



Policy Manual Standard Operating Procedure	
SOP Number: 11-02e	Subject: Intermediate Weapons
Authorized by: Chief Robert Connolly	
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Signed: Robert Connolly	
Date signed: 03/13/2018	

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1. PURPOSE

This standard operating procedure establishes guidelines for the proper use and care of intermediate (less lethal) weapons; training and qualification for carrying and using intermediate weapons; and specifications for intermediate weapons. The procedural guidelines of this Department are to accomplish its mission as effectively as objectively reasonable within the bounds of applicable law.

CALEA 6th edition standard 4.1.4

2. POLICY

- 2.1 Only Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) employees who meet the qualifications in this directive are authorized to carry and use intermediate weapons in the performance of their duties.
CALEA 6th edition standards 4.1.4, 4.3.2
- 2.2 Sworn and public safety officers will carry and use only Department-issued or approved intermediate weapons in the performance of their official duties.
- 2.3 The Department provides sworn officers with firearms and intermediate weapons, along with appropriate training in their use, to provide a range of options for officers when dealing with uncooperative or combative subjects.
- 2.4 Intermediate weapons are provided to officers as less lethal force options. Intermediate weapons may not be effective in every situation. Officers must assess the effectiveness of each application and determine whether further applications are reasonable, or if a different tactic or use of force option should be employed.
- 2.5 The Department provides public safety officers batons, O. C. Spray and appropriate training in their use. Public safety officers are authorized to use less lethal weapons primarily for self-defensive.
- 2.6 The Department will conduct refresher training and qualifications on intermediate weapons for all employees issued intermediate weapons biennially.
CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.3

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 The Training Coordinator will organize all intermediate weapons training in accordance with this standard operating procedure and will ensure thorough documentation of training and proficiency.
CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.3 b
- 3.2 Officers will adhere to the prescribed procedures for carrying and using intermediate weapons in performance of their official duties and will maintain proficiency with them.
- 3.3 **Supervisors will monitor officers' compliance with this directive.**

4. ACTION

- 4.1 Sworn officers wearing standard-issue police working uniforms will carry chemical agents, Tasers and batons, in the carriers provided, on their equipment belts in a manner that does not interfere with their duty sidearm or other authorized equipment (e.g., magazines, handcuffs, etc.). Public safety officers in

uniform will carry chemical agents and batons in the carriers provided on their equipment belts in a manner that does not interfere with their daily work activities.

- 4.1.1 Tasers will be carried on the support hand side of the body (opposite side of the body from the issued firearm).
- 4.1.2 Officers are cautioned to avoid carrying any equipment near their spines because of the possibility of sustaining a disabling injury during an accident or assault.
- 4.1.3 O. C. spray canisters will be placed in an upright position within the holder. The canister safety should remain in the on position until the officer is ready to dispense the chemical.

4.2 Chemical Agents

- 4.2.1 Be aware that when using a chemical agent indoors, the agent may contaminate a building through its ventilation system.
- 4.2.2 Officers should be prepared to use other force options, for controlling a subject who is not subdued by the OC spray.
- 4.2.3 Whenever possible, officers should be upwind from the subject before using the OC spray, and they should avoid entering the spray area.
- 4.2.4 Officers will never transport (or otherwise restrain) in a prone or “face down” position any handcuffed person who has been exposed to chemical agent due to the possibility of positional asphyxia (respiratory arrest, leading to death).
- 4.2.5 After an officer has used the chemical agent or when the container has reached its expiration date, he or she will turn it in for replacement.

4.3 Impact Weapons

- 4.3.1 Officers will not intentionally direct baton strikes to the head, spine, or neck (or other areas of the body referenced in training which would cause death or serious injury) unless the use of deadly force is justified.
- 4.3.2 Only escort holds, bars, and defensive tactics taught in the Department’s baton training course are authorized. The Department does not teach or authorize the use of neck restraints or other similar weaponless control techniques.

