



Minneapolis Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual

Number:
8-100

Volume Eight - Juveniles – Policies and Procedures

Juvenile Administrative Procedures and Search and Seizure

8-111 Juveniles and Use of Force

(xx/xx/23)

A. De-escalation

In accordance with P&P 7-809 and P&P 5-301:

1. When feasible, officers shall employ developmentally appropriate and trauma-informed de-escalation and communication tactics with juveniles including, but not limited to:
 - Using a calm and measured tone, and a neutral demeanor
 - Using simple and concrete language and direct phrases
 - Avoiding threatening language
2. Officers may use repetition in a clear voice in order to reinforce instructions. When appropriate, officers will allow time for the juvenile to comply with instructions.
3. Officers shall not use threats and intimidation to gain compliance from juveniles.
4. As with any encounter, officers are expected to continually assess the situation, employ de-escalation techniques, and seek peaceful resolutions during incidents involving juveniles.
 - a. Officers shall also account for any fear-based reactions juveniles may experience during an encounter which may manifest as aggression, defensiveness, defiance, or flight.
 - b. Officer presence may be intimidating and threatening to juveniles, therefore, officers should approach calmly and respectfully in a non-confrontational manner while avoiding physical contact, if possible, in order to diffuse tension and anxiety while maintaining safety.

B. Individualized Factors

In accordance with P&P 5-301:

1. If force is necessary, officers shall take into account individualized factors of the juvenile including:
 - Apparent age

- Body size
 - Relative strength of the officer relative to the juvenile
 - The juvenile's known or perceived disabilities
 - Risk posed by the juvenile
2. However, officers' assessment of these factors shall not be impacted by the juvenile's race or ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender, gender identity, religion, or the juvenile's status with regard to public assistance.
 3. Officers shall consider whether a juvenile may be noncompliant due to a medical or behavioral health disability, behavioral health crisis, physical or hearing impairment, language barrier, or drug or alcohol use (P&P 7-809).

C. Juveniles Injured By Use of Force

1. In case a juvenile is injured by an officer's use of force, officers shall take immediate steps to provide medical attention (P&P 5-301 and P&P 7-350).
2. Officers shall notify the minor's parent, guardian, or other responsible adult of the injury as soon as feasible.