



# Haverford Township Police Department

## Ban Chokeholds & Strangleholds

The use of neck restraint techniques or similar control techniques shall not be used by officers. The use of neck restraint techniques are not a permitted method of restraint except in circumstances of extreme urgency. I.E.- Officers are in a life or death confrontation with a suspect

## Require De-Escalation

De-escalation has been a guiding principle at the Haverford Township Police Department's response to resistance training for years. HTPD officers will assess options, utilize de-escalation techniques and will only apply force that is objectivity reasonable to effectively bring an incident under control while protecting the officers and others. The use of force will be in accordance with the Haverford Township Police Department's training.

## Require Warning Before Shooting

Unfortunately deadly force incidents can unfold very rapidly and may require split- second reactions that would prohibit the practicality of verbal warnings. The Haverford Township Police Department Use of Force Policy states that if feasible an officer should give a verbal warning before using or attempting to use deadly force.

## Exhaust All Other Means Before Shooting

It is the policy of the Haverford Township Police Department that police officers shall only utilize the force necessary to affect lawful objectives in conformance to the provisions of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code (Title 18 Pa. C.S.A), other Pennsylvania statutory provisions, and applicable Pennsylvania and Federal Court decisions. Unreasonable force is prohibited. It's neither practical nor safe to require attempts at force options that are likely to be ineffective in cases when officers or other parties face an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death.

## Duty to Intervene

The Haverford Township Police Department recognizes and respects the value and special integrity of each human life. In vesting police officers with the lawful authority to use force to protect the public welfare, a careful balancing of all human interests is required. The Haverford Township Police Department's commitment to protection of all persons regardless of race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, height, weight, physical or mental ability, veteran status, military obligations, and/or marital status. The Haverford Township Police Department recognizes the moral and legal obligation endowed upon them concerning the welfare of an individual's life and liberty, that not only requires, but demands that an officer(s) take action to prevent or stop any member of the Department or another Law Enforcement Agency Officer from conducting, completing, or continuing any act that violates law, policy, is unethical, or fails to act such as render aid (medical or otherwise) which may harm another person or property.



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## Ban Shooting At Moving Vehicles

Haverford Township Officers Police officers will not discharge a firearm at, or from a moving vehicle except as a last resort to prevent imminent death or serious bodily injury to the officer or another. Safety to the public is paramount. An officer threatened by an oncoming vehicle must use every reasonable effort to move out of the path of the vehicle.

## Require Use Of Force Continuum

Officers receive extensive de-escalation training and are taught to only use the amount of force that is reasonably necessary in response to the perceived threat.

## Required Comprehensive Reporting

All use of force incidents are required to be reported, documented and a reviewed by a chain of supervisors to determine that if the force used was proper and necessary.

*The mission of the Haverford Township Police Department is to improve the quality of life throughout the Township by providing a secure community environment through the delivery of police services in an efficient and effective manner.*

*We, the Haverford Township Police Department, are dedicated to protecting all persons, and fostering a positive relationship of cooperation and understanding between the Police Department and the citizens of Haverford Township.*