




Clayton County Police Department

PROCEDURES

Subject TASER ENERGY WEAPON (TEW)			Procedure # D30
Authorizing Signature 	Effective 09-02-2025	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Rescinds	Total Pages 11

I. PURPOSE

To provide guidance and directions on the use of TASER Energy Weapons (TEWs). The terms TASER Energy Weapon (TEW), Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW), Electronic Control Device (ECD), and Electronic Control Weapon (ECW) are often used synonymously to refer to the same type of less-lethal weapon.

II. POLICY

Consistent with the Clayton County Police Department's policy of using the level of force reasonable and necessary to control or otherwise subdue violent or potentially violent individuals, the Department authorizes the use of less-lethal options, such as the TASER Energy Weapon (TEW), by designated officers with this Department. The deployment and/or use of the TEW shall strictly follow the guidelines in this policy, the Department's TEW training program(s) and use of force policy.

III. DEFINITIONS

Active Resistance: Resistance that poses a threat of harm to the officer/others, such as when a subject attempts to attack/does attack an officer; exhibits combative behavior (e.g., lunging toward the officer, striking the officer with hands, fists, kicks, or any instrument that may be perceived as a weapon such as a knife or stick); or attempts to leave the scene, flee, hide from detection, or pull away from the officer's grasp. Verbal statements alone do not constitute active resistance. Bracing or tensing alone ordinarily do not constitute active resistance, but may if they pose a threat of harm to the officer/others.

Anti-Felon Identification (AFID) Tags: Small confetti-like pieces of paper installed on TASER Energy Weapon (TEW) devices that are expelled from the cartridge when deployed. Each AFID tag contains an alpha-numeric identifier unique to the cartridge used.

Drive-Stun: The use of a TASER Energy Weapon (TEW) as a pain compliance technique by pressing it against a subject's body and delivering an electronic shock.

Elevated Risk Population Groups: Individuals who are potentially at greater risk of injury or death following an exposure to a TASER Energy Weapon (TEW), including those who reasonably appear or are known to be elderly, medically infirm, pregnant, users of internal cardiac devices, or who have low body mass, such as small children.

Less-Lethal Force: Physical control techniques or implements that a reasonable officer would not normally expect to cause death or serious bodily injury, involving a physical effort to control, restrain,

or overcome the resistance of another. Impact weapons and the TASER Energy Weapon (TEW) and similar objects are generally considered less-lethal.

Neuromuscular Incapacitation (NMI): Occurs when a TASER Energy Weapon (TEW) is able to cause loss of sufficient voluntary muscle control, which prevents the subject from advancing and achieving their goal.

Offender Control: Based upon appropriate law enforcement response to a specific action of resistance generated by the offender. Control is achieved when all of the offender's resistance to a legitimate arrest or detention has ceased.

Passive Resistance: Non-compliance with officer commands that is non-violent and does not pose an immediate threat to the officer or the public. Such actions may include, but are not limited to, bracing, linking arms, tensing, or verbally signaling an intention to avoid or prevent being taken into custody constitute passive resistance.

Probe Deployment: A mode of TASER Energy Weapon (TEW) use that delivers an electrical current upon contact with a target through probes propelled from a distance, attached to the TEW.

Sensitive Body Areas: Areas particularly susceptible to injury when exposed to TASER Energy Weapon (TEW) probes or activation, such as the subject's face, eyes, head, throat, chest/heart area, female breasts, groin, genitals, or known pre-existing injury area.

TASER Energy Weapon (TEW): A less lethal weapon designed to deliver electrical charges into a subject that will cause involuntary muscle contractions and override the subject's voluntary motor responses, rendering the subject temporarily incapacitated.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. Authority

1. The TASER Energy Weapon (TEW) is an additional law enforcement tool, and is not intended to replace firearms or other Department-recognized defensive tactics and controlling techniques. It is a less-lethal force option that can be used to control violent or potentially violent subjects, as well as those who actively resist arrest.
2. The Department has authorized the use of both the TASER 10 and the TASER X26P (hereinafter both may also be referred to as TEW), manufactured by Axon. **Only** Department-owned TEWs and cartridges will be issued to and used by authorized personnel.
3. **Only** officers who have been trained by a certified instructor, demonstrated proficiency and successfully completed the Department's-approved TEW training program(s) and maintain their certification on the device they are approved to use, are authorized to carry and use the TASER 10 and/or the TASER X26P.

