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Summer  
2020

Interim Chief Tony Zucaro Community Engagement Chronicles - Your Source for Crime Prevention Information!



## Community Engagement Unit



The Virginia Beach Police Department has received inquiries related to the campaign **#8CANTWAIT**. Our response to eight of the mentioned policies, as are listed in our Operational General Order 5.01/Use of Force, are included within this newsletter.

For more information regarding our policies and field guides go to:  
<https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/police/Pages/PoliciesAndFieldGuides.aspx>

The following are excerpts from our General Order/5.01 Use of Force:

**Objectively Reasonable Force** - The legal standard used to determine the lawfulness of a use of force is the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution. See *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989). *Graham* states in part, "The reasonableness of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight. The force must be reasonable under the circumstances known to the officer at the time the force was used.

**Serious Bodily Injury** - Maiming, disfiguring, or disabling.

**Deadly Force** - Any use of force that is reasonably likely to cause death.



**De-escalation** - Taking action or communicating verbally or non-verbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options, and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation without the use of force or with a reduction in the force necessary. De-escalation may include the use of such techniques as command presence, advisements, warnings, verbal persuasion, and tactical repositioning.

Clearly, not every potential violent confrontation can be de-escalated, but officers have the ability to impact the direction and the outcome of many situations they encounter, based on their decision-making and the tactics that they choose to employ. When reasonable and considering the totality of circumstances, an officer shall use de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to higher levels of force consistent with his or her training whenever possible and appropriate before resorting to force and to reduce the need for force. Whenever possible and when such delay will not compromise the safety of the officer or another and will not result in the destruction of evidence, escape of a suspect, or commission of a crime, an officer shall allow an individual time and opportunity to submit to verbal commands before force is used.

REQUIRES EXHAUST  
ALL ALTERNATIVES  
BEFORE SHOOTING



In determining the appropriate level of force, officers shall evaluate each situation in light of facts and circumstances of each particular case. Those factors may include, but are not limited to:

- The severity of the crime at issue
- The level of threat or resistance presented by the subject
- Whether the subject was posing an immediate threat to officers or danger to the community
- The potential for injury to citizens, officers, or subjects
- The risk or apparent attempt by the subject to escape
- The conduct of the subject being confronted
- The time available to an officer to make a decision
- The availability of other resources
- The training and experience of the officer
- The proximity or access of weapons to the subject
- Officer versus subject factors such as age, size, relative strength, skill level, injury/exhaustion and number officers versus subjects
- The environmental factors and/or other exigent circumstances



ESTABLISH USE OF  
FORCE CONTINUUM

### Deadly Force (CALEA 4.1.2, 4.1.3)

An officer may employ deadly force when the officer has a reasonable belief that his/her life or that of another is in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury based on the totality of the circumstances known to the officer at the time he/she employs the deadly force. When feasible, a verbal warning such as "Police, stop or I'll shoot," should be utilized.

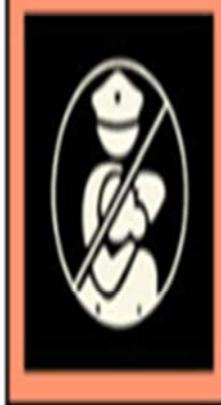
REQUIRE  
WARNING BEFORE  
SHOOTING



The use of deadly force cannot be used solely to prevent the escape of an unarmed felon or suspected felon. Deadly force may be used to prevent escape when the officer has a reasonable belief that the suspect poses a significant threat of death or serious physical injury to the officer or others.

Chokeholds are not authorized unless the use of deadly force is appropriate. This includes holds that slow/stop the flow of blood to the brain via the carotid arteries (carotid restraint, lateral vascular neck restraint) or pressure to the throat or windpipe, which may prevent or hinder breathing or reduce the intake of air.

BAN CHOKEHOLDS  
& STRANGLEHOLDS



Firing warning shots from a weapon is prohibited.

