



Why Are We Here!

- People are dying in-custody.
- Officers & Agencies are paying out millions.
- Officers are going to prison.

High Profile/Noteworthy Cases

1. 2014 Eric Garner in New York
2. 2015 Nichols Gilbert St. Louis City Jail – Missouri Supreme Court
3. 2017 Tory Sanders Mississippi County Missouri Jail
4. 2020 George Floyd Minneapolis

HEADLINES

- Facedown and handcuffed is no way to die, yet it keeps happening over and over again.
- Why do people continue to die underneath the elbows, knees and bodies of officers?
- Some moaned. Others moved very little. At least 20 said, "I can't breathe."

A Guide For Manner of Death Classification

Forensic Investigation of Medical Examiners II

- Natural
- Accident
- Suicide
- Homicide
- Undetermined



26. Should there be inspection use of medical equipment without evidence of (professional witness) or sufficient or malfunctioning medical equipment may be observed in the field. When complete use, including all or partial of water during the emergency procedure, causing an individual receiving an injury results in the loss, malfunction of a respiratory drug group, falling or other injury surgery and following inspection and subsequently reporting the "report".

22. Whether there is a scientific consensus of diagnosis or therapeutic procedures and which (or which alternatives) to initiate the results of systematic surveillance and long reported outcomes may be identified as, depending of consensus in these cases to those results is systematically testing a target group in comparison with unselected and 23. understanding if it seems that the established results is a testing facility come into the strong support for a targeted disease and a common cause for the disease.

[illegible]

[15] The fact is, which follows from children's discovery of placement is a generally limited comprehension of the use of both left and right. It is not that children do not understand the difference between left and right, but that they are unable to place the objects.

(H) Results due to continuous hyperflexion or hyperflexion may be classified as **flexion** if there is no stress on full or loose the knee in the use of pivoting or twisting a pivot, in such circumstances a full, applied stress to the knee.

[illegible]

[26] When a person commits a crime by forcing the police to shoot, the death may be described as *homicide* (or 'shoot-off-suicide'). Language with a 'homicide'-based police-to-shoot state may be used. The accuracy of 'suicide' details in such cases must always be noted, and discussion of 'homicide' seems to be the best approach. Fully informed use of 'suicide' or 'suicide attempt' is also consistent with this approach.

its. Deaths also are potentially prevented by law enforcement personnel as to clearly indicate an intent to restrain the subject may be classified as *blatant*. In such cases, death may not be unexpected. But the death results from an inherent functional individual potentially harmful was observed as the decision-making process of course. Further, there is some value in the forensic identification toward reducing the public perception that a "cover-up" is being perpetrated by the death investigation agency.

How Big of a Problem is it?

Since 2010 more than 100 individuals have died in-custody while restrained in the prone position.



Why is Prone Restraint Used?

The initial control and restraint of violent individuals is usually a fluid and dynamic process, which often ends up on the floor. The reasons for this are twofold.

1. Firstly, gravity will of course prevail in fast moving incidents where one's balance is often lost.
2. Secondly, the floor is often the safest place (for all) to achieve control and subsequent restraint of a violent person.

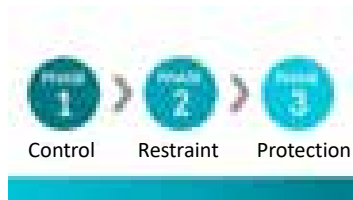


Source: The Chairman of Association of Chief Police Officers Self-Defense, Arrest and Control Working Group 2013



[VIDEO](#)

3 Phases of an Altercation



Is Officer Weight a Factor? – Single Knee



Is Officer Weight a Factor? – Double Knee

PHASE
1
Control



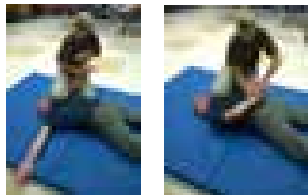
Is Officer Weight a Factor?

Dr. Mark Kroll, PhD, in scientific studies, weights of up to 225 lbs. have been placed on a prone subject's back without causing any clinically significant respiratory impairment.



