


**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES**

Subject: Use of Force	Policy Number: 38
Number of Pages: 1	Section: XIV
Attachments: A. Serious Incident Report B. Use of Force Acknowledgment Form	Related Standards & References:
Effective Date: June 1, 2012 Reviewed December 15, 2019	Approved:  James Maccarone, Director

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Services, that employees are prohibited from using unnecessary or excessive force in the management of clients.

Striking a client is strictly prohibited, except when no other means are available to manage a physically violent client, and there is a threat to life or of serious physical harm.

Any violation of the Use of Force policy will result in the termination of the employee.

II. DEFINITIONS

As used in this policy and procedure, the following definitions apply:

Unnecessary or excessive force: Any force that was used when a minimum or less excessive force could have been used to control the situation.

III. PROCEDURE

Complete documentation of any of the above incidents is required on a Serious Incident Report (Attachment A). The incident should be reported to the Regional Director as soon as possible, but no later than the close of the work day. The Serious Incident Report should be submitted to the Regional Director in writing within 24 hours.