

# HOSACK LAW FIRM

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**Re:    *Level 2 Gracie Survival Tactics***

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to acknowledge my firm's review of the Level 2 Gracie Survival Tactics and its compliance with Federal use of force guidelines for law enforcement based on rulings by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Not only did I view the online teaching demonstrations prepared by the Level 2 Gracie program, I have attended a Gracie Survival Tactics law enforcement school and observed first-hand the teaching methods and explanatory instruction of the law enforcement principles. Like the Level 1 classes, the teaching methods and practical application of the Level 2 Gracie Survival Tactics address all levels of force an officer might experience during the course of their work, from passive resistance to aggravated active aggression. All techniques and instruction are intended to neutralize the risk of harm to both the officer and the suspect, usually ending with the suspect in custody or the officer disengaging from the suspect. Once the officer disengages and regains the reactionary gap, they are able to utilize alternative tools lower on the standard use of force spectrum.

The methods taught and instruction given are consistent with the current United States Supreme Court rulings in *Graham v Connor*, analyzed under the Fourth Amendment's 'objective reasonableness' standard. The objectives of the techniques and the manner in which they are taught accomplish the officer safety prong of the Court's decision that officers use the amount of force objectively reasonable to control a suspect based on the danger to the officer. The Level 2 Gracie Survival Tactics not only elaborate on some of the Level 1 tactics, but also include original content such as the Tactical Vehicle Extraction, Standing Weapon Retention Techniques, and Multiple-Officer Team Tactics. These too have been analyzed under the same parameters as the Level 1 Tactics, some of those which have been expounded upon in Level 2.

While no program can account for user variation, our review shows that, consistent with the Level 1 Tactics, the methodology of the techniques taught in the Level 2 Gracie Survival Tactics, when applied correctly, are intended to gain compliance through positional control while limiting the attacker's ability to harm the officer. The techniques are designed to end a violent encounter by providing officers the options to disengage, hold and control, handcuff, or render the suspect incapable of continuing violent resistive action. Because the system gives the officer multiple options, the officer will better be able to appropriately address the wide variety of circumstances that they may encounter in a fluid, rapidly changing environment. Due to this fact, the Level 2 Gracie Survival Tactics - when taught, practiced, and applied as presented and in conjunction with their department's use of force continuum - reduce the chances of a user having to escalate to questionable force because of the inability to defend themselves.

Sincerely,



Ray N. Hosack