Officers may aim or point their firearm when there is a reasonable belief of a threat to the safety of the officer or other person(s). In all cases the officer must be prepared to provide an explanation of the incident. The officer shall submit a Use of Force report via the chain of command to the Commanding Officer of the Office of Internal Affairs.

### Firing Weapons at a Moving Vehicle

Shooting at a moving vehicle is generally dangerous to both officers and others. Additionally, shooting at a moving vehicle is generally ineffective. The substantial risks generated by the use of gunfire against moving vehicles, in combination with the likelihood that such gunfire will fail to achieve its goal, demand that officers resort to firing only in the most extreme and exceptional circumstances.

Firing a weapon at a moving vehicle is prohibited, except when the officer reasonably believes that:



BAN SHOOTING AT  
MOVING VEHICLES

concerning the department's policies on use of force, firearms, and authorized ammunition.

### Use of Force Reporting (CALEA 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.4, 82.3.5)

Officers will make immediate verbal notification to their supervisor whenever force is used in the performance of an official police duty, or when exercising their law enforcement authority. This applies to all force, weapons, less than lethal or weaponless physical force. Such notification is required whether the officer is on or off duty. In situations where an officer takes action that involves the use of force in another jurisdiction, the officer will immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency in that jurisdiction and contact an on-duty supervisor in this department as soon as practical.



Officers will submit a Use of Force report to their supervisor to be forwarded through the appropriate chain of command to Internal Affairs. The Use of Force report will be completed by all sworn personnel under the following circumstances:

1. Uses hands-on or greater physical force to seize, control, or repel any individual that demonstrates non-compliant behavior or is perceived by the officer to otherwise pose a threat or harm to himself or others;
2. Applies force through the use of a less lethal weapon;
3. Any action, other than the use of a firearm, that results in, or is alleged to have resulted in an injury.
4. When an officer(s) point their weapon at others. In situations such as a hostage situation, a drug raid, or when more than one officer would have his weapon pointed at an individual, the on-scene supervisor will complete a single Use of Force report documenting the incident.
5. Animal Euthanasia



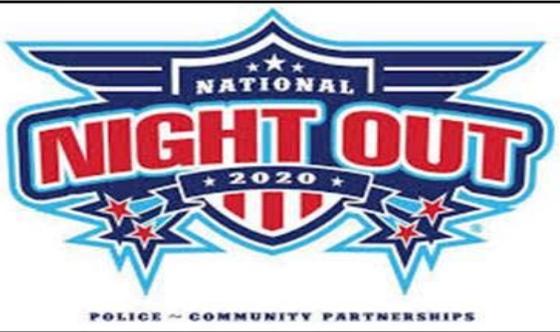
### Intervention

Departmental supervisors, and departmental members in the absence of a supervisor, shall immediately intervene if they reasonably believe another department member or members are using force that is not objectively reasonable or is inconsistent with this policy. In addition, all members witnessing such an incident shall immediately notify his/her supervisor and follow up with a memorandum. An internal investigation by Internal Affairs after such a reported incident will ensue.

**While racial tension and trauma is difficult to speak about, it is something that must be done to help understand and heal each other. Here are 11 questions to check your inner experience prior to talking about race:**

1. What old traumas or wounds have been activated? Acknowledge and take care of them. You don't have to be trauma-free before you have a difficult conversation, but you do want to enter with clarity and stability.
2. How is your view influenced by your racial group identity? For example, is your upset inflamed by your dominant or subordinated group membership?
3. Is your grievance addressing the individual, group, or institutional level? Clarify your voice.
4. What characteristics can you acknowledge as good or neutral? Can you see aspects of yourself, past or present, in this person or situation?
5. What thoughts, emotions, or beliefs do you overly identify with?
6. Are you taking this disturbance personally? Is that absolutely true?
7. Do you believe this situation has always been or will always be this way? Is that absolutely true?
8. Do you believe this situation should be other than it actually is right now? Is that possible?
9. Do you feel clear enough to confront this disturbance without causing harm to others or yourself?
10. What is your intention - do you want to be right, to better understand, to bridge separation, to reach agreement, or something else? Be clear about your intention without being attached to the outcome.
11. Are you open to learning?

