


POLICY 113.0	AUTHORIZED LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS	
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A. POLICY

Only those less-lethal weapons specifically approved by the Training Unit/the Chief of Police and listed in this policy may be carried by any member of this Department, while on or off duty. All personnel authorized to carry less-lethal weapons must be trained and demonstrate proficiency in the use of each weapon prior to carrying and utilizing such weapons in the performance of their duties. Less-lethal weapons include subject control chemical defense sprays, all chemical munitions, batons, Pepperball launchers, and CEWs. Less-lethal weapons are defined as weapons that, when deployed, are not likely to cause death or great bodily harm but have the potential to do so in certain circumstances.

It shall be mandatory for all uniformed officers, while engaged in field activities both on duty and during off duty police employment, to carry a less lethal option of either a Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW) or Subject Control Spray (SCS).

B. INSPECTION

1. During annual use of force training the use of force instructor shall inspect all less-lethal weapons for safety, functionality, expiration date, and to assure that weapons conform to Department policy. Any unsafe weapons shall be removed from service until repaired or replaced.
2. A supervisor may, at any time, inspect any less-lethal weapons carried for use by a subordinate.
3. The Training Unit shall maintain a record of each less-lethal weapon approved for each member. The record shall include inspections and repairs to each weapon.
4. The Training Unit shall periodically review less-lethal weapons approved for Department use and add or delete weapons, as deemed appropriate.
5. Immediate supervisors are responsible for uniform inspections, which include the inspection of less-lethal devices to ensure functionality and/or expiration dates are not exceeded.

C. CONDUCTED ELECTRICAL WEAPON (CEW)

The CEW is deployed as an additional law enforcement tool and is not intended to replace firearms or self-defense techniques. It is a less-lethal method of controlling violent or potentially violent offenders, as well as those who actively resist arrest. The CEW may be used to control a dangerous or violent subject when deadly force does not appear to be justified and/or necessary; or attempts to subdue the subject by other conventional tactics, including verbal communications, have been, or will likely be ineffective in the situation at hand, or there is reasonable expectation that it will be unsafe for officers to approach within the contact range of the subject. A CEW may be utilized at a safe distance to maximize officer safety and limit injuries to potential subjects.

1. Deployment

The use of a CEW by personnel is intended to limit injury to the subject involved, police officers involved, and the public. Officers shall maintain their finger off the

trigger, until they are ready to deploy the CEW, and release the trigger once deployed.

- a. The primary objective of the CEW is to prevent a continuing escalation of a subject's resistance or violence and to minimize injury to department personnel, the public and the subject(s).
- b. The decision for an officer to deploy a CEW will ultimately rest on the officer's judgment based on the totality of circumstances and application of Departmental policies. A subject's actions, including verbal statements and body language, should be taken into account before deploying a CEW.
- c. The officer should make every effort, when practical, to aim for the back or when facing the subject, the lower torso area or belt line, targeting two major muscle areas to capture full neuro-muscular incapacitation (NMI).
- d. All officers shall perform a daily pre-operation function test of the CEW prior to going into service to ensure:

The CEW battery is charged, and the cartridges are registering.
- e. A full five second spark/functionality test should be conducted daily to ensure the CEW is sparking properly. This test is performed by depressing both "ARC" buttons simultaneously until the CID screen illuminates, then turn on the power by positioning the "safety switch" in the up position and then depress one of the "ARC" buttons. The Taser 7 will then automatically initiate a five (5) second function check. Users should not interrupt this process.
- f. Officers shall consider all safety precautions in accordance with the CEW manufacturer and Department training while conducting the Spark/Functionality test. Safety considerations include but are not limited to testing near a gasoline pump or testing where other individuals are at risk, etc.
- g. When deploying the CEW in the field and other Department personnel are present, the CEW officer shall, warn other officers of their intention by loudly announcing "TASER, TASER, TASER" when practical.
- h. Officers shall avoid multiple, repeated, prolonged, extended, or continuous CEW exposures unless necessary to counter reasonably perceived resistance.
- i. Officers shall refrain from engaging two subjects simultaneously with the same CEW. Officers should be aware that several law enforcement groups (e.g. IACP, PERF, COPS, DOJ) have established fifteen (15) seconds of CEW exposure (multiple applications or continuous) as a significant safety point. The justification of a prolonged exposure shall be documented in the offense report.

- j. All subjects exposed to a CEW must be transported via Fire Rescue and medically cleared at an approved hospital prior to being transported to the appropriate booking facility. Only medical personnel shall remove CEW probes embedded in the skin. CEW probes attached to clothing shall remain attached until after medical clearance and photographs have been taken.