4.4 Less-Lethal Munitions

- 4.4.1 Sworn supervisors who have received the required training are authorized to carry the 12-gauge shotgun dedicated to less lethal (bean bag) munitions. The 12-gauge less lethal munition is considered an extended range impact weapon and is classified with other less lethal impact weapons in force option decision making.
- 4.4.2 Officers who receive Department training in less lethal munitions are authorized to use less lethal munitions when provided to them in the field by a supervisor or other superior.
- 4.4.3 Supervisors issued less lethal dedicated shotguns will be issued ten (10) rounds of less lethal munitions. The weapon will be carried with five rounds in the magazine and five rounds stored with the weapon in the vehicle.
- 4.4.4 Less lethal munitions provide an additional resource to assist in and present a reasonable force option for resolving situations where it is necessary to compel an individual to cease his or her actions. Personnel are not required to use less-lethal munitions in lieu of other reasonable tactics.
- 4.4.5 Circumstances appropriate for less-lethal munitions deployment (examples, not all-inclusive):
 - a. An offender is armed with a weapon and the tactical circumstances allow for the safe application of less-lethal munitions. Less-lethal munitions should be used against an offender armed with a firearm only if there is a cover officer present as outlined in Section 4.4.8 of this directive.
 - b. A violent offender armed with a weapon that is not a firearm (e.g. Baseball bat, sword, knife, crow bar, shovel, etc.)
 - c. Civil disturbances where the offender is engaged in riotous behavior, or is throwing rocks, bottles, or other dangerous projectiles at civilians or officers.
 - d. The suspect has made credible threats to harm him/herself or others.
- 4.4.6 Deployment Considerations - The following factors should be considered before discharging less-lethal projectiles:
 - a. The severity of the crime or incident.

- b. The offender's capability to pose an immediate threat to the safety of officers or others.
- c. The offender is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight.
- d. The credibility of the subject's threats as evaluated by officers present, as well as the subject's physical capacity and capabilities.
- e. The type and proximity of the weapons available to the subject.
- f. The officer's versus the subject's physical factors.
- g. The reasonableness of other force options versus the offender's threat.
- h. Distance and angle to the targets on the offender.
- i. Type of munitions employed.
- j. Type and thickness of the subject's clothing.
- k. The subject's actions dictate the need for an immediate threat response and the use of less-lethal munitions appears appropriate.
- l. When possible, use of less lethal munitions will be preceded by a verbal warning.

4.4.7 Shot Placement

- a. The need to immediately incapacitate the subject must be weighed against the risk of causing serious injury or death. Less-lethal munition projectiles will be delivered to suspect target areas based on the circumstances, the established safety priorities, and the level of force reasonable to conclude the incident.
- b. The potential for causing death or serious physical injury with such projectiles is a reality. This potential is greatly reduced when impacts to the head and neck are avoided, and when appropriate medical examination is provided in cases where a suspect 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.
- c. The intentional placement of shots to the extremities, lower abdomen, and the buttocks will be considered when incapacitation is reasonable and a minimal potential for injury is an appropriate

response. These targets carry a low risk of serious injury with a low potential for immediate incapacitation.

- d. The intentional placement of shots to the front torso, back, and groin will be considered when incapacitation is reasonable and a potential for increased injury is reasonable given the circumstances as they appeared to the officer. These targets carry a higher risk of serious injury with a higher potential for immediate incapacitation.
- e. The intentional placement of shots to the head, neck, or spine will be considered when incapacitation is reasonable and a high potential for injury is an appropriate response. These targets carry a very high risk of serious injury with a high potential for immediate incapacitation and should only be utilized when deadly force would be authorized.

4.4.8 Safety Considerations in the Deployment of Less-Lethal Munitions

Generally, this system will not be deployed in the field without a cover officer utilizing firearms loaded with conventional, Department-issued ammunitions. Exceptions may be required in circumstances where a cover officer is not practicable. The cover officer will be responsible for protecting the officer employing less-lethal munitions from assault that would cause a reasonable officer to be in fear of imminent death or serious bodily injury based on the circumstances at the time.

4.4.9 Medical Treatment

CALEA 6th edition standard 4.1.5

- a. Persons struck with less-lethal projectiles shall be treated by paramedics or at a designated treatment hospital as soon as practicable after the incident.
- b. Persons should be medically cleared prior to being booked into Jail.
- c. Photographs for evidentiary purposes of all areas of the body struck by the projectile(s) will be taken following the initial medical treatment.

4.5 Taser Electronic Control Weapons

4.5.1 Taser Specific Definitions

- a. TASER – A less-lethal Conducted Electrical Weapon that uses propelled wires to conduct energy to a remote target, thereby controlling and overriding the body's central nervous system. It uses an electro-muscular disruption system to temporarily override the central nervous system and directly control the skeletal muscles.

This causes an uncontrollable contraction of the muscle tissue, allowing the Taser to physically debilitate a target regardless of pain tolerance or mental focus. The Taser affects the sensory and motor nervous systems, both stunning and physically incapacitating the target.

- b. Primary Target Area – Center mass of the human body is the target area when discharging the Taser, particularly the center mass of the subject's back (preferred). Officers encountering subjects wearing heavy or loose clothing on the upper body may consider targeting the legs. Sensitive areas should not be intentionally targeted unless these areas can be justified as primary intended targets under the totality of the circumstances reasonably known to the officers at the time the Taser is deployed.
- c. Sensitive Areas - Areas which include the face, neck, groin and female's breasts.