*Adapted from [Mindful of Race: Transforming Racism from the Inside Out](#) by Ruth King.  
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National Night Out enhances relationships between neighbors and law enforcement, while bringing back a true sense of community.

Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Select areas throughout the nation will celebrate the first Tuesday in October.

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), national sponsors of NNO, has strongly recommended that all National Night Out 2020 areas celebrate on Tuesday, October 6, 2020.*

Neighborhoods throughout Virginia Beach will join forces along with thousands of communities nationwide for this annual event on October 6th. This year's National Night Out is expected to involve over 38 million people in over 15,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide.

National Night Out is held annually to:

- ◆ Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- ◆ Generate support and participation in local anti-crime efforts;
- ◆ Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community relations; and,
- ◆ Send a message to criminals letting them know local communities are organized and are fighting back.

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, cities, towns and neighborhoods celebrate NNO with a variety of events and activities, such as cookouts, visits from local police and other first responders, parades, flashlight walks, contests and youth programs. NNO has proven to be an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote your neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in our fight for a safer nation. Plus, the benefits your community will derive from NNO will most certainly extend well beyond the one night.

An online fillable information form for 2020 NNO events will be available on the VBPD Community Engagement Unit webpage very soon.

For more information please contact program coordinator:  
MPO Jim McElligott (757-385-1330; [jmcellig@vbgov.com](mailto:jmcellig@vbgov.com))



## 100 Deadliest Days

Did you know, the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day is referred to as the “**100 Deadliest Days**” for teen drivers?

Since 2010, the “*100 Deadliest Days*” has claimed the lives of over 1,000 people each year in crashes involving teen drivers. Studies show that during this time period, teenagers are driving more frequently on unfamiliar roads and are carrying multiple passengers. Many parents and teens don’t realize that passengers are very distracting and increase the risk of a teen driver having a fatal crash by 44%.

Remember, if you are under the age of 18, you may carry only one passenger under age 21, unless accompanied by a licensed parent or other adult acting in place of a parent, in the front passenger seat. However, after you have held your license for one year, you may carry up to three passengers under age 21 in the following situations:

- Travel to and from a school-sponsored activity;
- A licensed driver 21 or older is in the front passenger seat; or in case of an emergency.

The Virginia Beach Police Department wants you to talk with your teenagers about the dangers of driving and ensure that everyone **Arrives Alive!**

**Slow Down!** 29% of all fatal crashes involving a teen driver are speed related.

**Make a Driving Agreement!** Make an agreement with your teen driver that sets rules and boundaries. Consider making these rules stronger than state laws. Ensure there are consequences in place for violating these rules.

**Don't Drive After Drinking!** Every 51 minutes, someone in the United States dies in an alcohol-impaired-driving crash.

**Buckle Up! Every Trip & Every Time!** Everybody aboard must agree to wear their seatbelts when they are riding in or driving your vehicle.



**A**s blazing temperatures linger, it is important to remind parents of the dangers in leaving children unattended in a vehicle. Even though many parents think they would never "forget" their little one in the car, it happens more often than you think.

According to [kidsandcars.org](http://kidsandcars.org), 52 children died in 2018 from vehicular-related heatstroke. That number is 52 too many. Never leave children alone in a vehicle, not even for a minute, as temperatures rise quickly over 100 degrees.

**Tips to ensure your child is never left alone in a car:**

- ◆ Create a habit of checking the back seat each and every time you park.
- ◆ To further enforce this habit, place items you commonly use in the back seat such, as a work badge, laptop, or cell phone.
- ◆ If your childcare provider does not already do so, ask them to notify you right away if your child is absent.

If you see an unattended child in a vehicle, get involved! **Call 911 immediately** and if the child seems to be in distress, get them out as quickly as possible.

## [#LookBeforeYouLock](#)

Share this information with your friends, family, neighbors and babysitters to help save a life!





