

**Elk Grove Police Department
Electronic Weapons Operator Course
4 Hours (Minimum)**

Course Outline

I. INTRODUCTION AND REGISTRATION

A. Registration

1. Departmental Paperwork
2. Roster
3. Liability waiver (if necessary)

B. Safety Guidelines

1. Equipment
2. First aid
3. Location of nearest hospital
4. Communication devices in the classroom

C. Introduction

1. Instructors
2. Students
3. Course overview
4. Facility
5. Safety guidelines

II. HISTORY AND DEFINITIONS

A. Definitions

1. Handheld devices – Dry Stun
2. Projectile devices

B. Origins of Electronic Weapons

1. Primer-driven weapons (1973)
2. Firearm (BATF classification)
3. Non-firearm TASER (1994)
4. Advanced TASER (1999)
5. Stinger (2005)
6. Others

C. Electronic Incapacitation vs. Pain Compliance Devices

1. Pain compliance/Stun systems
 - a. Affects sensory nervous system
 - b. Affects communication from the muscles to the brain
2. Neuro-Muscular Incapacitation

Cal. Code of Regulation 1084 –
POST Standards curriculum
compliance:

I. for Section (a)(1)

II. for Section (a)(2)

III. for Section (a)(3)

IV. for Section (a)(4)

V. for Section (a)(5)

VI. for Section (a)(6)

VII. for Section (a)(7)

VIII. for Section (a)(8)

- a. Affects both sensory and motor nervous systems
- b. Affects communication from the brain to the muscles

III. EXPOSURES AND SAFETY

- A. Intentional exposures will not be conducted by EGPD Personnel
- B. Safety Procedures (Accidental exposures)
 - 1. Environmental precautions
 - 2. Post-exposure care

IV. ELECTRONIC WEAPONS AND NOMENCLATURE

A. Nomenclature

- 1. Manufacture specifications and safety guidelines
- 2. Weapons specifications
- 3. Holster specifications
- 4. Cartridge specifications
- 5. Battery specifications

B. Pros and Cons

- 1. Never 100%
- 2. Reduce injuries to subjects and officers
- 3. Accessibility
- 4. Comparison with other force options
- 5. Environmental restrictions
- 6. Compatibility with other force options

V. LEGAL/ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

A. Statutory and Case Law

- 1. Federal statutes
 - a. U.S.C. 1983
- 2. State statutes
 - a. Penal Code 422.6
- 3. Civil law considerations
 - a. Qualified Immunity
- 4. Relevant case law
 - a. *Mendoza v. West Covina*
 - b. *Graham v. Connor*

B. Department Policy

1. Use of force policy
 - a. Types of resistance
2. Electronic weapons policy
 - a. Passive v. Active resistance
3. Documentation
4. Medical policy

VI. MEDICAL ASPECTS

A. Medical Considerations

1. Method of delivery
2. Electrical output
3. Physiological effects
4. Known pre-existing medical conditions

B. Subject Risk Factors

1. Drug and alcohol consumption
2. Excited delirium
3. Positional/restraint/compression asphyxia
4. Preventative measures

VII. DEPLOYMENT AND DOCUMENTATION

A. Pre-deployment

1. Modes of deployment
2. Weak-side holster on the side opposite the duty weapon
3. Communication/contact-cover
 - a. Provide the individual with a reasonable opportunity to voluntarily comply.
 - b. Provide other officers and individuals with a warning that the EMDT may be deployed
4. Deadly force and cover considerations
5. Scene assessment/environmental considerations
 - a. Avoid deployment in explosive or flammable areas
 - b. Avoid deployment in water or liquid areas
 - c. Avoid areas where subject could fall
6. Force options considerations
 - a. The subject is physically resisting (active or assaultive)

- b. The subject has demonstrated, by words or action, an intention to be violent or to physically resist, and reasonably appears to present the potential to harm officers, him/herself or others
- c. Mere flight from a pursuing officer, without other known circumstances or factors, is not good cause for the use of the EMDT to apprehend an individual

7. Known pre-existing medical considerations

- a. Individuals who are known to be pregnant.
- b. Elderly individuals or obvious juveniles.
- c. Individuals with obviously low body mass.
- d. Individuals who are handcuffed or otherwise restrained.
- e. Individuals who have been recently sprayed with a flammable chemical agent or who are otherwise in close proximity to any known combustible vapor or flammable material, including alcohol-based oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray.
- f. Individuals whose position or activity may result in collateral injury e.g., falls from height, operating vehicles).
- g. Individuals who are medically compromised

B. Deployment

- 1. Recommended distance from subject
- 2. Target areas for subject
 - a. Reasonable efforts should be made to target lower center mass and avoid the head, neck, chest and groin
 - b. Back, from neck down
- 3. Communications
 - a. Other officers
 - b. Subjects (warning/directions)
- 4. Evaluate effect after each application
 - a. Whether the probes are making proper contact.
 - b. Whether the individual has the ability and has been given a reasonable opportunity to comply.
 - c. Whether verbal commands, other options or tactics may be more effective.
 - d. De-escalation tactics

e. Officers should not intentionally apply more than one EMDT at a time against a single subject.