B. Training

1. The Academy/Training Unit is responsible for training and recertification of TEW operators.
2. Officers who are authorized to carry a TEW shall be permitted to do so only after successfully completing the initial Department-approved TEW training program(s).
 - a. Training must be conducted by qualified instructors certified on the specific model of TEW carried by officers of this Department.
 - b. Training shall be sufficient to demonstrate proficiency in accordance with established standards.
 - c. Training shall include scenario-based practice, and adhere to the product manufacturer's recommendations as well as applicable laws, standards and leading practices.
 - d. Legal training in the areas of search and seizure, use of force, qualified immunity, applicable laws, and federal case law should be discussed in training for TEWs.

3. At least annually, all officers authorized to carry a TEW are required to receive in-service training on the Department's use of force policy and demonstrate proficiency with the TEW model that the employee is authorized to use, in order to maintain their certification.
 - a. Proficiency training must be monitored by a certified weapons or tactics instructor.
 - b. Training and proficiency records shall be documented, including authorized users.
4. Remedial training will be provided for any officer who fails to meet the proficiency standards set during TEW training.
5. Officers who lose certification for any reason **shall not** carry a TEW until recertified.
6. Officers who **do not** carry a TEW shall receive training that is sufficient to familiarize them with the device while working with officers who use TEWs.
7. Officers shall have access to this policy via PowerDMS which is accessible through the Department's intranet site (<http://ccpd/>).

C. Weapon Readiness

1. TEWs shall be handled carefully and according to the manufacturer's guidelines.
2. Officers **shall not** draw or hold their TEW simultaneously with their firearm or other force option.
3. Officers who are issued a TEW will carry it while on duty, unless they are required to secure the device in certain locations, e.g., detention facility, courthouse, etc. The TEW shall be stored in a safe and secure location when not under the officer's immediate control.
4. Both the TASER 10 and TASER X26P are less-lethal energy weapons used by the Department, but they differ significantly in their design and capabilities.
 - a. The TASER 10 offers a longer range (up to 45 feet), individual probe targeting, and more cartridges (10) for multiple deployments. The TASER X26P is an older, single-shot model with a shorter range (25 feet).
 - b. The TASER 10, while offering a larger number of probes and extended range, **does not** have a drive-stun feature. The TASER X26P, does include a drive-stun function, allowing for close-range electrical stimulation by pressing the device against a subject.
 - c. Some of the key features and differences, between both models (i.e., TASER 10 and TASER X26P), are listed in the *TEW Comparison Chart* (shown below).

TEW COMPARISON CHART

FEATURE	TASER 10	TASER X26P
Range	Up to 45 feet	Up to 25 feet
Cartridges	10	1
Probes	Individually targeted	Two per cartridge
De-escalation	Warning alert	Warning arc (without a cartridge)
Voltage	Low voltage, relies on NMI.	Higher voltage than TASER 10.
Drive-stun	Does not have a drive-stun feature.	Does have a drive-stun feature.
Size	Standard	Compact
Weather Resistance	Enhanced	Standard

Essentially, the TASER 10 is a more advanced, higher-capacity, and accurate energy weapon designed for challenging situations, while the TASER X26P remains a reliable and compact option for close-range encounters.

Officers shall be familiar with the operational capabilities of the TEW they are issued.

5. The TEW will be inspected and checked for proper function prior to every shift.
 - a. Inspections: In addition to ensuring TEW batteries are properly charged and that the device is properly maintained and not damaged, officers are responsible for ensuring their device has the most up-to-date firmware and/or software. This must be done in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines and as specified in departmental training.
 - 1) TASER X26P: The battery pack shall be replaced when the charge level reaches 20%.
 - 2) TASER 10: The rechargeable batteries shall be docked when the weapon indicates less than 30% of power remaining.

Only battery power sources recommended by the manufacturer will be used with TEWs. Cartridges shall be replaced before their expiration date.

