

MAUI COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDERS
CHAPTER 304
FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

Effective date: 01/11/19

Revision date: 12/07/18

Rescinds: GO 304.3(7/24/12)

Accreditation Standards: 41.1.4

TASER X26/X2 LESS LETHAL WEAPON
G.O. 304.3

I. PURPOSE

To provide general guidelines for the use of the Taser X26/X2 as a less-lethal weapon for police service.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Maui Police Department that sworn personnel shall only carry weapons approved by the Department.

III. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. All Sworn Officers (non-Command Staff) shall complete training in the Taser X26/X2.
- B. Officers are authorized to carry and use only the department issued Taser X26/X2 and related equipment, such as cartridges and holsters.
- C. Officers shall only carry and use the Taser X26/X2 while on-duty or when on special duty employment and in uniform (plain clothed officers will have the option to carry the Taser X26/X2 with an authorized holster).
- D. Prior to any officer being authorized to possess and/or use a Taser X26/X2, the officer shall be issued and receive instruction in General Order 101.8, Response to Resistance. The issuance and instruction shall be documented by a certified instructor and forwarded to the Plans and Training Section.
 - 1. The Taser X26/X2 is categorized within the Chemical Agent/Oleoresin Capsicum Level of Force, as covered in the Use of Force Continuum.
 - 2. The Taser X26/X2 may be used when a subject actively resists arrest or control, or threatens by word or conduct that they will actively resist arrest or control.
 - a. The Taser X26/X2 may also be used when a subject passively resists arrest or control during specialized enforcement operations (i.e., riots,

demonstrations), and then only with the authorization of the designated Incident Commander.

- E. All officers must satisfactorily pass a certification course before being authorized by the Department to possess or use the Taser X26/X2.
 - 1. The Plans and Training Section shall be responsible for training officer in the proper use of the Taser X26/X2.
 - 2. Officers who have been issued a Taser X26/X2 shall also be issued and certified in the use of nonflammable O.C. spray.
- F. Officers must maintain proficiency in the use of the Taser X26/X2 and O.C. spray to be authorized to carry or use the Taser X26/X2. Annual proficiency training shall be scheduled and provided by the Plans and Training Section.
 - 1. Certified weapons instructors shall conduct and document proficiency training.
 - 2. An employee who fails to demonstrate proficiency shall be provided remedial training as soon as practical by a certified instructor. The employee's Taser X26/X2 shall be retained by the instructor until the employee has demonstrated proficiency.
- G. To eliminate confusion with an officer's firearm, officers shall:
 - 1. Only wear the Taser X26/X2 on their "Support Side" (opposite if their firearm)
 - 2. Unholster the Taser X26/X2 by using a "Cross-Draw" or "Support Side Draw."
- H. The Taser X26/X2 shall not be used in combination with any aerosol agent that uses a flammable formulation or in an environment where flammable liquids or gasses are known to be present.
 - 1. Officers shall use other force options if an alcohol based O.C. spray has already been deployed.

IV. PROCEDURES

- A. The Taser X26/X2 shall be used in a manner consistent with training and Departmental policy and shall not be used in a punitive or reckless manner.
- B. X26 Function Test
 - 1. Officers shall perform a function test of the Taser X26 prior to the start of their shift, special assignment, or special off-duty employment.

- a. Officer shall remove the air cartridge from the Taser X26, point the weapon in a safe direction, disengage the safety switch, and observe the Central Information Display for the battery percentage remaining. Officers shall then do a visual check to assure that the air cartridge has been removed. Officers shall then activate the weapon for approximately one second and stop activation by re-engaging the safety switch.
- b. Officers shall ensure the proper functioning of the Taser X26 by observing an immediate, loud, and uninterrupted spark being emitted during the one second function test.

C. X2 Function Test

1. Officers shall perform a function test of the Taser X2 prior to the start of their shift, special assignment, or special off-duty employment.
 - a. Officer shall point the Taser X2 in a safe direction, arm the Taser, then using your support side thumb, activate the arc button.
 - b. Officers shall ensure the proper functioning of the Taser X2 by observing an immediate, loud and uninterrupted spark being emitted during the function test.

D. Unsafe Weapon

1. No Taser X26/X2 shall be utilized for duty with less than 20% battery life remaining.
2. No Taser X26/X2 shall be utilized for duty when a diminished or intermittent spark is being emitted during the function test.
3. Officers shall contact Plans and Training Section for Taser replacements or repairs.

E. Deployment

1. Officer deploying the Taser cartridge probes into a subject shall attempt to secure the subject as soon as practical. If submission/compliance cannot be achieved after a reasonable number of activation cycles, attempts should be made to secure the subject during the activation cycle.
2. When the Taser X26/X2 is utilized in “drive stun” capacity, it functions as a pain compliance device. When subject compliance cannot be achieved after a reasonable number of “drive stun” applications, Officers should attempt other reasonable force options.

