sound judgment, attending to the spirit of this policy. Any deviations from the provisions of this policy shall be examined rigorously on a case by case basis. The involved officer must be able to articulate clearly the reasons for the use of deadly force. Factors that may be considered include whether the officer's life or the lives of others were in immediate peril and there was no reasonable or apparent means of escape.

AMENDMENT: This Order amends section 1/556.10 of the Department Manual.

AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY: The Commanding Officer, Audit Division, shall review this directive and determine whether an audit or inspection shall be conducted in accordance with Department Manual Section 0/080.30.



CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

DISTRIBUTION "D"

Communication from Public

Name: Jonathan

Date Submitted: 03/18/2020 07:10 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am a police officer for lapd. I have see first hand the importance of our park rangers being armed. They are expected to perform the same duties as a police officer without the ability to utilize lethal force if necessary. I have heard countless incidents where park rangers lives were at risk and they were expected to deescalate the situation by using the only tool available, which are ineffective when a ranger has to utilize lethal force to save his or a member of the public's life. It is careless and regretful how our park rangers are not armed. Rangers are expected to make arrests, detentions, respond to radio calls, etc... and through all this they can and have encountered unpredictable situations just like the ones I encounter on a daily basis. I think it is absolutely absurd that park rangers are sent to the same academy as police officers, go through the same training, train with the same firearms, yet have to turn in their firearms after academy, absurd! LAPD Special Order #5! Make this right and arm our rangers!