- b. Function Tests: During function tests of a TEW, officers are required to adhere to both the manufacturer's and Department training guidelines to ensure the safety of themselves and others.
 - 1) TASER X26P: Officers will perform a spark test (also known as a function test), consisting of a full five (5) second cycle, to ensure the device is functioning properly.
 - 2) TASER 10: Officers will perform a function test to verify the energy weapon's core electronics are working properly. The TASER 10 is designed differently and **does not** require a spark test. Officers **shall not** pull the trigger during a function test. Pulling the trigger will deploy a cartridge, even if the weapon is in the function test mode.
 - c. Officers will notify their supervisor immediately of any function test fails, battery or other issues, outdated firmware and/or software, or any damaged or defective TEW.
 - d. Accidental discharges that occur during inspections or function tests will be reported immediately to the officer's supervisor. Normally, such occurrences will be reported in memorandum (*Memo*) format and forwarded through the chain of command.
6. If at any time an officer/supervisor determines that a TEW, battery or cartridge is defective/damaged, it shall be taken out of service immediately.

In cases where a TEW fails a function test or **does not** perform as expected, the device must be removed from service immediately.

- a. The damaged or defective TEW, battery or cartridge **will not** be used until it is repaired or replaced by the Logistics & Operations Unit Commander, or authorized designee.
 - b. Modifications or repairs to the device shall be performed only by a trained technician and consistent with the manufacturer's guidelines and directions.
7. The TEW shall be carried in an immediately deployable state with the cartridge in place and with the safety in the "safe" position, and secured within a Department-issued/approved holster, on the duty belt or outer vest, on the side of the body opposite the firearm.

Officers shall ensure their TASER 10 is loaded with a fully stocked magazine. Partial magazines may result in ineffective operation due to the system's variable chamber selection.
8. Depending on the model, a TEW can be used in two (2) modes: probe and drive-stun. The probe mode shall be the primary setting option on both, the TASER 10 and TASER X26P, with the drive-stun mode used as a secondary option on the TASER X26P. **The TASER 10 does not have a drive-stun feature.**

D. General Considerations for Use

1. The TEW is authorized to be used when it is objectively reasonable under the totality of the circumstances and what is known to the officer at the time.

The deployment of a TEW against a subject is considered a use of force and will be deployed in a manner consistent with this policy, the Department's TEW training program(s) and use of force policy. See also CCPD SOP: *A5: Use of Force*.

2. An officer is authorized to use a TEW in the following circumstances:
 - a. To protect the officer and/or others from immediate physical harm;
 - b. To restrain or subdue a subject who is actively resisting or evading arrest; or
 - c. To bring an unlawful situation safely and effectively under control.

Mere flight from a pursuing officer, without other known circumstances or factors, is not sufficient cause for the use of the TEW to apprehend an individual. Severity of the offense and other circumstances will be considered before an officer uses a TEW on a fleeing person.

3. The TEW may be used to control a dangerous or violent subject when deadly force **does not** appear to be justified and/or other attempts to subdue the subject by other conventional tactics have been, or will likely be, ineffective in the situation, or there is reasonable expectation that it will be unsafe for officers to approach within contact range of the subject. The TEW may be utilized at a safe distance to maximize officer safety and limit injuries to the subject/others.
4. The TEW **shall not** be used:
 - a. Against a subject who is passively resisting the lawful commands of the officer, unless there is an articulable reason why it would be unsafe to approach the subject, and other options are not practical.
 - b. On subjects in restraints, except as objectively reasonable to prevent their escape or prevent imminent bodily injury to the subject, officer or another person; however, in these situations, only the minimal amount of force necessary to control the situation shall be used.
 - c. Against a subject actively running on foot from officers, unless exigent circumstances exist that endanger the safety of the officer, subject, or other individuals.
 - d. When the subject's movement or body positioning prevents the officer from aiming or maintaining appropriate body part targeting, unless the risk of increased injury to the subject is justified because of a reasonably perceived threat to the officer or others.
 - e. When the officer has a reasonable belief that deployment may cause serious injury or death from situational hazards, including, but not limited to: uncontrolled fall or falling from an elevated position; adjacent to traffic; operating machinery or conveyances (e.g., cars, trucks, motorcycles, ATVs, scooters, bicycles); or near a body of water because of the risk of drowning, except when deadly force would be justified.
 - f. In a situation where, deadly force is clearly justifiable, unless another officer is on-scene and capable of providing deadly force to protect the officer deploying the TEW and/or other individuals.
5. Officers shall be aware of the general concerns present when a TEW is used on individuals who are potentially at greater risk of injury or death following an exposure to a TEW, including those who reasonably appear or are known to be elderly, medically infirm, pregnant, users of internal cardiac devices, or who have low body mass, such as small children (i.e., elevated risk population groups). Officers are not prohibited from using the TEW on such persons but shall limit use to those exceptional circumstances where the potential benefit of using the device reasonably outweighs the enhanced risks involved.
6. Absent exigent circumstances, officers **shall not** intentionally activate more than one (1) TEW complete circuit at a time against a subject.