2. Training

Prior to carrying a CEW, officers are required to successfully complete an end user course approved by the CEW manufacturer and the Department. This course is to be taught by manufacturer certified CEW instructors.

- a. Officers are required to complete the CEW manufacturer and Department approved re-certification course annually.
- b. Trained officers shall secure their CEW within a Department issued cross-draw holster designed for their issued CEW. This holster shall be affixed to a duty belt or tactical vest on the opposite side of their firearm. At no time will any officer carry a CEW on the same side as their firearm.
- c. Practical based training will be conducted annually.

3. Administrative Functions/Issuance:

The Training Unit Sergeant or his/her designee shall act as the CEW Program Coordinator(s) and will be responsible for facilitating CEW initial certification and annual recertification. The Communication and Technology Unit (CTU) shall be responsible for the issuance, replacement, and the repair of damaged or malfunctioning CEWs. The CTU will also be responsible for logging new CEW equipment into Evidence.com. Upon completing these inventory entries, CTU shall be responsible for the inventory control of the CEWs.

- a. The Communication and Technology Unit shall be responsible for inventorying all CEW live cartridges purchased by the Department via the bar-coded serial number.
- b. The CEW Program Coordinator(s) shall be responsible for the inventory control of all CEW training cartridges. These cartridges will be housed within the Training Unit.
- c. The CEW Program Coordinator(s) will be the initial issuing authority for the CEW, two (2) Close Quarter (CQ) CEW cartridges, two (2) Standoff (SO) CEW cartridges and a department approved holster. The CEW Program Coordinator(s) will document the serial number of the CEW, the serial numbers of each cartridge issued and the name of the receiving officer. Each officer shall be responsible for the cartridges issued to them.
- d. Upon receipt of the issued equipment, the receiving officer shall check to ensure it is in working order. Officers shall not use any equipment related to the CEW that has not been issued or approved by the Department. When

not in use, officers are required to secure their issued CEW within their issued holster, which must be capable of permitting the CEW's safety switch to be engaged.

- (1). Officers shall be responsible for replacing CEW cartridges before their expiration date.
 - (2). Expired cartridges shall be turned over to the CEW Program Coordinator(s) to be used for training only.
- e. Repairs and Replacement: If at any time an officer or supervisor determines that a CEW, battery or cartridge is defective and/or damaged, it shall be taken out of service immediately. The defective and/or damaged CEW, battery or cartridge shall not be used until it is repaired and/or replaced by one of the Program Coordinator(s) or his/her designee.
- (1). Any officer with defective or damaged CEW equipment shall notify his/her supervisor immediately. The officer who was issued the CEW shall turn in the damaged equipment to the CEW Program Coordinator to be issued new equipment. The CEW Program Coordinator will package the damaged equipment and prior to any CEW being sent for repairs, a final download of the data shall be made for record purposes by the Body Worn Camera Unit.
 - (2). Police Supply has only replacement cartridges available to be issued. The officer in need of the replacement equipment shall notify his/her supervisor. The supervisor will contact Police Supply or the CEW Program Coordinator and sign for the replacement equipment.

4. CEW Limitations/Considerations

- a. Officers shall consider the possibility of secondary risks to subjects while being exposed to the CEW. These situations include, but are not limited to falling from a standing position, elevated locations, bodies of water, etc.
- b. Flammable Liquids: Officers shall not knowingly discharge a CEW near flammable liquids or fumes. The CEW shall not be discharged if flammable self-defense spray has been deployed.
- c. Pregnancy: Every effort should be made not to use the CEW on a subject known to be pregnant unless exigent circumstances can be articulated by the officer. The specific circumstances justifying the deployment shall be documented in the offense report.
- d. Handcuffed Subjects: An officer should not utilize a CEW on a handcuffed non-resisting subject.
- e. Baker Act: An officer's decision to deploy the CEW on a subject who officers are attempting to take into custody pursuant to The Baker Act, should be predicated upon the subject clearly exhibiting behavior which

could cause harm to themselves or others, and who has the apparent ability to carry out those intentions.

- f. Young Children and Elderly: An officer's decision to deploy the CEW on these subjects should be predicated upon the subjects clearly exhibiting behavior which could cause harm to themselves or others, and who has the apparent ability to carry out those intentions.
- g. Vehicles: The CEW should not be deployed on subjects in physical control of a motor vehicle while the engine is running.
- h. Animals: CEWs can be used on animals in circumstances where the use of such device is necessary for the safety of the officer, public or the animal.

