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**Section: THREE  
Chapter: THIRTY-SIX**

**SUBJECT:** Chokeholds, Obstruction of Breathing, or Blood Circulation  
**ISSUE DATE:** 02-08-2021

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**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this policy is to provide members of the palmyra police department with the guidelines regarding chokeholds, obstruction of breathing, or blood circulation.

**POLICY:** The policy of the Palmyra Police Department is to acquaint officers with the definition of chokeholds, obstruction of breathing, and obstruction of blood circulation and its prohibited use.

**I. CHOKEHOLDS, OBSTRUCTION OF BREATHING, OBSTRUCTION OF BLOOD CIRCULATION.**

- A. Any application of pressure to the throat, windpipe, neck or blocking the mouth or nose of a person in a manner that may hinder breathing, reduce the intake of air or obstruct blood circulation.
- B. Chokeholds, obstruction of breathing, and obstruction of blood circulation is prohibited unless deadly physical force is authorized.

By order of:

David B. Smith  
Chief of Police