Crime Solvers Coordinator:

Detective K.M. Fanelli  
Municipal Center | Bldg 11  
2509 Princess Anne Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

[kfanelli@vbgov.com](mailto:kfanelli@vbgov.com)  
(757) 805-2809

The Virginia Beach Crime Solvers program has been active since 1982. Since that time with your help, we have made over **7,500 arrests**, solved over **15,700 crimes**, recovered over **\$32,000** in stolen property and drugs, and paid out over **\$1,200,000** in cash rewards to tipsters!!!

When you provide us with information you remain **100% anonymous**. We don't even know who you are. You receive a Tip ID# and that is how we identify you for your cash reward when the time comes. **Our phones DO NOT have Caller ID.**

You **WILL NOT have to appear in court.**

In order to claim a reward a conviction is not needed, only an arrest as a result of your tip. Your tip information is protected by law, and is not accessible under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)!!!

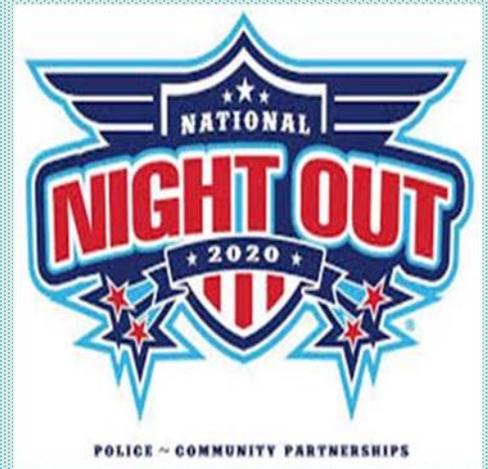
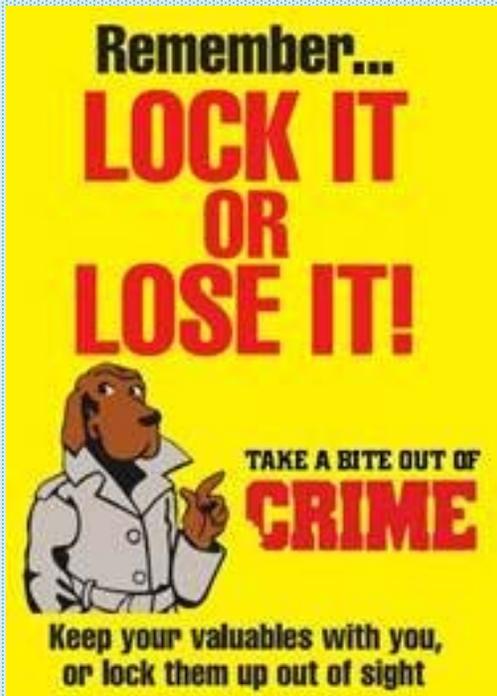
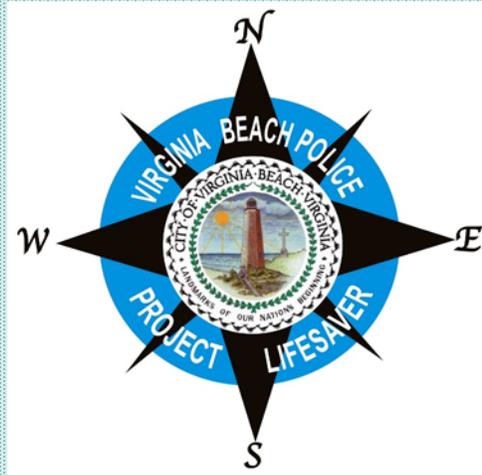
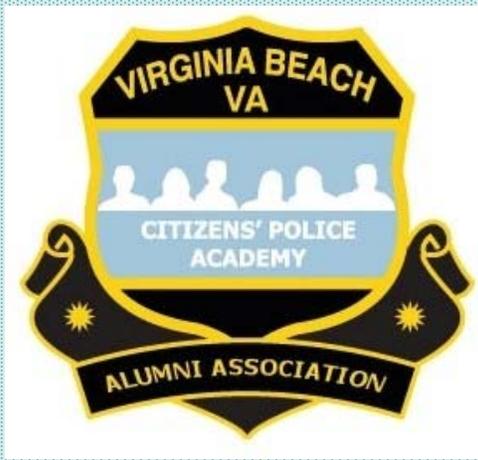
***A tip that results in an arrest may be worth up to \$1,000 cash!!!***

## 3 Ways to Provide a Tip:

1. Use the P3 Tips App on your device or at [www.P3tips.com](http://www.P3tips.com).
2. Visit [www.crimesolvers.com](http://www.crimesolvers.com) and submit a tip at the provided link.
3. Call the Hotline at 1-888-LOCK-U-UP (1-888-562-5887).

