



**MAYOR ROBERT M. GREEN**

**CITY OF CEDAR FALLS, IOWA**

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**FROM:** Mayor Robert M. Green  
**TO:** Director Jeff Olson, Department of Public Safety Services  
**DATE:** June 8, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** Cedar Falls Police Use of Force Policies Report

**REF:** (a) Sinyangwe, Samuel. Examining the Role of Use of Force Policies in Ending Police Violence (September 20, 2016). <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2841872>

1. During protests nationwide and the Cedar Valley, a key concern has been the use of appropriate force by law enforcement. Research on police use of force statistics, reference (a), has resulted in policy recommendations which are currently under consideration for adoption by police departments across the country.
2. I request that the Department of Public Safety Services provide to me a written report by Monday, June 22, 2020, identifying which of the below policies the Cedar Falls Police already adhere to, and in what manner they have been instituted (written policy, formal training, etc.):
  - a. Require officers to de-escalate situations, when possible, before using force.
  - b. Use a Use of Force Continuum or Matrix that define/limit the types of force and specific weapons that can be used to respond to specific levels of resistance.
  - c. Restrict chokeholds and strangleholds (including carotid restraints) to situations where deadly force is authorized, or prohibiting them altogether.
  - d. Require officers to give a verbal warning, when possible, before using deadly force.
  - e. Prohibit officers from shooting at people in moving vehicles unless the person poses a deadly threat by means other than the vehicle (for example, shooting at people from the vehicle).
  - f. Require officers to exhaust all other reasonable alternatives before resorting to using deadly force.
  - g. Require officers to intervene to stop another officer from using excessive force.
  - h. Require officers to report both uses of force and threats/attempted uses of force (for example, reporting instances where an officer intentionally points a firearm at a civilian).
3. Please provide your written report to me by Monday, June 22, 2020. I anticipate providing this information to the City Council in a near-term Work Session, as part of an ongoing effort to ensure that the Cedar Falls Police's use of force policies are in keeping with community expectations.
4. Please contact me with any questions or if additional guidance would be helpful to your effort.

XC: City Council  
City Administrator