5. Documentation

The CEW has a record storage function where it stores the time and date of when it is deployed. This data provides documentation on each deployment.

a. Officer's Responsibilities

- (1). If an officer uses the "ARC" function of a CEW with a non-compliant subject, in an effort to deescalate the situation, without actually deploying the CEW, the officer must document the incident, in detail, in an offense report. The officer will also be required to plug their battery into an Axon charging dock, prior to the end of their shift, in order to download the data related to the incident.
- (2). Officers who have deployed their CEW are required to plug their battery into an Axon charging dock, prior to the end of the deploying officer's shift, in order to download the data related to the incident.
- (3). The deploying officer's supervisor will access the download report via Evidence.com. This report shall be printed and attached to the Supervisor's CEW Use Review. If a download is not recorded on Evidence.com, the CEW and aforementioned battery will be immediately taken out of service and replaced by the CEW Program Coordinator(s).
- (4). Every time an officer deploys his/her CEW, an Offense Incident Report and CEW Report shall be generated, and previously mentioned CEW procedures shall be followed. This includes an accidental discharge, deployment on an animal, etc.
- (5). The probes may have blood on them, they should be considered a biohazard. Any officer handling such probes shall wear protective latex gloves. The wires shall be gathered and placed into an evidence bag along with the cartridge. The probes shall be inverted and inserted into the cartridge portals they originally were deployed

from (this will prevent the sharp ends from penetrating the envelope). The probes, wires and cartridge(s) shall be submitted into Evidence.

b. Supervisor's Responsibilities

- (1). A supervisor shall respond to all scenes of a CEW deployment and ensure photographs are taken of the probe penetration sites and any secondary injuries. The photos shall be uploaded into the Department's cloud based digital evidence management system, for review. Supervisors will complete a Supervisor's CEW Use Review in Blue Team and upload CEW Review.
- (2). If the supervisor determines the use of the CEW was justified per policy, and there were no unusual or noteworthy circumstances, a narrative is not necessary. However, in the event the downloaded time of deployment is inconsistent with the actual discharge time and or date documented by the officer, the reviewing supervisor must detail the discrepancy in the narrative section of the CEW Review.
- (3). After being reviewed by Internal Affairs, all CEW Review Packets will be filed in the Internal Affairs office. Once approved and logged by Internal Affairs, a copy of the CEW Review packet will be forwarded and reviewed by the CEW Program Coordinator(s).
- (4). In addition, an annual review will be conducted by the program coordinator(s) of all CEW uses. The purpose of this review is to determine if additional training and/or policy changes are necessary.

6. Unintentional Discharges

- a. If an Officer experiences an unintentional discharge of his/her CEW, a supervisor will be contacted immediately. Regardless if the unintentional discharge occurs while on or off-duty, a supervisor will respond to the scene to ensure that a thorough review of the CEW usage is conducted. A Supervisor/Employee Interview form will also be issued. Remedial training and discipline may result from a second or subsequent accidental discharge(s) within a 12-month period.
- b. Officers shall author an Offense Incident Report documenting the incident. If the unintentional discharge does not strike any person or animal, no CEW Use Report or photos are required.
- c. The responding supervisor shall ensure the CEW cartridge and probes are collected and placed into Evidence. A CEW download will be performed.
- d. If no criminal case and/or administrative investigation is pending, Evidence shall retain the CEW cartridge, and probes for a period of 90 days. If it is determined the incident is under administrative review and/or subject to a

criminal investigation, the CEW cartridge and probes shall be preserved until purging is approved by Internal Affairs, and if in a criminal investigation, the investigating detective and/or State Attorney.

D. CHEMICAL MUNITIONS (Subject Control Spray / SCS)

1. Purpose

- a. To provide Fort Lauderdale Police Officers, Public Safety Aides (PSA), Parking Enforcement employees, and Park Rangers with an alternative less-lethal weapon that has been proven to minimize the use of force and maximize user safety.
- b. The SCS is deployed as an additional law enforcement tool and is not intended to replace firearms or self-defense techniques. It is a less-lethal method of controlling violent or potentially violent offenders as well as those who actively resist arrest. The SCS may be used to control a dangerous or violent subject when deadly force does not appear to be justified and/or necessary; or attempts to subdue the subject by other conventional tactics, including verbal communications, have been, or will likely be ineffective in the situation at hand, or there is reasonable expectation that it will be unsafe for officers to approach within the contact range of the subject. A SCS may be utilized at a safe distance to maximize officer safety and limit injuries to potential subjects.
- c. The FLPD has authorized for use by its officers, PSAs, and Park Rangers the following defense sprays:
 - (1). Non-specialized personnel: Department approved stream dispersal system units.
 - (2). Supervisors and specialized personnel: Same as above and when trained and certified are authorized to carry burst dispersal system units and fog dispersal systems.