***Let's work together to keep our neighborhoods  
and schools safe for our families!!!***







The City Ordinance does **NOT** provide any exceptions for possession or use of unpermitted fireworks on holidays.



Sec. 12-43.2. - Fireworks and pyrotechnic displays unlawful; exceptions.

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section it shall be unlawful for any person to transport, manufacture, assemble, store, sell, offer or display for sale, or to buy, use, possess, ignite or explode any firecracker, torpedo, sky rocket, sparkler, or other substance or device that contains any explosive or flammable compound or substance, and is intended or commonly known as fireworks, and which explodes, rises into the air or travels laterally, fires projectiles or discharges sparks into the air.
- (b) The provision of this section shall not be applicable to (1) any organization or group of individuals which has been granted a permit by the fire official for the public or private display of fireworks or pyrotechnics, provided that such fireworks are stored, handled, transported and used in compliance with the terms and conditions of such permit; or (2) any federal, state or local government animal or fowl management agency agents acting within the scope of their lawful duties. Such agents shall provide the fire marshal's office with at least twenty-four (24) hours notice of intent to possibly employ pyrotechnic tactics.
- (c) The fire marshal or any law enforcement officer shall be authorized to seize, take, remove or cause to be removed, at the expense of the owner, all fireworks offered or exposed for display or sale, stored or held in violation of this section.
- (d) Violation of any provision of this section shall constitute a Class 1 misdemeanor.

(Ord. No. 2289, 8-23-94; Ord. No. 3084, 5-26-09)

## Upcoming Events!

- July 3-5: Holiday Weekend– No fireworks
- July 18: Safe Assured ID kits at the YMCA  
Camp Grom
- Sep 4-6: Labor Day Weekend
- Sep 8: Back to School
- Sep 26: Religious Institutional Scenario Training
- Oct 6: National Night Out

## CAC Meetings

*All meetings are held at 7pm*

- 1st Precinct: 1st Tuesdays\*  
Municipal Center, Bldg #19  
2424 Courthouse Drive  
(\*Except July & August)
- 2nd Precinct: 2nd Wednesdays\*  
Second Precinct  
820 Virginia Beach Blvd  
(\*Except December)
- 3rd Precinct: 3rd Thursdays\*  
Williams Farm Recreation Center  
5252 Learning Circle  
(\*Except July & December)
- 4th Precinct: 4th Thursdays\*  
Glenwood Community Center  
2097 Round Hill Road  
(\*Except November & December)

## Virginia Beach Business Watch Together We Can Reduce Crime

My friends and I at the Virginia Beach Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit are excited to help you learn how you can reduce the opportunity for crime to strike you or your business. Watch for our advice and events to learn more each month. This month I would like to invite you to call now and sign up for Business Watch. We will make you an appointment to do a free security assessment of your business and even teach your staff how to **"Take A Bite Out Of Crime"**.

### Business Watch

**office: 757-385-1006**

**desk: 757-385-1371**

**fax: 757-385-1064**

**email: [vbbusinesswatch@vbgov.com](mailto:vbbusinesswatch@vbgov.com)**



**For Additional Information Contact:**

**VBPD / Community Engagement Unit**

**2441 Princess Anne Road | Bldg #15**

**Virginia Beach, VA 23456 | 757-385-1006**

**[www.vbgov.com/government/departments/police/opsdiv/Pages/ceu.aspx](http://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/police/opsdiv/Pages/ceu.aspx)**



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