- 4.5.2 The use of a Tasers is generally authorized in the same circumstances in which intermediate (non-deadly) weapons would be appropriate. Tasers will be used in conformance with State and Constitutional law based on the Supreme Court's ruling of objective reasonableness.
- 4.5.3 At the beginning of each shift officers will perform a function test to ensure the Taser is working properly and verifying the device is adequately charged. To test the Taser, point it in a safe direction away from the body. A Taser will not be carried if it is not functioning properly, or has an expired cartridge. Non-functioning Tasers will be turned in to the officer's immediate supervisor for replacement. Expired cartridges will be turned in to the officer's immediate supervisor who will have access to replacement cartridges.
- 4.5.4 Tasers will be properly loaded and holstered with the safety switch in the off position.
- 4.5.5 Whenever practical (including, but not limited to: subject is not reasonably perceived as an immediate threat or flight risk), officers should brandish, display, laser dot, display arc warning, and/or provide a warning prior to deploying a Taser.
- 4.5.6 Officers will aim at the primary target areas identified in training and defined in this policy. Officers will not intentionally aim at the face, neck, or groin area.
- 4.5.7 Use of a Taser causes a subject to lose muscular control and may result in a fall. Consideration must be given to the subject's actions and

reaction where there is an increased risk of injury beyond that which would be considered reasonable, given the situation. Examples include but are not limited to:

- a. Running or fleeing subjects when the location presents a reasonable belief that the subject will sustain serious injury or death if the subject falls to the ground as a result of the Taser deployment.
- b. Subjects on a structure's edge, ledge or other height.
- c. Tall fences.
- d. Bridges/overpasses.
- e. Crossing a moving lane of traffic.
- f. Deep water.

4.5.8 Only one officer on a scene should use a Taser unless a malfunction or miss occurs or exigent circumstances exist.

4.5.9 Officers should use the minimum number of cycles or seconds of delivered discharge practicable to take a subject into custody or mitigate their active resistance and/or assaultive behavior.

- a. After the first Taser cycle the officer shall reevaluate the situation to determine if subsequent cycles are reasonable.
- b. If the subject is not controlled by the initial cycle, additional cycles may be utilized in accordance with training. Officers shall not exceed 15 seconds of exposure, whether due to multiple applications or continuous cycling, without justification.
- c. Any subsequent exposure should be independently justifiable, and the risks should be weighed against other force options. Officers are required to independently justify each cycle used against a subject in their report of the use of force.
- d. Officers should consider alternative methods, if control is not gained after additional cycles.

4.5.10 Verbal Commands and Notification

- a. Unless doing so would place any person at risk, officers shall issue a verbal warning to the subject that the Taser will be used prior to

its use, and that it will hurt. Where feasible, the officer will defer application for a reasonable time to allow the subject to become compliant after the warning.

- b. In an attempt to minimize the number of Taser discharges needed for subject compliance, officers should, while deploying the Taser, reasonably direct (order) the suspect as the incident dictates. Such verbal commands may include, but are not limited to “stop resisting,” “lie flat,” “put your hands behind your back,” “do it now, or you will get the electricity again,” etc.
- c. Deploying officers should reasonably notify on-scene, assisting officers that they intend to deploy a Taser. A reasonable announcement such as “TASER! TASER! TASER!” should be considered. The announcement should be made only if it would not reasonably further endanger any officers, other persons, or the suspect.

4.5.11 Medical Treatment

CALEA 6th edition standard 4.1.5

When an officer discharges a Taser where one or both of the probes imbed in a subject’s body the following procedures will be followed:

- a. The probe(s) will be removed as quickly as possible after gaining control of the subject, in accordance with training. Probes that are deeply imbedded, difficult to remove, and/or located in the neck, head, groin, male nipple or female breast will not be removed at the scene. The subject will be transported to the hospital and the probes will be removed by appropriate medical personnel.
- b. The subject will be monitored for any symptoms of physical distress while in police custody, as defined in training. Emergency medical treatment will be provided as requested or needed.
- c. EMS will be notified if requested or the subject does not appear to be fully recovered after a reasonably short period of time.
- d. EMS will be notified if the subject falls into a vulnerable class such as a young child, a pregnant woman, elderly persons, or those with a known or reported preexisting medical condition that increases likelihood of danger to the individual.