F. Rendering Medical Aid

1. Whenever a Taser X26/X2 is deployed and the probes penetrate a subject's body, appropriate medical treatment shall be provided to the subject.
2. When circumstances permit, qualified medical personnel (i.e., medics or medical facility personnel) will be utilized to remove Taser probes that penetrate a subject's skin.
 - a. When safe to do so, Officers shall remove the deployed cartridge from the weapon. Officers may break the cartridge wires near the embedded probes, prior to medical personnel arrival.
3. Under exigent circumstances, officer may be required to remove Taser X26/X2 probes from a subject. Under such circumstances, medical treatment shall be provided to the subject as soon as practical (i.e., summon medics to a safe location or take the subject to a medical facility.)
 - a. Only qualified medical personnel will remove Taser probes which have embedded in a male or female subject's groin, nipple, neck, face, eyes, ears, nose or head, or a female subject's breast.
 - b. If it is necessary to transport a subject who has Taser probes embedded in one or more of these areas, the officer shall leave the Taser probes embedded in the subject, and separate the cartridge from the probes by breaking the Taser wires close to the probes.
4. Whenever Taser X26/X2 probes are discharged, Officers shall recover them following established training guidelines. Any probe that penetrates a subject's body shall be treated as a contaminated needle, and precautions should be taken to prevent exposure.
 - a. The discharged probes shall be recovered and submitted as bio-hazard evidence under I/LEADS Property/Evidence Collection voucher.

G. Reporting Procedures

1. Officer
 - a. A supervisor shall be immediately informed whenever the Taser X26/X2 is used or activated including probe deployment, drive stun, or are displayed (excluding daily function test).
 - b. An officer who uses a Taser X26/X2 shall comply with the reporting procedures defined in General Order 101.8, Response to Resistance.

2. Supervisor

- a. Supervisors shall be responsible and accountable for the investigation and submission of all written reports, and shall download all Taser X26/X2 uses data immediately after each use (probe deployment and drive stun).
 - (1) A copy of the complete police report, to include the Taser download, shall be forwarded to the Plans and Training Section via the Element Commander.
 - (2) A download utilizing the most current version of the Taser X26/X2 Dataport shall be completed after each deployment of the Taser X26/X2. Downloads are to be conducted utilizing the Taser USB Downloadable Cable. Each download shall be saved within the designated and secured district or section folder on the "T" Drive.

Should there be a Taser that shows an error that does not allow a supervisor to complete a download, that Taser shall be returned to the Plans & Training Section. A Certified Taser Instructor will attempt to complete the download. If the Certified Instructor is unable to obtain a download due to a defect in the Taser, He/she will send the Taser to the Plans and Training Section.

The Plans and Training Commander shall determine whether the Taser should be sent to Taser International for download. In the event Taser International is unable to retrieve the firing data, written documentation regarding the inability to retrieve the data shall be obtained from Taser International. This written documentation shall be forwarded to the Commander of the Plans and Training Section.

3. Unintentional Discharge

- a. A Supervisor shall be immediately informed whenever there is an unintentional activation (arc) of the Taser, or an unintentional discharge of a Taser cartridge.
- b. The Officer involved shall document the circumstances of the unintentional activation or discharge in a To/From to the Chief of Police, through proper channels. The discharged cartridge and To/From shall then be forwarded to the Plans and Training Section.

V. ACCOUNTABILITY OF EQUIPMENT

A. Accountability of equipment

1. Upon discovery of the theft or loss of the issued Taser X26/X2 or Taser equipment, a numbered police report shall be completed. A copy of the report shall be forwarded to the Plans and Training Section.
2. If the Taser X26/X2 or Taser equipment is damaged, a To/From report shall be submitted to Plans and Training Section, via channels.
3. Employees will be required to pay for the replacement of the Taser X26/X2 or Taser equipment which were damaged, lost or stolen as a result of gross negligence.

B. Taser Cartridge Inventory

1. Elements with sworn personnel issued Taser X26/X2, shall be provided spare Taser cartridges. It shall be the responsibility of the Element Commander or a designee to create and maintain a log to ensure the accountability of these cartridges.
2. Supervisors who issue Taser cartridges shall complete MPD Form No. 713: Receipt of New Equipment/Uniform, and forward it to the Plans and Training Section.
3. If additional cartridges are required to replenish the District's inventory, the Element Commander or a designee shall submit a request via To/From, to the Plans and Training Section.

C. RECORD KEEPING

The Plans and Training Section shall be responsible for maintaining an inventory of all Taser X26/X2 and equipment, including the serial numbers, and the current assignee.


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