



City of Racine Police Department  
**Policy and Procedure**

**Number: 611**

Subject: <b>TASER® Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW)</b>		
Date Issued: <b>05-27-05</b>	Date Revised: <b>03-31-17</b>	Revision Number: <b>3</b>

## POLICY

It is the policy of the Racine Police Department to use only that level of force reasonably necessary to control or otherwise subdue violent or potentially violent individuals. Electronic Control Devices may be used by authorized and trained personnel in accordance with this policy.

## DEFINITIONS

**TASER® Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW):** An intermediate weapon not intended to replace firearms or self-defense techniques. The TASER® CEW is designed to temporarily immobilize a violent or potentially violent subject. When applied correctly the TASER® CEW generates an electrical current that dominates the neuromuscular and sensory nervous system, incapacitating the subject (NMI).

**Great Bodily Harm:** Bodily injury which creates a substantial risk of death, or which causes serious permanent disfigurement, or which causes a permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ or any other serious bodily injury.

**Non-Deadly Force:** An amount of force that under normal circumstances might cause bodily harm but would not be expected to result in great bodily harm or death.

## PROCEDURE

### MEMBER

1. The criteria for using a TASER® CEW is to overcome active resistance or the threat of active resistance.
  - a. Officers may also include in the decision to use a TASER® CEW, information known to the officer at the time of the incident, including conduct or statements of the subject or prior history of resistive or assaultive behavior. It may also be used when the subject poses a threat of harm to self, such as self-inflicted injury or a suicide attempt.
  - b. Passive resistance without posing an articulable threat of harm to the officer or others does not permit the use of a TASER® CEW.
2. Authorized Users:
  - a. Officers who have satisfactorily completed the Department's training shall be authorized to carry a Department issued TASER® CEW.
  - b. Trained officers shall complete training updates that will be provided by the RAPD Training Unit as needed.
3. TASER® CEW carry:
  - a. The Department's current TASER® CEW is the TASER X26 or X26P.
  - b. All uniformed Patrol Officers will be assigned an X26 or X26P.
  - c. Officers shall carry a TASER® CEW when working a Patrol squad assignment (Area, E.T., Wagon, etc.). If no TASER® CEW is available for their use, officers whose assignment requires them to carry a TASER® CEW shall notify a supervisor prior to going on-duty.

- d. Officers working other on-duty assignments (i.e. Supervisors, Investigators, Traffic Investigators, COP, and other grant programs, etc.) may carry a TASER® CEW.
- e. Complete the Spark Test daily (assigned working days) as trained.
- 4. Method of carry:
  - a. TASER® CEW's shall be carried in a Department issued or approved holster attached to the officer's duty belt.
    - 1) Officers who supply their own TASER® CEW holster must have the holster approved by the Training Unit prior to use.
    - 2) Officers who do not wear a uniform duty belt may wear the TASER® CEW on a belt worn at the waist in a Department issued/approved holster, or in an approved outer vest carrier.
  - b. The TASER® CEW shall be carried on the officer's body opposite from their firearm.
  - c. The TASER® CEW shall be carried with a live cartridge attached to the TASER® CEW with the safety on.
  - d. If an officer chooses to carry an extra cartridge it will be carried attached to the duty or pants belt in a carrier that fully covers the cartridge.
- 5. Deployment:
  - a. In each instance when a TASER® CEW is deployed, a determination will be made regarding the need for lethal cover. Lethal cover shall be required in all cases when it is reasonably believed the subject may have a means of causing death or great bodily harm to self or others.
  - b. Officers who use a TASER® CEW against a person shall ensure the person is monitored for injury as soon as practical after the person is under control.
  - c. If an adverse reaction to the TASER® CEW occurs, or if requested by the subject, transport to a medical facility shall be arranged.
  - d. If the probes are imbedded in sensitive tissue areas, i.e. neck, face, groin, or the breast of a female, officers shall arrange transport to a medical facility for removal. If the probes are imbedded in other non-sensitive tissue areas, a trained officer may remove them according to the trained procedures.
  - e. After the probes have been removed, they shall be handled as a biohazard and packaged according to the trained procedure.
  - f. When a TASER® CEW is used, the user shall notify an on duty supervisor.
    - 1) As soon as practical, the officer shall bring the unit into the Department and have a supervisor download the unit's report.
    - 2) The officer using the TASER® CEW shall list the serial number of the deployed TASER® CEW in his/her reports and include copies of the unit's download with the reports.
    - 3) A Use of Force report shall be required for all deployments of a TASER® CEW as part of their incident or supplement report.

## SUPERVISOR

- 1. When a TASER® CEW has been deployed, download the unit's report and provide a copy of the report to the officer for inclusion with the officer's reports from the incident.
- 2. When an officer turns in a TASER® CEW with 20% or less battery level a new battery shall be issued to the officer from the TASER cabinet in the Sergeant's Office.
- 3. When an officer turns in an TASER® CEW that is not operational:
  - a. Contact the Training Unit and have the TASER® CEW delivered to the Training Unit with an explanation of the problem if known or;
  - b. If the Training Unit is not working, place the TASER® CEW in the TASER cabinet in the Patrol Sergeant's office and notify the Training Officer via email. Please include serial numbers.
    - 1) In the Training Unit's absence issue a new TASER® CEW to the officer from the TASER cabinet in the Sergeant's Office. This TASER® CEW will be the officer's permanent replacement.
    - 2) The TASER® CEW must be assigned via the SYNC Evidence System prior to issuance.
- 4. Follow protocols set forth in Policy 608 – Use of Force Documentation.

## **RELATED PROCEDURES**

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[607 – Investigation of the Use of Force](#)

[608 – Use of Force Documentation](#)