



CORRECTIONAL PEACE OFFICER  
STANDARDS AND TRAINING

# GENERAL STANDARD 007

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### USE OF AUTHORITY

#### STANDARD

All Correctional Peace Officers shall be trained and knowledgeable in CDCR policies and procedures as it relates to their authority level in performing their duties. They must be trained and knowledgeable in effective communication while carrying themselves professionally. They must have the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) to recognize developing situations and apply communication and de-escalation techniques in resolving those matters without force when possible. They must have the KSAs to use force, within their authority, should the situation call for it.

#### COMPONENTS

All Correctional Peace Officers shall be trained in the following:

1. Ethical decision making.
2. Situational awareness.
3. Effective communication and de-escalation techniques.
4. The KSAs regarding the use of force option available to their job classification and how to properly use it in the performance of their duties.
5. Self-defense and the defense of other persons.

#### AUTHORITY

California Penal Code 13601 (a)(1)

California Penal Code 13601 (d)

California Penal Code 13603 (b)

## **BACKGROUND**

The primary mission of Correctional Peace Officers is to provide public safety through safe and secure incarceration of incarcerated persons, effective parole supervision, and rehabilitative strategies to successfully reintegrate incarcerated persons back into our communities.

Inherent to this authority of public protection, either by means of maintaining security within an institution or active supervision of offenders in society, a Correctional Peace Officer must stay vigilant of potential or developing situations, taking steps to prevent or resolve such conflicts with minimal reliance on the use of force. This is accomplished by being constantly aware of their surroundings, exercising safe practices, applying discretion and ethical decision making in all courses of action, and communicating effectively with persons of all backgrounds. Some situations will require the use of force to maintain or restore order and security or for the protection of themselves or others. This force must be used in compliance with the laws and policies governing the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Each Correctional Peace Officer must have the knowledge of how and when to use force, as well as the skill and ability to effectively utilize force. Only a well-trained Correctional Peace Officer can perform at this level.

## **REFERENCES AND CITATIONS**

California Penal Code 830.2 and 830.5

California Code of Regulations, Title 15, 3291, Employee Peace Officer and Law Enforcement Personnel.

California Code of Regulations, Title 15, 3268, Use of Force

CPOST Standard for Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (GS001)

CPOST Standard for Core Subjects (GS0026) CPOST Standard for Use of Force (CO002, PA001)