2. Description

- a. Currently approved department dispersal systems.
- b. The expiration date, which appears on the base of the unit, should be noted.

3. Carrying

These (SCS) units should be carried in a manner which would permit employment of the unit by either support or strong hand.

4. Deployment

(SCS) units shall be regarded as a weapon and deployed and safeguarded as such. Justification of the use of (SCS) must be documented in an offense or supplemental report.

5. First Aid

- a. It has been shown that after thousands of nationwide applications, there are no long-term medical affects.
- b. Fire Rescue will be called immediately if at any time a condition requiring medical attention arises from exposure to chemical agents.
- c. After application, the following first-aid steps shall be taken:
 - (1). Remove person from immediate contaminated air space to fresh air space.
 - (2). Allow up to 45 minutes for chemical to dissolve.
 - (3). If situation allows, apply cool water and a ventilated source of air to accelerate the recovery time.
 - (4). DO NOT apply salves, creams, oils or lotions to the affected area.
- d. Any individual who has been exposed to OC Spray shall be closely monitored by the primary, arresting or transporting officer for a period of 45 minutes before clearing the scene or transferring custody to the Broward County Jail. If the individual has not recovered, their condition deteriorates, or does not improve to a level satisfactory for acceptance into the Broward County Jail, the subject shall be transported to a medical facility, as soon as possible.

6. Care and Maintenance

DO NOT USE after the expiration date as the device may fail to function. These units have an effective shelf life of two (2) years from the date of manufacture.

7. Reporting

The use of (SCS) shall be documented and reported as described in policy 119.0, USE OF FORCE – DEFINING, REPORTING, EVALUATING, and TRACKING. A review of the Use of Force will be conducted and forwarded to Blue Team. If the actions which precipitated the use of an (SCS) constitutes a criminal act, the appropriate charge shall be made.

8. Training

Each officer, park ranger or PSA who desires to carry the (SCS) unit must complete a department approved training class designed to familiarize them with the product's capabilities and limitations, and Department policy regarding their use and reporting, prior to being issued the SCS. Lesson outlines are available from the Training Unit.

E. CHEMICAL AGENTS (OC/CS, Pepperballs, 40MM/Hand Deployed, Smoke Canisters)

1. Responsibility

- a. SWAT - The use of chemical agents by SWAT personnel will be under the direction of a SWAT Supervisor.
- b. Patrol - Any use of chemical agents with the exception of Department issued personal OC/SCS spray, by Patrol personnel must be authorized by a Shift/Duty Lieutenant, unless otherwise authorized in advance. Chemical agents must be deployed by a supervisor or an officer directly under the command of a supervisor, at the authority of a Lieutenant or higher.

2. Inventory and Maintenance

- a. All Department chemical agent inventories will be maintained and evaluated on a continuing basis by the SWAT Team to ensure sufficient quantities and types of chemical agents and equipment are being maintained.
- b. Riot equipment will be maintained and evaluated by the Quick Response Force (QRF)
- c. A current listing of the amounts, types, location and detailed method of access will be posted to a shared electronic folder, and distributed to, and kept by, the Operations Support Division and all patrol captains.
- d. SWAT Personnel will conduct annual inspections of the condition and inventory of chemical agents and related items and will submit the necessary orders for replacement of used or outdated stock through the proper administrative channels.
- e. An annual report of the inventory status will be forwarded to the Operations Bureau Assistant Chief. Annual inventories will be completed, and the reports forwarded by April 1st of each year.