4.5.12 Deployment Considerations

As with all weapons, the use of the Taser must be objectively reasonable based on the totality of circumstances. Tasers may be used in response to circumstances that include, but are not limited to:

- a. Active resistance when another compliance technique has failed or the officer has reason to believe that attempting another compliance technique will fail and/ or result in a greater risk of injury to themselves, the subject, or a third person and such force is objectively reasonable. A subject's flight should not be the sole justification for deploying the Taser. Prior to deploying the Taser against a fleeing subject, the officer should consider such factors as the severity of the offense and any immediate threat to the safety of the officer or others posed by the subject.
- b. Assaultive behavior/ Active aggression or to control a violent subject when attempts to subdue the suspect by other less intrusive methods have been, or likely will be, ineffective and there is a reasonable expectation that it will be unsafe for officers to approach the suspect within contact range and when deadly force does not appear to be objectively reasonable.
- c. To prevent the commission of a suicide or self-inflicted serious physical injury.
- d. To deter vicious or aggressive animals that threaten the safety of the officer or others. The use of Tasers on animals has not been extensively tested and may have minimal effects. If utilized, Officers should be prepared to act quickly after the Taser deployment since it may only temporarily disable the animal.
 1. Center mass of the animal should be targeted and care should be taken to avoid the head and other sensitive areas of the animal.
 2. Personnel will take reasonable measures to provide for the animal's welfare in the event that probes impact a sensitive area, or it appears the animal's health is in jeopardy.
- e. During a situation not giving rise to deadly force, an officer will aim for the primary target area. The intentional use of a Taser to sensitive areas should be AVOIDED unless it is the intent to deliver deadly force.

- f. A Taser may be used against combative, assaultive, foreseeably violent, detainees, in the same manner as provided for Taser use against any person under this policy.
- g. **A Taser is Not a Substitute for Deadly Force.** A Taser should generally not be used as a substitute for deadly force and should not be used in those situations. In deadly force situations, officers' decision(s) to deploy the Taser should be backed up with the immediate availability of deadly force.
- h. **Weapon Confusion.** Prior to the deployment of a Taser, the officers deploying the Taser have the responsibility to reasonably visually and physically confirm that the use-of-force tool selected is in fact a Taser and not a firearm – in order to avoid inadvertent use of the wrong weapon (weapon confusion).

4.5.13 Drive Stun Mode

- a. The use of a Taser in “drive-stun” mode will not reliably or foreseeably incapacitate the subject. Officers will not use the Taser in drive-stun mode if they reasonably believe that discomfort will not cause the subject to be compliant with the officers, e.g. a Taser use in drive-stun mode on a drug induced, highly pain-resistant subject.
- b. Officers may use drive stun to cause subjects to release their grip on something for safety reasons, such as a person or object (e.g., a steering wheel). If the person is not reasonably perceived as an immediate threat or flight risk the officer shall give the person a reasonable opportunity to comply, and release their grip, before any application of force.
- c. Officers should avoid using drive-stun except for:
 - 1. A brief application to attempt pain-compliance or distraction.
 - 2. A “break-contact” or distraction tactic when tied up with subject
 - 3. A 3 or 4-point contact to attempt to achieve neuromuscular incapacitation.

4.5.14 Prohibited Uses of Tasers

The use of a Taser is prohibited in the following circumstances:

- a. On a subject in operation of a motor vehicle.

- b. As a punitive measure.
- c. To awaken unconscious or intoxicated individuals.
- d. Against suspects who are passively resistant, non-responsive, or have passed out.
- e. Near flammable liquids or fumes, or on subjects who are known to have been sprayed with OC spray by another agency.
- f. In “drive stun” mode for pain compliance more than two times, while attempting to take someone into custody; however, the “drive stun” mode may be used in a defensive manner more than twice, if the suspect is actively assaulting an officer, or exigent circumstances exist.
- g. On women who are known to be pregnant, except where lethal force would be permitted, or where the officer has reasonable cause to believe there is an imminent risk of serious physical injury. Officers shall determine the reasonableness of Taser use based upon all circumstances, including the subject’s age, size, physical condition, and the feasibility of lesser force options. Officers will be trained in the increased risks that Tasers may present to the above-listed vulnerable populations.
- h. On pregnant women, young children, subjects who are elderly, or visibly frail individuals, unless exigent circumstances exist.
- i. On subjects who are handcuffed, except when they are violently resisting or assaulting someone, and other methods of control are likely to be ineffective.
- j. While off duty or in a non-law enforcement related capacity.

4.5.15 Data Downloading and Deployment Reporting

- a. Tasers contains an integrated computer system that tracks all activations of the unit. The information recorded includes dates, times and number of activations.
- b. Tasers will be downloaded monthly when not discharged and after any discharge. Data downloads will be conducted by watch commanders. Officers are not authorized to attach any data download device to a Taser. Tasers requiring maintenance will have all data downloaded prior to shipping.