5. Failure – Application of 2nd Cartridge
6. Application of additional or different force options
7. Safely take subject into custody (cuff under power)
8. Cover officer considerations in an arrest situation

C. Post-deployment

1. Medical assessment for subject or officers
2. Supervisor notification
3. Probe/dart removal must be done at hospital
4. Transportation/medical clearance
5. Evidence collection

D. Documentation

1. Subject's behavior and actions
2. Independent witnesses
3. Documentation of the facts (injuries, medical care, etc.)
4. Data downloads
5. Audio, video, etc.

VIII. PRACTICAL APPLICATION AND TESTING

A. Scenario Training

1. Static drills
2. Scenario-based exercises

B. Written Test

1. Students will complete written test on material covered
2. Students will have test graded and will go over results
3. Remediation will be provided for any student that fails

C. Practical Test

1. Students will perform a practical test to demonstrate learning
2. Students will demonstrate competency with the electrical weapon
3. Students will be allowed to remediate if needed, prior to the end of the course
4. Course evaluations will be given and certificates distributed

Commands for this exercise are:

READY – THREAT – SAFE

Exercise A: Spark only (X26, X2 & X3)

1. Issue one CEW to each student pair with an expended or no TASER cartridge (X26) or three inert Smart cartridges (X2 & X3).
2. READY: Point in safe direction and place safety switch in the up (ARMED) position
3. THREAT: Pull trigger and allow cycle to run for full 5 seconds
4. Repeat as necessary until comfortable with trigger

Exercise B: Spark & Safe (X26, X2 & X3)

1. READY: Point in safe direction and place safety switch in the up (ARMED) position
2. THREAT: Pull trigger and allow to cycle until next command (which is "SAFE" to end the cycle early)
3. SAFE: Place safety switch in the down (SAFE) position

Each student will perform this drill until everyone shows proficiency manipulating the TASER CEW.

Exercise C: (X26 only):

1. Have Student "A" hold TASER CEW with Student "B" holding the cartridges and standing behind Student "A".
2. Student A will reach behind himself for a cartridge. Student "B" will hand Student "A" a cartridge in a random fashion. Student "A" will take the cartridge and rotate the cartridge to the proper cartridge holding position.
3. Student "A" will bring the cartridge to the TASER CEW and load just below eye level so the student keeps his/her head up to monitor the threat while they are reloading.
4. Student "A" will point it the TASER CEW in a safe direction and then return the CEW to the loading position and remove the cartridge. The student should drop that cartridge to the ground.
5. Repeat the drill.

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D. Key Observation Areas:

1. Point CEW in a safe direction
2. Proper hand placement away from the front of the CEW
3. Maintain CEW close to body during reload
4. Keep head and eyes up to watch threat

Objective: To provide the student an opportunity to deploy the TASER CEW in a simulated scenario when lack of safety equipment precludes using a live subject.

CEW configuration:

1. One or two X26s with XDPMs or one or two X2s or X3s
2. Holster
3. Two TASER Cartridges per X26, two Smart Cartridges per X2 or three Smart cartridges per X3

Instructor Notes: Set 4 targets in safe locations and number 1 through 4.

E. Scenarios

1. Scenario set-up: You have just arrived at a domestic dispute call. There are two officers already on scene. Male is handcuffed in squad car. Female partner has just become extremely irate; demands police not take her husband away. She flees to kitchen, stating her intention to return with a knife to confront officers.

Students must enter in teams of two, one lethal cover officer (red gun or other non-live firearm to be used if available) and a TASER officer. Officers must run or exercise briefly before entering room to elevate heart rate. On entering room, officers must communicate clearly between lethal and less lethal, maintain clear lines of fire, approach subject (target number identified by TEO) and deploy TASER. Officers must yell "TASER, TASER!" prior to deployment and continue to apply TASER pulsed energy and verbal commands until instructor declares, "Subject controlled."

F. Practical test:

1. Instructors will evaluate students' manipulation, use and overall safe operation of the TASER CEW during the above described static drills and scenario based training.
2. During training, students will be randomly informed they have a TASER CEW fail and will need to fire second Taser Cartridge or transition to another force option (baton, pepper spray, firearm, etc).
3. Finally, students will be verbally quizzed on Policies and Procedures including:
 4. Policies and Procedures governing TASER CEW use
 5. Policies and Procedures for providing medical treatment for subjects exposed to the TASER CEW

6. Policies and Procedures for the proper booking of TASER CEW related evidence after a deployment

7. Policies and Procedures for reporting TASER CEW deployments, including accidental deployments.

8. Policies and Procedures regarding use of force, use of force reporting and use of force options.

Testing: Any student performing below standard on the qualification of the weapon, as established by the instructor, will be remediated/tested until standard is achieved.