



Policy Revision Request

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This revision applies to Existing Policy 11-01-23

If new, recommended section _____

This revision is necessary to comply with Best Practices

Whom does this revision affect? Department

This revision has an unbudgeted financial impact of \$ 0

Brief reason for the revision:

The revision is being implemented to incorporate comprehensive details during TASER deployments, as well as to update our TASER policy in alignment with the TASER 10 specifications.

Document the changes or additions to the policy below. Please include the specific policy number. **Red strikethroughs** are used for deletions and **blue underlined** for text insertions. Please email completed forms to APDPolicy@austintexas.gov. Use this email for any related questions or issues for policy.

208 TASER Device Guidelines

208.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

208.1.2 DEFINITIONS

Functional Test Mode – A software mode for the TASER 7 and TASER 10 CEW ~~that is~~ used to conduct an internal diagnostic ~~and spark~~ test.

208.4 USE OF THE TASER DEVICE

208.4.6 REPORT OF USE

~~All TASER Device discharges shall be documented in the related incident report/supplements and notification made to a supervisor~~ The officer shall document all TASER Device discharges in the related incident report/supplements and shall notify a supervisor in compliance with GO ~~eneral Order~~ 211 (Response to Resistance Inquiry, Reporting, and Review).

(a) Specific information on the use of a TASER Device should include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Articulate reasons for the use of the TASER Device.
2. Information on the type of individual ~~who was~~ subjected to the TASER Device (e.g., age, sex, health conditions).
3. Any special circumstances surrounding ~~the~~ use of the TASER Device (e.g., handcuffed prisoner).
4. ~~Whether one or both of the~~ The number of TASER Device ~~darts~~ probe(s) that penetrated a subject's clothing and/or skin.
5. How many applications/cycles of the TASER Device were used.

6. Whether the TASER Device application was successful.
7. How many cartridges were used.
8. Serial numbers of any used cartridge(s).
9. Whether multiple officers used the TASER Device.
10. Any pain compliance use of the TASER Device (e.g., drive stun).

11. Locations on the body where TASER Device probe(s) impacted the body.

(b) TASER Device memory:

1. For the TASER X26, the on-board TASER Device memory will be downloaded through the data port by a supervisor and saved with the related incident reports.
2. For the TASER 7 and TASER 10, once the TASER battery is docked into the docking station it will automatically upload the memory into Axon Evidence™.

~~(c) Photographs of probe sites should be taken, Anti-Felon Identification (AFID) tags should be collected and the expended cartridge along with both probes shall be submitted into evidence for future reference. The cartridge serial number should be noted and documented on the evidence paperwork. The evidence packaging should be marked "Biohazard" if the probes penetrated the subject's skin.~~

(c) Officers shall complete the following:

1. Take and upload photographs of probe(s) impact locations into Axon Evidence.
2. Submit into evidence all expended cartridges and deployed probe(s).
3. Document used cartridge serial numbers in the report.
4. If the probe(s) penetrated the subject's skin, then mark the evidence package as "Biohazard."

208.6 TRAINING

In addition to the initial department-approved training required to carry and use a TASER Device, ~~all~~ any employees carrying a TASER Device shall ~~demonstrate proficiency~~ complete all recertification requirements annually, including TASER Energy Weapon Operator Update PowerPoint presentation, functional tests, and successful live cartridge deployments.

- (a) Employees who have not carried a TASER Device as a part of their assignment for ~~a period of~~ six months or more shall be recertified by a department approved TASER Device instructor prior to again carrying or using the device.
- (b) A reassessment of an officer's knowledge ~~and~~ or practical skill may be required at any time if deemed appropriate by the Training commander.

208.7 FUNCTIONALITY CHECK

208.7.1 PROPER MAINTENANCE

(a) Officers shall ~~be responsible for~~ ensure ~~ing that~~ their issued TASER device is properly maintained and in good working order. If a defect is found, the officer ~~should~~ shall report ~~such~~ it to their supervisor.

(b) TASER 7 and TASER 10 CEW users shall replace their CEW battery whenever one of the following events occurs:

1. ~~e~~ Every thirty (30) days, or
2. ~~a~~ As soon as practicable if the battery level drops to 20% or lower. ~~or~~
3. When the TASER is used in an intentional or unintentional discharge.

(c) Officers are prohibited from taking a spare battery from the TASER ~~7~~ battery docking/recharging stations. Officers shall only conduct a one-for-one battery swap. Officers are prohibited from swapping or borrowing a battery from one another. All battery replacements should be retrieved from the TASER ~~7~~ battery docking/recharging stations.

(a)(d) If an officer has a [TASER 7 or TASER 10](#) deployment in the field, that officer should return to the substation as soon as practicable to swap out their CEW battery. ~~When placed into the Axon Dock, the TASER 7 rechargeable battery pack will upload the weapon data and firmware automatically as well as recharge and condition the battery.~~