3. Training

- a. SWAT - SWAT personnel will train within their unit under the direction of the SWAT Commander or his/her designee.
- b. Patrol - The Training Unit will conduct periodic training sessions utilizing outdated Chemical Agents stock for all Shift/Duty Lieutenants, Sergeants, and other designated personnel. Each session will include instruction on:
 - (1). Policies and Procedures for chemical agent use
 - (2). Status and location of chemical agents and equipment, and method of access

- (3). Hands-On Training (defined as demonstrating the proper use and deployment of chemical munitions, not the forced physical exposure of employees to the munitions)

F. BATON

Officers are authorized to carry the following batons:

1. Standard Department issued Monadnock baton;
2. Monadnock Expandable Baton, Model SX-24 (within the guidelines of G.O 2004-009); or
3. Monadnock Expandable Baton-Mini, Model MX 18P (within the guidelines of G.O 2004-009); or
4. Monadnock Expandable Autolock and Friction Lock Batons in lengths from 16 to 26 inches.
5. ASP Expandable LeverLoc and Friction Lock Batons in lengths from 16 to 26 inches.
6. Peacekeeper International Rapid Containment expandable Baton (RCB) in lengths from 21 to 26 inches, black.

G. LESS-LETHAL MUNITIONS

1. Policy

This policy addresses the training and use of extended range kinetic energy less-lethal weapons and projectiles. The Police Department recognizes that combative, non-compliant, armed and/or violent subjects cause handling and control problems that require special training and equipment. Thus, the department has adopted this less-lethal force policy to assist with the de-escalation of these potentially violent confrontations.

2. Definitions

- a. Less-lethal Tactic - A concept of planning and force application, which meets operational objectives, with less potential for causing death or serious physical injury than conventional police tactics.
- b. Kinetic Energy Impact Projectiles - Flexible or non-flexible projectiles, which are intended to incapacitate a subject with a minimal potential for causing death or serious physical injury, when compared to conventional projectiles.

3. Technical Aspects

- a. Less-lethal extended range kinetic energy impact devices: There are many projectiles considered "less-lethal." The primary types used by the Fort Lauderdale Police Department are the:

- (1). Safariland 40MM eXact Impact Sponge Round
 - (2). CTS 40MM Foam Baton Round
 - (3). Department approved impact rounds.
 - (4). Pepperball Full Tactical Carbine (FTC)
- b. Technical description and applications
- (1). Flexible – 40MM
 - (a). Flexible 40MM Foam/Sponge Impact Rounds, either authorized Safariland, CTS, ALS/Pacem Defense 40mm React Round or Def Tech less lethal rounds.
 - (b). Foam/Sponge Impact Rounds
 - (c). Must be deployed by a rifled barrel 40MM weapon specially designed for this projectile, namely the "CTS 40MM Multi-Launcher, ALS or Def Tech 40MM Single Launcher."
 - (2). Pepperball Full Tactical Carbine (Less Lethal Launcher)
 - (a). The authorized projectiles are .68 in diameter. The launchers use compressed air to fire these frangible plastic spheres. The spheres contain between 0.5 and 5% PAVA powder (Oleoresin Capsicum (OC)) or colored dye for marking purposes and are designed to burst on impact.
 - (b). The projectile travels at a muzzle velocity of 300-350fps, and its maximum effective range is 150 feet.
 - (c). The projectiles come in various colors
 - 1). Red and White, and Red and Black – OC (Oleoresin Capsicum)
 - 2). Green – washable markings
 - 3). Blue and White – Inert
 - (d). Pepperball manufacturer states target zones shall be as follows and will remain true for FLPD policy as well:
 - 1). At the distance of 3-12 feet the shooter shall target the thighs, and/or shins.
 - 2). At the distance of 12 feet or greater the shooter shall target the torso and the extremities, avoiding the neck and head unless deadly force is permitted.

(e). Authorized Users

- 1). Users must be trained and qualified by a Certified Less Lethal Instructor to be authorized to use this weapon.
- 2). Annual qualifications are mandatory to be an authorized user.

4. Safety Parameters

- a. For safety reasons the deploying officer utilizing a less-lethal weapon shall not aim at the head, throat, face, or groin area of a suspect.
- b. For officer awareness, the deploying officer should give verbal direction to on-scene officers that the less-lethal weapon is about to be deployed.
- c. Only the authorized less-lethal rounds will be used with each less lethal system.
 - (1). A support person will be available and will provide the reloading of the rounds, reloading of the air tanks and any necessary assistance during a large event such as a Field Force situation.
- d. Evaluation of projectiles
 - (1). Extended Range Kinetic energy impact projectiles will be evaluated on the following criteria:
 - (a). Accuracy
 - (b). Effectiveness
 - (c). Potential for causing death or serious physical injury
 - (2). Accuracy
 - (a). This is the primary consideration, since proper shot placement greatly assists in controlling the other two evaluation criteria.
 - (b). This will be evaluated based on the anticipated ranges of deployment.
 - (c). A minimal standard of accuracy for such rounds is, 12-inch group at 25 yards for the 40MM system.
 - (3). Effectiveness

