


**AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT
DIRECTIVES MANUAL**

05.09	Title: DUTY TO INTERVENE	
	Approved By: Vanessa Wilson, Interim Chief of Police	
	Effective: 06/09/2020	Revised:
	Associated Policy: DM 05.01, DM 05.03, DM 05.04, DM 05.06, DM 05.08	
	References: CRS 18-1-704; CRS 18-1-707; CRS 18-8-802	
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5.9 Duty to Intervene

This directive outlines the obligation that sworn members have in intervening in use of force incidents where they witness a level of force, they believe clearly exceeds that allowed by law. Refer to DM 05.10 Officer Relief for the process of intervening prior to any possible excessive force issues.

5.9.1 Duty to Intervene

Any sworn member who, while acting in his/her official capacity as a law enforcement officer, witnesses another member (regardless of rank or tenure) acting in his/her official capacity, use force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable, and lawful, given the totality of the circumstances shall, when in a position to do so, safely and immediately intervene to prevent and/or discontinue the use of force.

The action required by the officer will depend on the circumstances of the incident. Appropriate action may include, but is not limited to:

- Verbal or physical intervention;
- Immediate notification to a supervisor; and
- A direct order by a supervisor to cease the use of unreasonable force.

Members are reminded that under Directive 5.4.1 as well as C.R.S. 18-8-802 (Reporting Excessive Force), a member who observes another member use force that exceeds the degree of force permitted by law shall also promptly report the incident to a supervisor.