

	STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE State Form 39870(R/S-06)	Reference Number TRA-021
	Subject Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW)	
	Special Instructions Replaces TRA-021 dated May 6, 2011	Effective Date January 15, 2015

I. PURPOSE

Establishes guidelines for carrying and deploying Department issued or authorized Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW) by police employees.

II. POLICY

CEWs (issued or authorized) may be carried by Department police employees as part of their law enforcement duties. The deployment or use of an CEW shall strictly follow the guidelines in this procedure and the Department's CEW training program.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Issued CEW – A CEW issued by the Department to police employees.

B. Authorized CEW – A specified brand and model of CEW, approved by the Department, for police employees to purchase or obtain, at their expense, to be carried on-duty after proper inspection and training by the Training Section. Note: The Department shall assume no responsibility for loss, theft, damage, or any costs associated with non-issued devices.

IV. PROCEDURE

A. CEW, issued or authorized shall:

1. Be used as an alternative action to the use of impact weapons in appropriate circumstances;
2. Be used by police employees certified in the use of the CEW when circumstances allow the use of lawful force;
3. Fall into the category of intermediate weapons and may be used when physical control techniques will or may be insufficient to establish control or when the totality of the situation warrants;
4. Be applied as necessary to control active resistance, aggressive behavior, or violent behavior. Department police employees shall not expose an individual to multiple CEW cycles unless necessary to control continuing active resistance, aggressive, or violent behavior;
5. Not be used indiscriminately or against passive resistance;
6. CEWs shall not be applied to any subject once secured and properly in custody;

7. Data from a CEW shall be downloaded as soon as possible following any deployment other than “Spark Testing” or training. All CEWs shall have stored data downloaded annually. Only Department CEW instructors shall download data from the CEW.

B. Carrying an CEW on the duty belt.

1. The issued or authorized CEW shall be carried in an approved holster, for the approved CEW model, in a cross draw location on the duty belt that is easily accessible to the officer.

2. Any use or carry not consistent with Department procedures or training will result in revocation of the authorization to carry or use the device.

C. CEWs may be used against aggressive animals in lieu of deadly force unless the officer reasonably believes that deadly force is necessary to prevent serious bodily injury to himself or another party.

D. Certification/recertification for use of CEW.

1. Only properly trained and certified police personnel shall be issued and authorized to carry CEWs.

2. Initial certification and recertification for use of an CEW shall be in accordance with the Department’s accepted and approved training program.

E. Medical response to CEW Deployment.

1. Subjects in custody to whom an CEW has been deployed shall be evaluated and provided any necessary, if applicable, first aid as soon as the situation allows.

2. When subject to a CEW deployment, persons falling into the following categories should be transported to a medical facility for examination:

- a. If exposed to more than three (3) CEW cycles;
- b. If exposed to a continuous cycle of 15 seconds or more;
- c. If exhibited signs similar to or associated with Excited Delirium prior to exposure, refer to sub-section 3; and
- d. If the person is a juvenile (under the age of 18), elderly, medically infirmed, has a pacemaker, may be pregnant, etc.

3. **Excited Delirium (ED):** Behaviors associated with and responding to possible ED cases.

ED is defined as “a state of agitation, excitability, paranoia, aggression, and apparent immunity to pain, often associated with stimulant abuse and certain psychiatric disorders.”

a. Persons suffering from ED may display a variety of unique traits or behaviors, such as:

- (1) Extreme uncontrolled agitation or hyperactivity,
- (2) Removing all or some clothing, standing in water, or against cool or cold objects (due to the feeling of extreme overheating);
- (3) Being drawn to and staring at items that will show their reflection (e.g. glass, water, etc.); and
- (4) Exhibiting super-human strength and a lack of response to pain.

b. If upon receipt of an initial call (by the district or regional duty officer) or during any personal encounter it is suspected a subject may be demonstrating traits or behaviors associated with ED, emergency medical services (EMS) personnel shall immediately be dispatched to the scene.

c. Controlling/capturing a person suffering from ED.

When it is determined that a person believed to be suffering from ED must be taken into custody all efforts should be made to prevent a lengthy hands-on physical altercation. The use of an CEW is authorized under the following conditions and guidelines:

- (1) When the subject actively resists or demonstrates aggressive or violent behavior;
- (2) When officers reasonably believe the use of an CEW will be the quickest and safest method for gaining control of the subject;
- (3) Multiple CEWs shall not be used simultaneously. Only in the event of a malfunction or detachment of the probes, etc., shall a second CEW be deployed;
- (4) CEW will be deployed by firing probes at the subject.

Note: Drive Stuns may ONLY be used when a single probe hits the subject. A Drive Stun with the cartridge still attached will act as the second probe and complete the circuit, causing Neuro-Muscular Incapacitation (NMI); and

(5) No more than two (2) cycles of five seconds each should be used on an individual suffering from ED. Note: The method described in this SOP for the use of the CEW is intended to bring about the quickest and safest method in which to control someone suffering from ED. It is not intended to restrict established legal guidelines concerning the use of force.

4. Removal of probes from the suspect may be accomplished by the officer following the established guidelines of the Department's accepted and approved training program. Officers have the discretion of using EMT's or other medical personnel to remove probes. Personnel should exercise care when removing probes and place them in a secure location where they are easily accessible. Probes that penetrated the body should be treated in the same manner as contaminated needles.

F. In each case where a CEW has been deployed against a subject, officers shall:

1. Complete the **CEW Discharge Report** and **Use of Force Report**;
2. Alert the jail staff or booking officer, at the location of incarceration, to the use of the CEW on the subject;

3. Note the use of the CEW in the officer's case report to include any first aid given; and
4. An officer should take photographs of any injuries that may have occurred from the probes or from a Drive Stun; however, any photographs involving the breasts, buttocks, or genitals shall only be taken by medical personnel with consent or after obtaining a court order.

G. Officers shall also complete the **CEW Discharge Report** when there is an:

1. Intentional deployment (excluding "Spark Testing" and training);
2. Unintentional deployment; or
3. Deployment resulting from a malfunction with the CEW and/or cartridge

H. This procedure is to be used in conjunction with all relevant Department regulations, rules, policies, and procedures.