

ELECTRONIC WEAPONS COURSE
Folsom Police Department (5990)
CCN:23090| POST Certification II | Reimbursement Plan IV | 4 hours
Rev. 2-21-2024

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The course will provide the trainee with an understanding and the ability to deploy conductive energy weapons within department policy and the law. The trainee will obtain the theory and practical training necessary to effectively use and safely operate the TASER 7 weapon system as a less lethal option

The course consists of hands-on/practical skills training for in-service officers.

This course will address changes in use of force as it pertains to Penal Code Section 835a.

Minimum Topics/Exercises:

- a. Introduction and Registration
- b. History and Definitions
- c. Exposures and Safety
- d. Electronic Weapons and Nomenclature
- e. Legal/Ethical Considerations
- f. Medical Aspects
- g. Deployment and Documentation
- h. Practical Application and Testing

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The trainee will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the Folsom Police Department Use of Force and Conducted Energy Device Policy.
2. Demonstrate proficiency in the function and use of the TASER weapon system with every technique, and exercise, to include:
 - a. Technology overview.
 - b. Electrical, medical and safety considerations
 - c. Specifications of the TASER 7
 - d. Practical hands-on training of the TASER 7
 - e. Drive stun
 - f. Tactical Considerations
 - g. Probe removal considerations
 - h. Field application
 - i. Written exam
 - j. Practical exercise

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Minimum standards of performance shall be tested by an instructor observing the trainee during their performance of each technique and exercise. If the trainee does not meet minimum standards, remediation will be provided until the standard is met.

EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE
(4 Hours)

- I. INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION (a)
 - A. Introduction, Registration and Orientation
 - 1. Instructor/Student Introductions
 - 2. Registration/Rosters
 - B. Course Objectives/Overview, Exercises, Evaluation/Testing
 - 1. Overview of course objectives
 - a. Technology overview.
 - b. Electrical, medical and safety considerations
 - c. Specifications of the TASER 7
 - d. Practical hands-on training of the TASER 7
 - e. Drive stun
 - f. Tactical Considerations
 - g. Probe removal considerations
 - h. Field application
 - i. Written exam
 - j. Practical exercise
 - 2. Overview of exercises/drills
 - 3. Evaluation/testing/remediation procedures
 - C. Safety Rules
 - 1. Firearms, live ammunition less lethal munitions, chemical agents, and edged weapons are not allowed in the training environment.
 - 2. Designated blue rubber training weapons will be utilized where needed for given exercises.

- II. LEGAL/ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS (e)
 - A. Use of Force Options
 - 1. Less Lethal force within the spectrum of force options
 - 2. Verbal, hands, less lethal, lethal force
 - 3. Escalation and de-escalation process
 - B. Department Policy
 - 1. Use of Force Policy
 - 2. Conducted Energy Device Policy
 - 3. Medical Policy
 - C. Legal Standards/Case Law
 - 1. Use of Force Considerations

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- a. PC 835a
 - i. Objectively reasonable force may be used to effect an arrest
 - ii. Deadly force shall not be used on a person who only poses a threat to themselves
- 2. Supporting Case Law
 - a. Graham vs. Conner
 - i. Objectively Reasonable Force
 - b. Mayeyko vs. Felix
 - i. Inadequate training
 - c. Alford et al. vs. Osei-Kwasi
 - i. Pregnant female
 - d. Michenfelder vs. Summer
 - i. TASER used for compliance during a strip search
 - e. Hinton vs. City of Elwood
 - i. Appropriate use of force on resisting subject
 - f. Scott vs. Heinrich
 - i. Less intrusive/less injurious/less painful
- D. Report Writing and Preliminary Investigation Overview
 - 1. Report writing and articulation

III. ELECTRONIC WEAPONS OVERVIEW

(b, d)

- A. History of Electronic Weapons
 - 1. Definition of handheld device
 - 2. Origins of the electronic device
- B. Nomenclature – TASER 7
 - 1. Safety and trigger demonstration
 - 2. Battery indicator/CID
 - 3. Laser sight/fixed sights
- C. Cartridges
 - 1. Compressed nitrogen
 - 2. Blast door colors and respective probe distances
 - 3. Effective with or without penetration within 2.25 inches
 - 4. Proper loading of cartridges into the TASER 7
- D. Probe-Mode Activation
 - 1. Trigger pull activates electrical discharge for 5 seconds
 - 2. Holding trigger prolongs activation until released
 - 3. Safety switch/deactivation of cycle
 - 4. Probe spread variations
- E. Drive-Stun Mode Activation
 - 1. Cartridge in place
 - 2. No cartridge in place
 - 3. Drive stun target areas

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IV. ELECTRICAL, MEDICAL AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS (f)

A. Electrical safety

1. Volts vs. Amps

B. Medical Considerations & Risk Factors

1. Electrical Output
2. Physiological effects
3. Known pre-existing conditions (including pregnancy & frail subjects)
4. No effect on the heart rhythm
5. No long term effects
6. Minor skin irritation
7. No effect on the pacemaker
8. Drug and alcohol consumption
9. Positional/restrain/compression asphyxia

C. What to expect

1. Subject falls to ground
2. Subject freezes in place
3. Subject does not react
4. No long term effects

D. Other Safety Considerations

1. Avoid known flammable liquids
2. Beware of the enhanced risk of fall
3. Beware if subject is armed with a bladed object

V. DEPLOYMENT (g)

A. Pre-deployment

1. Modes of deployment
2. Weak-side carry
3. Communication/contact-cover/arrest team
4. Deadly force cover considerations
5. Scene assessment/environmental considerations
6. Force options considerations
7. Known pre-existing medical considerations

B. Deployment

1. Recommended distance from subject
2. Probe placement techniques
 - a. Range
 - b. Speed
 - c. Vertical vs. Horizontal
 - d. Effective target areas
 - i. Lower Torso (below chest)
 - ii. Split the Beltline
 - e. Areas to avoid
 - i. Face

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- ii. Eyes
 - iii. Head
 - iv. Throat
 - v. Chest
 - vi. Genitals
 - f. Known pre-existing injury areas
 - 2. Communication
 - a. Other officers
 - b. Subjects (warning/directions)
 - 3. Evaluate affect after each application
 - 4. Application of additional or different force options
 - 5. Cuffing under power
 - 6. Cover officer considerations
 - 7. Aiming
 - a. Sight vs Laser
 - b. Center Mass
- B. Post-Deployment
- 1. Medical assessment for subject or officers
 - 2. Supervisor notification
 - 3. Probe removal
 - 4. Transportation/medical clearance
 - 5. Evidence collection
- C. Documentation
- 1. Subjects' behavior and actions
 - 2. Independent witnesses
 - 3. Documentation of the facts (injuries, medical care, etc.)
 - 4. Data downloads
 - 5. Body worn camera
 - 6. See Department Use of Force report guidelines

VI. PRACTICAL APPLICATION

(c, h)

- A. Static drills
- B. Scenario-based exercises
- C. Team Arrest techniques and scenarios
 - 1. Communication
 - 2. Multiple officer control/handcuffing
- D. Individual exposures (Recommended, not required)

VII. TESTING/REMEDIATION

(h)

- A. Review / Questions
- B. Written exam (passing score 75% and above)
 - 1. Remediation for those in need
- C. Practical test

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1. Any student performing below standard on any exercise, as established by the instructor, will be remediated, and tested until competency is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the instructor.
 - a. Student's ability to safely handle the weapons and follow range safety rules will be considered with qualification.
 2. Unsafe students or students with negligence will fail immediately and will be allowed to remediate at a predetermined time.
- D. Certificates and Evaluations