

## **Use of Force Committee Meeting**

### **January 14, 2020**

Prepared by Jake Hansell, Training Coordinator

**Members Present:** Sergeant Michael Akerlind, Colchester PD; Wade Johnson, VT DOC; Trooper Paul Sokolowski, Vermont State Police; Corporal Randy Lopes, Burlington PD; Sergeant Eugene Duplissis, Vermont State Police; Chief Matt Murano, Wilmington PD; Warden Robert Currier, Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife; Chief Robbie Blish, Woodstock PD.

**Members Absent:** Lieutenant Russ Shopland, Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife; Corporal Jason Williams, Rutland City PD; Lieutenant Eugene Cote, Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles.

**Academy Representatives:** Director of Training Cindy Taylor-Patch, Director of Administration Drew Bloom, Training Coordinator Jacob Hansell, Canine Training Coordinator Robert Ryan, Administrative Services Coordinator Gail Williams, and VSP Canine trainer Richard Slusser.

**Meeting called to order: 10:19 am**

#### **New Business**

- **Consideration of canine in the Use of Force (UOF) Training Dashboard**
  - Canine Training Coordinator Robert Ryan requests the use of canines to be added UOF Dashboard. Drew Bloom stated his opinion that it be added to the “active resistance” and “assaultive aggression” sections. After discussion, it was agreed that adding it to both sections is appropriate and canine training will be adjusted to incorporate this concept.
    - **No action needed.**

#### **Old Business**

- **Approval of the 16 October 2019 meeting Minutes**
  - Motion to accept the minutes as is was made by Trooper Sokolowski; seconded by Chief Blish.
    - **Motion passed unanimously**



- **Patrol Rifle Course report**
  - Committee discussed the proposed Patrol Rifle Instructor curriculum. References will be added. Talk of concerns to the zeroing section re: recommended 50-yard zeroing, and the need to make it clear other yardages will work. Committee members will bring suggested changes on this issue to the next meeting.
  - The next firearms instructor class will be in September with the patrol rifle instructor training included. A stand-alone patrol rifle instructor training may be held in the spring for those who are already certified Firearms Instructors.
  
- **Negligent Discharge Protocol**
  - The FBI's protocol includes removing the person from the range until any injury is documented, investigation is complete, and the person successfully passes a safety test and has completed remediation.
  - Members discussed the definition of negligent discharge and categorizing negligent discharge by category A and category B, depending on the placement of the discharge and the increased risk of injury.
    - **Training guidelines will be written before week 9 of the incoming Basic Training Class.**
  
- **Updated Firearms Qualification**
  - Feedback was solicited regarding the proposed updated pistol qualification course.
  - Discussion occurred around the motivation to change the firearms qualification course was based on both creating new and updating current testing. The requirement to download magazines in the draft edited to make clear it is not a requirement.
    - Motion to approve was made by Warden Currier, seconded by Cpl. Lopes. Seven in favor and one abstention. Motion passed.
  
- **Next Meeting Date Selected**
  - Training Coordinator Jacob Hansell will send out a doodle poll to set the next meeting date in April.
  - 1030 will be the standard meeting time for all future meetings.

**Meeting Adjourned: 11:23**

