


**PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
INTRA-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

Date: July 20, 2020

TO: All Members

FROM: Sheriff Robert L. Langley Jr.  PCI

SUBJECT: POLICY 1108, NEW YORK CITY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 10-181

The City of New York's Mayor, Bill de Blasio has recently signed into law Administrative Code Section 10-181 which, in addition to making the application of any chokehold unlawful, also makes unlawful any sitting, kneeling or standing on the chest or back in a manner that compresses the diaphragm, in the course of effecting or attempting to effect an arrest. This offense is punishable as a misdemeanor.

Given the likelihood that the restraint of a non-compliant person during the course of effectuating a lawful arrest often requires some type of pressure to the chest or back of the subject for at least a brief period of time and that the New York City Administrative Code Section 10-181 criminalizes such actions without respect to intent or injury, this directive is intended to protect sworn members of the Putnam County Sheriff's Department from criminal prosecution for actions consistent with their training and Department policy.

Therefore, effective immediately until further notice, sworn members of the Department shall not conduct any enforcement activity within the confines of the City of New York.

The only standing exception is for picking up a prisoner already in the custody of another agency. Requests for other exceptions shall be made through the chain of command to the Sheriff, or his designee, prior to any action taken in the City of New York.

All members shall familiarize themselves with the above and be guided accordingly.