

WOLFEBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

SOP 7.4

Date Issued: 12/27/2019

Review: 03/25/2021

[Note: This written directive is for the internal governance of the Wolfeboro Police Department and, as provided by RSA 516:36, is not intended and should not be interpreted to establish a higher standard of care in any civil or criminal action than would otherwise be applicable under existing law.]

By Order of:
Dean J. Rondeau, Chief of Police

KNIVES

Policy Knives are allowed for the use of general work and for rescue activities. All knives need to be approved by the Chief of Police. While not a primary weapon, under extraordinary circumstances, officers may use a knife to defend their life or the lives of others.

Defensive Use The knife is primarily a cutting tool to assist them in their daily duties and is not intended by this agency to be a primary weapon of defense.
Extraordinary circumstances may dictate that the knife be used as an "immediate measure of defense of life"

Definition *Immediate measure of defense of life* – taking that action using any implement to defend the officer's life or the life of another, with implements or devices not normally intended to be weapons.

Officers are cautioned that while any use of deadly force is a grave undertaking by police, the use of a knife against another human being will be viewed as an extraordinary defensive measure, and should be reserved for those situations justifying this type of action

General Use Shall be carried as unobtrusively as possible.
Shall not be exhibited or handled in a careless manner.
Shall use reasonable care to prevent injury & damage to property.
Shall not be used for any other purpose (i.e.: hammer, screwdriver) other than the purpose of cutting.

SOP 7.4
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Response to
Resistance
Guidelines

Any use is required to comply with the response to resistance orders and Attorney General's guidelines.