7. After initial activation and to the extent practicable, the totality of the circumstances should be re-evaluated before any additional activation. Officers shall activate the device on a subject no longer than objectively reasonable to overcome resistance and bring the subject under control.
8. The TEW has limitations and restrictions requiring consideration before its use. The TEW should only be used when an officer can safely approach the subject within the operational range of the device. Although the TEW is generally effective in controlling most subjects, officers should be aware that the device **may not** achieve the intended results and officers **must** be prepared to transition to other reasonable use of force options.
9. As soon as the subject is in custody and no longer a threat, the officer shall holster their TEW, notify Emergency Medical Services (EMS), render aid as necessary, and notify a supervisor regarding the use of force.

E. Restrictions

1. Officers **shall not** knowingly use a TEW in the presence of any explosive or flammable substance. The TEW can ignite cell phones, explosive materials, liquids, fumes, gases, vapors, or other flammable substances, e.g., gasoline, sewer gases, "meth" labs, butane lighters, hair gels/sprays, hand sanitizer, etc. Furthermore, the TEW **shall not** be used on a subject who has been sprayed with Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray or any other self-defense spray. Some OC sprays and self-defense sprays are flammable and would be extremely dangerous to use in conjunction with a TEW.
2. The TEW **will not** be used under the following circumstances:
 - a. As coercion in the questioning or interrogation of a subject;
 - b. Solely for pain compliance or to escort, prod, or jab subjects;
 - c. To rouse unconscious, impaired or intoxicated subjects;
 - d. For psychological intimidation, to elicit statements or to punish any individual;
 - e. For horseplay; or
 - f. Any other reason that would not be legally justified or comply with the guidelines set forth in this policy, the Department's TEW training program(s), and use of force policy.

F. Primary Probe Deployment

1. **The TEW is most effective at overcoming resistance and gaining subject control when used in the probe mode (vs. drive-stun), and from adequate distance consistent with training to allow sufficient probe spread on contact. Accordingly, probe mode is the preferred method of initial deployment.**
2. Whenever possible, the TEW shall be deployed using a back-up officer to assist with handcuffing or providing cover.
3. Immediately prior to deployment, the officer shall visually and physically confirm that the device selected is the TEW and **not** a firearm.
4. When feasible and tactically appropriate, officers shall issue verbal and/or visual warnings, e.g., verbalization, display, laser painting, warning arc (TASER X26P only), warning alert (TASER 10 only), or a combination of these tactics consistent with training prior to deploying the TEW. If the TEW laser is used in a further attempt to gain compliance, the aiming laser should **never** be intentionally directed into the eyes of another as it may permanently impair their vision.
 - a. Officers shall allow a reasonable amount of time for the subject to comply before initial and any subsequent deployments, unless doing so would increase the risk of injury to officers, the subject, or others individuals involved.

- b. When practical, officers should also notify assisting officers and/or others involved that they intend to deploy the TEW.

The fact that a verbal and/or visual warning was given or the reason(s) it was not given shall be documented by the officer deploying the TEW in their report.

