

Procedures

- A. Firearms Use (Other than Deadly Force) Permitted
 - 1. Deputies may discharge a firearm:
 - a. To kill a dangerous animal that is jeopardizing the safety of the public or sworn personnel.
 - b. To kill an injured animal, either wild or domestic, if a deputy has consent of the owner or has been requested to do so by a veterinarian (in any case where a reasonable attempt to locate the owner has failed or a veterinarian is not readily available, deputies may use discretion in deciding whether or not to kill the animal to relieve its suffering).
 - c. To give an alarm or to call assistance when no other means is available.
 - d. When used in practice on a firing range.
- B. Carrying and Using a Firearm Outside of Maryland
 - 1. The authority of deputies to carry or use a firearm while on official duty outside of Maryland is governed by the laws of the State where the deputy is on assignment.
 - 2. Deputies intending to carry weapons outside of Maryland on assigned extradition or other official duty are responsible for determining beforehand the pertinent law of those States in which they expect to travel.
 - 3. The Operations Commander will assist the deputy in determining the legality of carrying weapons while on official business outside the State of Maryland.
- C. Firearm Use Prohibited
 - 1. Deputies shall not discharge a firearm:
 - a. As a warning.
 - b. In any attempt to apprehend a misdemeanor.
 - c. At or from a moving vehicle except:
 - (1) As a measure of self-defense or defense of another when the suspect is using potentially deadly force other than the vehicle.
 - (2) When all conditions regarding a fleeing felon, as delineated in Chapter 3 Use of Force, are present.
 - (3) When a vehicle is driven in a manner deliberately intended to kill or severely injure sworn personnel or citizens who are on foot.

2. Under no circumstances will deputies display a firearm in a flagrant manner, or in any manner, which is unsafe or would invite unfavorable comment from the public.
3. Deputies must reasonably anticipate a situation justifying the use of a firearm before removing it from its holster or otherwise displaying it. The use or display of firearms in circumstances other than those described in this section is prohibited.