



# Minneapolis Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual

Number:  
5-300

## Volume Five – Code of Conduct and Use of Force

### Use of Force

#### 5-311 Control Option- Canines

(xx/xx/24)

Revisions to prior policies: (09/08/20) (01/01/23)

##### I. Purpose

This policy is intended to recognize and respect the sanctity of life and value of all human life, and to expand on the requirements of other force policies, specifically related to canines.

##### II. Definitions

**Apprehension:** When a police canine physically engages a suspect in an effort to take them into custody.

##### III. Policy

###### A. Conditions for Use

###### 1. Objectively reasonable, necessary and proportional

Canine apprehensions may only be used when objectively reasonable, necessary and proportional, in order to provide for the safety of an officer or a third person, stop an attack, make an arrest, bring a person or situation safely under control, or prevent escape (as described in P&P 5-301). Officers are reminded that they shall use the lowest degree of force necessary (P&P 5-301).

When using canine apprehensions, officers must continually assess the situation and modulate their use of force accordingly as the level of resistance changes.

###### 2. Deploying canines

Canines shall only be deployed in accordance with P&P 7-807 Authorized Use of Canines.

###### B. Disengaging

When canines are used for apprehensions, handlers shall disengage their canines as soon as reasonably possible after the subject is able to be controlled or secured.

### **C. Treatment and Medical Aid**

1. Officers are responsible for ensuring any person injured by an MPD canine receives medical treatment as soon as reasonably possible (P&P 5-301 and P&P 7-350).
2. Officers shall request an ambulance to the scene whenever a person is apprehended by a canine.

### **D. Notifications**

1. The canine handler shall notify the Canine Sergeants immediately after any canine apprehension or accidental bite.
2. Officers will be debriefed by Canine unit supervisors and trainers as soon as possible following notification.
3. If a Canine Sergeant is not available, another MPD sergeant may be asked to do the force review (in accordance with P&P 5-303).

### **E. Documentation**

The following steps are in addition to the documentation requirements in P&P 5-302 and P&P 5-303:

1. Canine handlers shall photograph all injuries and ensure the images are uploaded in accordance with P&P 10-400.
2. Upon notification of a bite or apprehension, a Canine Sergeant shall complete the K-9 Unit Apprehension Review form (MP-9090) and will send it electronically to the members of the review panel.