- 5. When multiple officers are present and a TEW is to be used, only one (1) officer shall deploy the device. In the event, the officer reasonably believes the TEW is ineffective (e.g., device malfunction, loose/thick clothing worn by the subject, miss/single probe hit, low nerve/muscle mass, limited probe spread, wires break), another officer may deploy a TEW, if compliance from the subject has not been achieved. Officers shall verbally coordinate with each other on who will deploy the TEW and who shall act to take the subject into custody or provide cover.
- 6. When practical, the officer applying the TEW should target the back of the resisting subject, anywhere below the neckline. If the subject must be targeted from the front, the officer applying the TEW should target the lower torso (below the chest) and legs.
 - a. The TEW **shall not** be intentionally aimed at sensitive body areas (refer to *Section III* of this policy), absent reasonable belief by the officer that they are facing an immediate risk of serious physical injury or death.
 - b. Officers shall consider the totality of circumstances, including subject movement, limited sighting capability, and their ability to accurately deploy the device, to reduce the risk of accidental probe contact to an unintended body part.
- 7. The TEW may be discharged for an initial cycle of up to five (5) seconds:
 - a. In an attempt to minimize the number of TEW discharges necessary for subject compliance, during and immediately after this cycle, the officer shall verbally give compliance instructions to the subject.
 - b. The officer shall be aware that an energized subject might not be able to respond to commands during or immediately following exposure; hence, the officer shall allow a reasonable amount of time to assess the effectiveness of the cycle, and to give the subject an opportunity to comply with the instructions given.
 - c. The officer shall evaluate, under the totality of circumstances presented, whether additional cycles or probes are objectively reasonable and necessary in accomplishing the officer's lawful objectives. The evaluation shall include consideration of whether the subject is of an elevated risk population that may be at a higher risk from multiple and/or prolonged TEW cycles.

Note: Repeated, prolonged, or continuous exposure to the TEW's electrical discharge can pose potential risks, particularly concerning breathing and physical exertion. Hence, evaluation of compliance during the application process becomes a necessity.

- d. The officer should consider using a second cartridge (with the TASER X26P), or additional probes (with the TASER 10), or transitioning to alternative force options if the officer reasonably perceives that the subject has **not** responded to the TEW deployment, in the anticipated manner based on training and experience.
 - e. To reduce the number of cycles and duration of exposure, the subject should be restrained as soon as practical and safe during or following exposure to a TEW cycle. Officers **shall not** touch the wires, probes or the area on the subject between the probes while the TEW is activated.
- 8. **Officers should consider that exposure to the TEW for longer than fifteen (15) seconds may increase the risk of serious injury or death and should be avoided, unless the officer reasonably believes that the need to control the subject outweighs the**

potentially increased risk posed by multiple applications. In such cases, each application must be independently justified, and the risks must be weighed against other force options.

G. Drive-Stun Application

The TASER 10 does not have a drive-stun feature.

1. All drive-stun applications are subject to the same guidelines and restrictions as primary probe deployments.
2. Drive stuns are an acceptable use of the Taser X26P. This option should be considered: when a probe deployment is partially or completely unsuccessful; as a follow-up to a two-probe deployment; and with the air cartridge removed as a pain compliance technique.

The TASER X26P may also be used in close-range, self-defense, and brief distraction situations in the drive-stun mode with the cartridge removed, or expended cartridge in place. **When the device is used in the drive-stun mode it is primarily a coercive control (pain compliance) tool, and less effective than when probes are deployed with adequate probe spread and proper placement.**

3. Officers should use the TASER X26P drive-stun mode only for the following:
 - a. As a brief application to attempt compliance or distraction;
 - b. To “break-contact” or distraction tactic when engaged with a subject; or
 - c. As a three- or four-point contact to attempt to achieve neuromuscular incapacitation (NMI).
4. A preferred method of close-range drive-stun application with a TASER X26P involves firing the probes at close range with the cartridge on, then applying the device in drive-stun mode consistent with training to an area of the body away from the probe location. This potentially creates a greater “probe spread” effect between the probe location and the point where the TASER X26P is placed in contact with the subject’s body to cause NMI.
5. Officers should avoid repeated cycles in the drive-stun mode if compliance is not achieved.
6. If a subject does not respond to the TEW's effects as anticipated, based on training and experience, and additional drive-stun cycles **do not** seem likely to be effective, officers should transition to other resistance control measures.

H. Post-Deployment

1. Once the subject is in custody and no longer a threat, the officer shall holster their TEW.
Following a TASER 10 deployment, it is crucial to holster the weapon before placing the battery pack in the dock to ensure that log data is properly synced. The weapon's operational data is stored on the device and transfers to the battery pack, not directly to the dock.
2. The officer shall notify the dispatcher immediately that a TEW was deployed and request Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Officers shall request EMS to respond if any of the following occurs:
 - a. Anytime electrical energy is transferred from a TEW to a subject via probe mode and/or drive-stun mode;
 - b. When a TEW probe penetrates the flesh of a subject;
 - c. When the subject is injured or requests medical attention (e.g., visible, complaints);
 - d. When the subject reasonably appears to be in medical distress;
 - e. When the subject **does not** appear to be recovering in a manner consistent with training and experience; or
 - f. Whenever an officer determines it is necessary.