Is Officer Weight a Factor? – Restraint

PHASE
2
Restraint

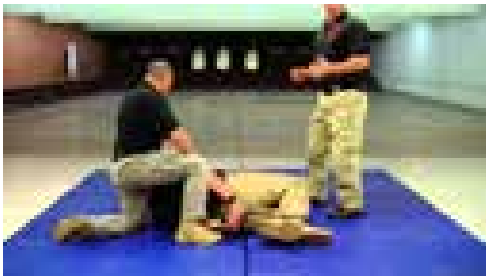


Protection: Keeping Them Safe From Harm





BAD!



GOOD!

Risk Mitigation: What Are We Concerned About?

Mechanical Asphyxiation

- Traumatic
- Positional
- Riot-Crush



Risk Mitigation: Recognizing High Risk Factors

- Violent Struggle
- Obesity, and Medical Conditions
- Alcohol and Drug Intoxication
- Body Position



Talking Does Not Equal Breathing

- **Talking:** Requires air movement past the larynx/voice box in the throat.



- **Respiration:** Requires air movement to and from the alveoli deep in the lungs.

Dangerous Misunderstandings

It is wrong to believe that a small amount of air movement or an occasional breath is enough for adequate respiration
One breath does not necessarily equal adequate breathing
Talking does not necessarily equal adequate breathing
Compliance and death can look similar

The Basic Life Support (BLS) Course

Abnormal Breathing Signs and Symptoms

Signs and symptoms of breathing problems include:

- Rapid breathing
- Slow breathing
- Shallow or irregular breathing
- Noisy breathing
- Flaring nostrils
- Skin color changes and sweating
- Anxious or fearful facial expression
- Restlessness, agitation, and confusion

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Breathing Problems Conscious Person - What to do

When a conscious person complains of or demonstrates breathing problems:

- Do not say thoughtless things. Breathing problems can cause significant anxiety in those with the problem and those nearby. Take care to not express your anxiety in thoughtless words or actions.
- Provide for fresh air and allow for good ventilation.
- Call for EMS if requested or concerned.
- Provide simple acts of reassurance and attempt to calm them.

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Breathing Problems

Unconscious - What to do

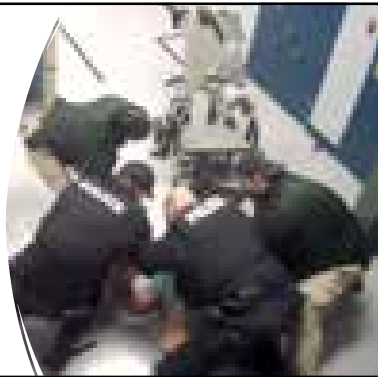
Unconscious or those with a decreased level of consciousness or alertness:

- Request EMS
- Assume an open and clear airway while also protecting the spine of those with possible neck or back injuries
- For those who can be safely rolled onto their side, position their body in the Recovery Position

Don't Rush to get EMS

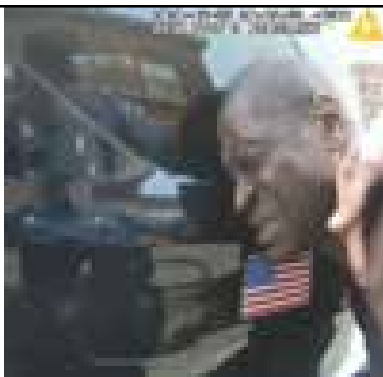
Video 2:51

Tennessee Inmate William
Jenette Dies of Asphyxiation
After 7 Cops Kneel Him to
the Ground



Video 3:01

George Floyd to the Ground



TAKE AWAY

When feasible, officers should avoid the use of prone restraint techniques.

Once the suspect is handcuffed, get them off the face-down position ASAP!

Monitor for signs and symptoms of abnormal breathing.

Obtain medical evaluation and treatment if needed.

Pass on any information about drug or alcohol use and medical conditions to the personnel at the detention facility where the subject will be incarcerated.

Learn and follow department guidelines and policy for situations involving physical restraint of individuals.



ANY
QUESTIONS
?
