



Fire and Police Commission

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BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSIONERS TO CONSIDER MODIFYING OR ELIMINATING THE EXCEPTION TO THE BAN ON CHOKEHOLDS BY MEMBERS OF THE MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

At its next regular meeting on Thursday, April 15th at 5:30 p.m., the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners will discuss and consider a resolution to modify or eliminate the deadly force exception to the ban on chokeholds and strangleholds contained in Milwaukee Police Department Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 460 – Use of Force.

Under the current version of SOP 460, members of the police department are prohibited from using chokeholds or strangleholds unless the member reasonably believes it is necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm. Specifically, SOP 460.25(E) states that:

Police members shall not engage in chokeholds, strangleholds, lateral vascular neck restraints, carotid restraints, or any other tactic that restricts oxygen or blood flow to the head or neck unless the member is involved in a deadly force situation and has reasonably exhausted all other options and tactics. Deadly force shall only be used when the officer reasonably believes it is necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm to himself/herself or others. (emphasis added)

The proposed resolution would modify or eliminate this deadly force exception to the ban on chokeholds and strangleholds, potentially banning such tactics under any circumstances.

The Board of Commissioners welcomes public comments at the beginning of each meeting. Those who will not be attending the virtual meeting may email their public comments to fpc@milwaukee.gov. All FPC meeting notices are available on the [City of Milwaukee Legistar System](#).

This will be a virtual meeting that will be conducted via Microsoft Teams. Those wishing to view the proceedings can do so at <http://city.milwaukee.gov/citychannel> and use Live Stream 1. Those wishing to join the meeting for public comment can do so at: <https://bit.ly/3d2sCnQ>.

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