3. Officers shall render aid as necessary.
4. When subject to a TEW deployment, persons falling into the following categories should be transported to a medical facility for examination:
 - a. If exposed to more than one (1) simultaneous TEW exposure;
 - b. If exposed to more than three (3) standard five (5) second cycles, or more than (15) seconds of total exposure;
 - c. Individuals who are potentially at greater risk of injury or death following an exposure to a TEW, i.e., elevated risk population groups (refer to *Section III* of this policy);
 - d. If the person complains of pain in the chest, has abnormal breathing, is unconscious, and is nauseous or vomiting; and
 - e. If the person has exhibited signs of extreme uncontrolled agitation or hyperactivity, or excited delirium as described in training, prior to and/or during TEW exposure.

When exigent circumstances exist, considerations must be made relative to immediate transportation to a medical facility, if EMS personnel anticipate a prolonged response. Officers shall notify their supervisor immediately before transporting any such individual.

5. EMS will medically evaluate the condition of the subject prior to them being transported to a detention facility. The EMS evaluation will determine whether or not the subject needs to be transported to a medical facility for treatment by a physician. The subject **will not** be booked into a detention facility until they have been medically evaluated.
 - a. The probes should be removed from the subject immediately following handcuffing.
 - b. Probes broken and embedded in the subject's skin, and/or probes which are embedded in sensitive body areas (refer to *Section III* of this policy), shall be removed only by EMS or other trained and certified medical personnel.
 - c. Probes which are embedded in non-sensitive areas may be removed by Department trained personnel. If an officer experiences difficulty removing the probes, they shall be removed by EMS or other trained and certified medical personnel. Officers shall use universal precautions to avoid the transfer of bodily fluids when dealing with a subject who has been struck by a TEW probe.
 - d. If possible, photographs and/or video (i.e., Body-Worn Camera) of the affected area (e.g., probe and drive-stun sites) and any other injuries or lack of injuries should be taken before and after probe removal.
6. All subjects who have received a TEW application should be monitored regularly while in police custody even if they received medical care. If an officer has any reason to believe that the health of any subject is at risk, even after EMS treatment, then such officer shall notify their supervisor immediately before transporting the subject to a hospital for further evaluation.
7. When transporting a subject who has been subjected to a neuromuscular stun, the transporting officer shall provide this information and/or documentation to personnel at the Clayton County Jail or any other detention facility during the booking process.

I. Evidence

1. Once the subject has been controlled, and the need for medical care has been evaluated, officers will collect all evidence of the encounter. Officers shall take steps to avoid embarrassment and preserve confidentiality regarding the subject's medical treatment during this process.
2. When a TEW is used in probe mode, the cartridge, wire leads, anti-felon identification (AFID) tags, and used probes have evidentiary value; hence, such items shall be collected, properly

labeled, documented, and secured as evidence as demonstrated during training and in compliance with departmental procedures. On the TASER X26 the probes shall be sealed inside the used compressed air cartridge as demonstrated during training and in compliance with departmental procedures. See also CCPD SOP: *E3: Evidence & Property Control*.

Officers shall take into consideration the potential health and safety hazards when handling such items (e.g., sharp objects and biological materials). Officers should wear gloves when handling the expended probes to reduce the chance of injury and/or exposure to biological materials.

3. The TEW has an internal memory that stores the operating firmware and a deployment record. Once a TEW has been deployed, its data, including audio and video recordings, if so equipped, will be downloaded **before** the TEW is returned to service, and the file shall be considered a part of the use-of-force review. Immediately following deployment, the assigned officer will turn over the TEW to the investigating supervisor. The TASER 10 is integrated with Axon Evidence.
4. The concerned supervisor is responsible for downloading the data from the TEW into Evidence Sync using assigned username/password login information in order to store it in www.evidence.com. The concerned supervisor will convert the generated TEW report to a .PDF document for departmental filing. The concerned supervisor who generated the *Use of Force Report* will attach the TEW report through the Blue Team Field Entry Support application.

