Sheepdog Defense Group

Use of Force Policy

Employees of SDG will follow a policy of minimal force needed to effect compliance of any unruly person. We will in most cases not make any contact with persons unless it is necessary to keep peace or safety for those we protect. If we must use force, we will follow the following use of force ladder.

Command presence-Professional appearance, badge, and well-kept appearance.

Verbal command-Clear and loud commands made to gain voluntary compliance.

Soft weaponless strategies-These include body force such as escorts, strikes, kicks, arm-bar takedown, bar hammer takedown or any weaponless force used to gain compliance.

Hard weapon strategies-Use of impact (ASP) weapon, pepper spray, TAZER or other intermediate less lethal weapon. The employee must be trained on any weapon prior to carrying them.

Deadly force-Any force known by the actor to cause death or serious bodily injury. Any employee is authorized to use any method to protect themselves or others if they fear death for themselves or those they protect.

Detention and Arrest

Guards are authorized to use force to make a detention if they have cause to believe that a crime has occurred and further investigation is needed (reasonable suspicion). Guards may Terry frisk for weapons only once a suspect is detained. Handcuffs may be used if deemed necessary for the safety of anyone.

If probable cause is met that a crime has occurred then a guard may make an arrest and call local law enforcement for transport to jail or a magistrate. Guards will follow the directions of law enforcement once they are on scene.

Notification to SDG

Notification to SDG is needed for any incident using hard weapon strategies or deadly force or if an arrest is made. Also notify if medical attention is called for any person in a conflict.

Possible discipline

Conforming to SDG's use of force policy is non-negotiable. Anyone found in violation of SDG policy will be de-commissioned or relieved of service. It is important to not only yourself, but also the other Sheepdogs that we maintain our standards and professionalism.