

**INYO COUNTY JUVENILE CENTER
POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL**

TOPIC: USE OF FORCE	POLICY AND PROCEDURE NO. 15
ORIGINATED:	
REVISED: SEPTEMBER 2001	PAGE 1 OF 2
TITLE 15	SECTION 1357

Purpose:

To establish guidelines for the use of force within the facility.

Use of Force:

- A. "Force is the exertion of strength, weight, or power used to overcome resistance and/or prevent a minor, who comes within the provisions of the California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Section 1357, from hurting themselves or others.
- B. Use of force is prohibited except the amount that is necessary to effectively control a minor who is displaying behavior which results in destruction to property or reveals an intent to cause physical harm to themselves or others.
Force will only be used when lesser means of intervention are inappropriate.
- C. No physical force is to be used except as stated in paragraph "B" above. Any employee who observes another employee violate the above policy shall immediately take an affirmative action to stop the inappropriate use of force and report the incident to the Shift Supervisor, Director of Juvenile Center or the Chief Probation Officer.
- D. When physical force is necessary, medical and mental health staff shall be notified so they can evaluate the minor.
- E. Any time physical force is used, an "Incident Report" shall be completed, before the employee leaves the Center, and copies shall be forwarded to the Director. The report should include the following:
 - 1. Nature of the Incident.
 - 2. Attempts to counsel the minor, when appropriate.
 - 3. Verbal commands given to minor.

4. Consequences explained to minor, when appropriate.
5. Soft compliance techniques, if used.
6. Reason force was needed.
7. Tactics used.
8. Injuries or medical treatment needed as a result of the incident.
9. Recommendations for discipline or other actions.

F. Staff shall participate in "defensive tactics" training approved of and provided by the department. Staff shall utilize **only** those methods for managing assaultive behavior that are approved by the department. Approved methods of force may include:

1. O.C. Pepper Spray
2. Wrist lock.
3. Hair pull take down.
4. Leg sweep take down.
5. Pressure point control hold.

The use of choke holds is strictly prohibited. All violations of this policy will be thoroughly investigated by the department and appropriate administrative actions shall be taken.