If the concerned supervisor is unavailable for more than two (2) business days, a designated on-duty Shift/Unit Commander will complete the downloading procedures and TEW report. Certain departmental components and subcomponents have been pre-arranged to specifically utilize a member of the Office of Professional Standards (OPS) for completing the downloading procedures and TEW report, and such personnel will meet with OPS on a pre-scheduled date and time to adhere to these procedures.

J. Reporting/Documentation

1. TEW application (probe mode or drive-stun) is considered a use of force and requires the completion of a *Use of Force Report*. Any deployment of a TEW will be reported, whether on or off duty, except those connected with agency training functions.
2. The deploying officer will notify their supervisor/respective on-duty supervisor, to respond to the scene, as soon as practical after using a TEW, to ensure that a *Use of Report* is completed.
3. The deploying officer shall fully document in their *Incident Report* or *Incident Supplemental Report* the facts and circumstances that reasonably justified the use of the TEW. This should include:
 - a. The facts and circumstances which dictated the officer's use of force (e.g., subject's threats, behaviors, actions, perceived risk of harm, de-escalation efforts, including verbal commands given to the subject);
 - b. Manner in which the subject refused to comply;
 - c. Witnesses to the discharge of the TEW;
 - d. Number of discharges, and duration of each;
 - e. Location of probes on the subject's body;
 - f. Extent, if any, of the subject's injuries and/or information concerning any alleged injury;
 - g. Contact information for EMTs or other medical professionals involved in the incident;
 - h. Description of first aid provided; and
 - i. The name of the supervisor notified, and time of such notification.

4. In any incident in which the TEW is displayed to gain compliance or attempt to gain compliance, but is **not** utilized to apply force, a *Use of Force Report* **shall not** be completed. In such incidents, the officer that displayed the TEW shall complete an *Incident Report* or *Incident Supplemental Report* justifying such action in the narrative section.
5. Normally, accidental discharges that occur during inspections or “spark tests” will be reported in memorandum (*Memo*) format and forwarded through the chain of command.
6. The investigating supervisor is responsible for the following:
 - a. Interviewing the subject against whom the force was applied;
 - b. Interviewing and identifying all Department officers who were involved in and/or present for the use of force incident;
 - c. Interviewing and identifying parties who assisted, witnessed or were involved in the use of force incident, to include personnel from other law enforcement agencies;
 - d. Gathering any evidence related to the use of force incident; and
 - e. Forwarding relevant information and documentation through the chain of command.

K. Dangerous Animals

1. The TEW is an effective tool in stopping the aggressive behavior of wild and/or domesticated dangerous animals. It is to be used when possible and practical, but should not be substituted for a higher force option if the situation warrants such action. If deployed on a domestic animal, officers should have an animal control officer on scene, if feasible, to restrain the animal. **Note:** Aggressive animals may only be incapacitated or stunned momentarily, but recover quickly. After the initial cycle, the animal may break the wires and flee the scene.
2. The deploying officer shall notify their supervisor, or respective on-duty supervisor as soon as practical after using the TEW on any animal.
3. The deploying officer shall document in their *Incident Report* or *Incident Supplemental Report* the facts and circumstances that reasonably justified the use of the TEW.

L. Off-Duty Considerations

1. Officers are **not** authorized to carry a Department TEW while off-duty unless working in a pre-approved off-duty law enforcement employment situation as described in CCPD SOP B6: *Off-Duty/Secondary Employment*.
2. Officers will ensure TEWs are secured while in their homes, vehicles or any other area under their control, in a manner that will keep the device inaccessible to others.
3. The TEW shall **never** be left unattended in an unsecured location, while off-duty.
4. When not being used, TEWs shall be stored in a secure, climate-controlled location. Officers shall make every reasonable effort to avoid storing a TEW in extreme temperature conditions.

V. CANCELLATIONS

- A. This procedure amends and supersedes the following standard operating procedure: D30: *Electronic Control Devices & Weapons*, dated February 14, 2023.
- B. This procedure rescinds *CCPD Training Bulletin #1, Conducted Energy Weapon*, dated February 16, 2023.