CORE VALUES

Community policing is the foundation for creating a safe, thriving community.

The relationships we build are the key to success.
De-Escalation
Hemet Police Officers receive training on de-escalation. It begins in the academy, continues through the field training program, and refreshed every two years throughout each officer’s career. HPD Policy 413.6, deals specifically with De-Escalation.

Warning Before Shooting
Officers are trained to communicate during any encounter where use of force is reasonably necessary and before firing their firearm in an effort to gain compliance. HPD Policy 300.4 directs officers to provide a verbal warning, when feasible, prior to using deadly force. This requirement is also codified in California Penal Code 835(a)(B).

Exhaust all Other Means Before Shooting
We train our officers to only use force that is reasonably necessary based on an objective assessment of the circumstances. Hemet Police Department policy 300.4 states officers should evaluate the use of other reasonably available resources and techniques when determining whether to use deadly force. This requirement is also captured in California Penal Code 835(a)(2).

Ban Chokeholds and Strangleholds
Chokeholds and stranglehold’s have been banned from use for many years. Any technique used and intended to stop the flow of air into a person’s lungs are NOT permitted. The use of the Carotid Vascular Neck restraint by Hemet Police Officers has been suspended and it is currently under review.

“Our department is committed to our community. We stand together, alongside our citizens, upon a foundation of trust.”
- Chief Eddie Pust

Duty to Intervene
Hemet Police Department Policy 300.2.1 states “Any officer present and observing another officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall, when in a position to do so, intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force.” Additionally, HPD Policy 320.5.7 subjects an officer to disciplinary action if they fail to report excessive force.

Comprehensive Reporting
Officers are required to report all law enforcement actions involving use-of-force. Data regarding all officer involved shootings and use-of-force incidents resulting in great bodily injury are reported to the California Department of Justice annually.

Require a Use of Force Continuum
Hemet Police Officers are trained to make use of force decisions during tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving situations. Our officers are provided various options and tools to use a reasonable amount of force to effect an arrest, prevent an escape, or overcome resistance. Rules related to what force may be used by a Hemet Police Officer and under what circumstances can be found in HPD Policy 300.

Ban Shooting from Moving Vehicles
It has been long recognized in law enforcement that shooting at or from a moving vehicle is rarely effective. HPD Policy 300.4.1 directs officers to move out of the path of moving vehicles, when possible, before shooting. A Hemet Police Officer is only justified in shooting at a moving vehicle when they reasonably perceive that there is no other option to avert the threat or if the occupants of the vehicle are using deadly force, other than the vehicle against the officer.

Visit www.hemetpolice.org to view our online policy manual