

**INDIVIDUAL'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR ARMED
SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL REGARDING THE USE OF FORCE**

Rank _____ First Name _____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____

EDIPI _____ Billet _____

Reference MCO 5500.6H

1. Inherent Right of Self-Defense. Unit commanders always retain the inherent right and obligation to exercise unit self-defense in response to a hostile act or demonstrated hostile intent. Unless otherwise directed by a unit commander as detailed below, I may:

_____ (int.) a. Exercise individual self-defense in response to a hostile act or demonstrated hostile intent.

_____ (int.) b. However, I understand that when I am assigned and acting as a part of a unit, my individual self-defense should be considered a subset of unit self-defense. As such, my unit commander may limit my individual inherent right of self-defense.

2. De-Escalation and the Use of Non-Deadly Force. I understand that:

_____ (int.) a. When time and circumstances permit, the threatening force should be warned given the opportunity to withdraw or cease threatening actions.

_____ (int.) b. Normally, force is to be used only as a last resort, and the force applied should be the minimum necessary. The use of force must be reasonable in intensity, duration, and magnitude based on the totality of circumstances to counter the threat. If force is required, non-deadly force is authorized and may be used to control a situation and accomplish the mission, or to provide self-defense of DOD forces, defense of non-DOD persons in the vicinity if directly related to the assigned mission, or in defense of the protected property, when doing so is reasonable under the circumstances.

3. The Use of Deadly Force. Deadly force is to be used only when all lesser means have failed or cannot reasonably be employed. Deadly force is authorized under the following circumstances:

_____ (int.) a. When there is reasonable belief that a person(s) poses an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm to DOD person. Self-defense includes defense of other DOD persons in the vicinity.

_____ (int.) b. In defense of non-DOD persons in the vicinity when directly related to the assigned activity or mission.

_____ (int.) c. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the actual theft or sabotage of assets vital to national security.

_____ (int.) d. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the actual theft of sabotage of inherently dangerous property.

_____ (int.) e. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the sabotage of national critical infrastructure. For the purposes of DOD operations, "national critical infrastructure" is defined as President-designated public utilities, or similar critical infrastructure, vital to public health or safety, the damage to which the President determines would create an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm.

4. Additional Uses of Deadly Force. When directly related to the assigned mission, deadly force is authorized under the following circumstances:

_____ (int.) a. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to arrest or prevent a suspect from committing a felony offense that could cause serious bodily harm or death to others.

_____ (int.) b. When deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the escape of a prisoner, provided there is probable cause to believe that there is an imminent threat that they will commit bodily harm or death to others.

5. Additional Specific Instructions

- _____ (int.) a. I am prohibited from using a privately owned firearm or ammunition while on duty.
- _____ (int.) b. I am prohibited from firing warning shots.
- _____ (int.) c. I will remove my pistol from my holster only when:
- _____ (int.) (1) The use of deadly force is imminent, or to the affect the apprehension of a suspect I believe to be armed or dangerous, or to gain control of a dangerous situation.
- _____ (int.) (2) Ordered to do so by a competent authority.
- _____ (int.) (3) Returning it to storage.
- _____ (int.) (4) Cleaning it in an authorized area.
- _____ (int.) d. I will show due regard for the safety of innocent bystanders when using force.
- _____ (int.) e. During training exercises and testing, I will check my firearm and have it double checked by another person, to ensure that no live rounds are in the weapon and that there is no magazine inserted in the weapon.

6. Weapons Handling and Procedures

- _____ (int.) a. If I chamber a round in a rifle or shotgun, or remove my pistol from its holster, proper notifications will be made and a Statement of Force form will be completed.
- _____ (int.) b. When clearing a firearm, I will follow current policies and procedures pertaining to firearms handling, clearing, and safety.
- _____ (int.) (1) No weapon will be cleared without a supervisor (Watch Commander or above) present and clearing will be accomplished only in the designated area (i.e., clearing barrel).
- _____ (int.) (2) When drawing a weapon from the armory/arms room, rounds will be drawn only after ensuring the weapon is clear.
- _____ (int.) (3) Prior to returning a weapon and its ammunition to the armory/arms room, the weapon will be cleared, and all rounds will be properly accounted for.

7. Acknowledgements

- _____ (int.) a. I will comply with these principles when using nonlethal weapons or techniques in such a manner that could cause death or serious bodily harm.
- _____ (int.) b. I have been informed of where all Level III restricted areas are located aboard MCB Butler, Okinawa, and I understand that although not required, deadly force is authorized when responding to alarms within these restricted areas.
- _____ (int.) c. I have been instructed on the use of deadly force and acknowledge that I understand and will comply with the basic rules for the use of force and weapons safety.
- _____ (int.) d. I will report any violation of these policies or procedures immediately to the proper authority.
- _____ (int.) e. I acknowledge that failure to comply with the basic rules for the use of force and weapons safety may result in administrative, disciplinary, and/or criminal penalties.

Signature _____ Date _____