




COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

"Policing Excellence through Community Partnerships"

Directive Type: Special Order	Effective Date: 02-25-2021	Order Number: 2021-01
Subject: Force Review Board		
Amends/Supersedes: Section 02 Chapter 06 Internal Affairs 2016, section 9.0	Chief of Police: 	
Distribution: All Personnel	Review Date: July 1	# of Pages: 2

This special order is effective upon receipt and is binding on all personnel.

9.0 PURPOSE

The Columbia Police Department employs a variety of administrative review mechanisms for use of force incidents. The Force Review Board (FRB) will evaluate all aspects of use of force incidents including: policy, equipment, training, supervision and officer actions, including actions leading up to the use of force. The reviews are intended to achieve a comprehensive understanding of each use of force incident in order to improve police services, provide an additional forum for department accountability, and increase public trust.

9.1 Specific Procedures

The Force Review Board (FRB) will convene on a monthly basis to conduct administrative reviews of all use of force incidents involving Columbia Police Department officers. The FRB will be charged with the following:

- Ensure correct application of laws and ordinances
- Review and evaluate all pertinent facts and information
- Review all applicable policies, procedures and directives for adequacy, completeness and relevancy
- Ensure that training is adequate and identify areas for improvement
- Review all patrol and investigative methods
- Review and assess whether actions taken followed sound decision making and tactics
- Review communication and de-escalation efforts
- Review of supervision

- Other issues that played a role in the incident

9.2 Force Review Board Report

At the conclusion of the review of each incident and after considering all relevant facts and circumstances, the FRB will produce a written report with findings and recommendations, utilizing the following categories:

- Within Department Policy: The officer's actions/use of force were consistent with department policy.
- Miscellaneous Policy Violation: The officer's use of force in the incident were found to be consistent with department policy. However, FRB identified a separate policy violation. In cases where the FRB finds policy violation (s) unrelated to the use of force under review, the matter will be referred back to the Office of Professional Standards for investigation, findings, or closure recommendations as appropriate.
- Tactical/Training Opportunity Received: The officer's actions/use of force were consistent with department policy, but revealed tactical errors that could be addressed through non-disciplinary supplementary training.
- Not Within Department Policy: The officer's actions/use of force were not consistent with department policy. This finding may be used regardless of a prosecuting authority's finding of justification.

The findings of the FRB will be forwarded back to the command where the use of force originated for disposition and further action if indicated. All findings, recommendations and actions will be included in the CPD Internal Affairs Annual Report.

9.3 Force Review Board Structure

The Commander, Office of Professional Standards (OPS), will be charged with convening and facilitating a monthly FRB meeting. The FRB will consist of the following members:

- Chief of Police or Deputy Chief of Police (Chairperson)
- Office of Professional Standards Commander (Vice Chairman)
- One (1) Major
- One (1) Training Division Commander
- Two (2) Captains
- One (1) Police Advisor
- One (1) Sergeant
- One (1) Corporal