- (a) This is the potential of the round to cause incapacitation and reduce the subject's ability to continue their dangerous behavior.
- (b) The level of energy necessary to cause incapacitation creates the potential for injury, but when properly deployed, with a low probability for causing serious physical injury or death.
- (c) Potential for causing death or serious physical injury
 - 1). The potential for causing death or serious physical injury by such projectiles is a reality. This potential is greatly reduced when impacts to the head, neck and groin are avoided and when appropriate medical examination is provided in cases where the subject is struck in an area that might conceal a closed injury, including such areas as the chest, back, thoracic and abdominal cavities, and the groin.
 - a) When engaging a target, the officer should evaluate the effectiveness of each round during the volley. Compliance and/or incapacitation is the desired goal and alternative target areas should be considered when rounds are not effective. Alternative target area considerations will be based on the circumstances the officer is encountering and the established department safety priorities.

(4) Deployment areas - "Point of aim, Point of impact"

Contact Areas - each situation will dictate which criteria to be used.

- (a) Only if deadly force becomes necessary will any round be intentionally fired at the head, neck, and groin area of the subject.
- (b) Waist down, with the exception of groin, back and front
- (c) Chest/nipple line to waist, back and front.
- (d) When aiming at extremities, caution should be used due to the potential for movement.

5. Procedure

a. Equipment Management

- (1). Special Units (i.e. SWAT, QRF) with their own inventory and armory shall securely store, issue, and maintain any less-lethal

weapon and equipment within their inventory in the same manner as any other weapon.

- (2). Patrol Division less-lethal inventory shall be stored, issued, and maintained by the Property Control Section, in the same manner as all other Department weapons available to patrol.
- (3). SWAT, and or QRF personnel shall conduct annual inspections and maintenance of the less-lethal inventory housed within Property Control (i.e. Pepperball launchers).
- (4). Patrol Division members assigned to carry less-lethal equipment shall:
 - (a). Sign for and obtain the equipment at Property Control;
 - (b). Inspect the equipment and immediately report any missing, damaged or potential problem items;
 - (c). Ensure weapons are loaded and ready for immediate deployment by the assigned officer;
 - (d). ENSURE ALL ROUNDS ARE LOADED INTO THE CTS 40MM MULTI-LAUNCHER, OR THE PEPPERBALL LAUNCHER BY THE ASSIGNED OFFICER. THE ASSIGNED OFFICER SHALL RETURN THE UNLOADED WEAPON AT THE END OF THEIR SHIFT TO PROPERTY CONTROL.
 - 1). Multi-Launcher: loaded cylinder, not spooled, weapon on safe.
 - 2). Single launcher: unloaded chamber.
 - (e). Ensure less-lethal equipment is securely stored in the trunk of the vehicle, with any visible interior release button set to the lock out position.
 - (f). Return all equipment to Police Supply at the end of the shift and note any replacement or repairs required, if applicable. Officers shall NOT transfer equipment from one shift to the next among themselves, bypassing Police Supply.

b. Deployment Techniques - 40MM/ Pepperball Launcher

- (1). Certified personnel are authorized to check out a 40MM or Pepperball launcher should the need arise.
- (2). Officers shall adhere to this policy on the use of chemical munitions.
- (3). Officers shall consider:

- (a). The level of force being confronted;
 - (b). The Department safety priorities.
- (4). At all times the less-lethal operator shall have lethal cover or a physical barrier.
- (5). At all times the intended use of less lethal will be communicated to the other officers present, prior to deployment, to negate any perception of gunfire. Whenever possible, emergency medical personnel Fire/Rescue and/or EMS will be summoned to stand by at the scene prior to less-lethal force of this type being deployed.
- (6). Incapacitation of suspect
The less-lethal team (preferably 4 officers) shall approach and place the subject in custody when appropriate.
- c. Handling of Injured Subjects
If feasible, subjects who are struck by a less-lethal round shall be transported to a medical facility for examination.
- d. Use of Force Reporting
 - (1). The operational use of a kinetic energy impact projectile will be documented in an offense report and a copy of the report will be forwarded to the Internal Affairs Division for review.
 - (2). Photo of the contact point of the suspect will be included, if possible.
- e. Training
 - (1). Training in the use of extended-range kinetic energy impact projectiles will consist of the approved department program and certification program.
 - (2). Officers shall be required to qualify with all less-lethal weapons on an annual basis.