- c. Downloaded data will be reviewed by watch commanders to ensure that officers are properly conducting daily functionality checks and reporting all discharges.
- d. In addition to other Department Use-of-Force and incident reporting requirements, all written reports associated with the Taser incident will be completed before the end of the Taser deploying officers' shift, or as reasonably practicable thereafter.
- e. The Taser deployment or discharge documentation shall include, but not be limited to:
 - 1. To what extent the Taser was utilized;
 - 2. The known results of the Taser's utilization;
 - 3. The type of Taser deployment, i.e., brandish, display, laser paint, warning arc, drive-stun, probe deployment, 3-4 point application;
 - 4. The number of Taser cycles used, the duration of each cycle, and the duration between cycles; and
 - 5. The approximate range at which the Taser was used.
- f. The department shall also collect the download data, cartridges, probes, and wires from the Taser that was deployed and shall maintain them pursuant to Department evidence collection policy.
- g. When practicable, in instances in which more than one Taser has been deployed, a sampling of the AFID tags should also be collected and maintained pursuant to the department's evidence collection policy.
- h. All collected evidence will be placed into a temporary evidence locker with a property receipt for storage in the property room.
- i. Collected evidence will be kept for a minimum of 5 years to ensure availability of required for court presentation.

4.15.6 Unintentional Cartridge Discharge.

In the event of an unintentional Taser cartridge discharge, the officers will promptly notify their supervisor. The supervisor will have the officers prepare a written incident report and make appropriate notifications.

4.6 Care of Weapons

- 4.6.1 Officers' intermediate weapons are subject to inspection at any time by supervisors.
- 4.6.2 Officers are responsible for keeping their intermediate weapons clean and in good operating condition at all times. Report damage to or malfunction of a Department weapon to a supervisor immediately.
- 4.6.3 No modifications will be made to any duty weapon without approval from the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief of Police. Under no circumstances shall any person be authorized to tamper with or alter in any manner any Taser devices and Taser replaceable cartridges. Misfires and duds shall be recovered, rendered safe and removed from service.
- 4.6.4 Repairs to Department-issued weapons must be made by a certified armorer or the weapon manufacturer.
- 4.6.5 The safe and secure storage of intermediate weapons should be given special attention as well. At home, they will be stored so that they are not accessible to others in the residence, especially children.
CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.1 f

5 Training and Qualification

CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.3

5.1 Training on the use of Intermediate Weapons

All officers will complete Use of force Training where they are issued copies of, and are instructed in, this SOP and the Use of Force SOP before being authorized to carry an intermediate weapon. Such issuance and instruction will be documented. The Department will conduct refresher training for all sworn personnel biennially.

CALEA 6th edition standards 4.3.3, 4.3.4

- 5.2 Officers will only carry or use intermediate weapons in which they have received training and demonstrated a requisite level of proficiency. Such officers will subsequently demonstrate proficiency with all less-lethal weapons they are authorized to carry at least biennially. All such training will be conducted and documented by a certified weapons and/or Taser instructor.
CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.3, BOR 1.10.5
- 5.3 The training regimen for use of chemical agents and Taser includes direct exposure unless there is a documented medical reason preventing exposure. Officers refusing to submit to exposure to chemical agents or Taser as a

function of training that do not have a documented medical exemption may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

5.4 Less lethal Weapons Training. Officers must receive initial training and qualify with the baton, Taser and O. C. Spray prior to issuance of the weapon. Supervisors and authorized officers must receive initial training and qualify with less lethal munitions before issuance or authorization for use.

5.5 Officers failing to demonstrate required competencies, either in a training environment or on the job, will be required to satisfactorily complete remedial training to correct these deficiencies. Intermediate weapons will not be carried on duty until required proficiency is demonstrated. Failure to attend the required training will result in the removal of the weapon from the officer until the required training is completed and proficiency demonstrated. This does not preclude officers from receiving disciplinary action if the attendance failure is not excusable.

CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.3 c, BOR 1.5.10

5.6 The Training Coordinator will document all training and proficiency on intermediate weapons.

CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.3 b

6. Specifications

CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.1 a

6.1 Chemical Agent:

6.1.1 Body Guard LE-10 (10% Oleoresin Capsicum) spray or fog is the Department's standard-issue chemical agent. The Chief may authorize other types of chemical agents or delivery systems (e.g. foam) for use by officers upon satisfactory completion of appropriate training and proficiency testing.

6.2 Impact Weapon

6.2.1 The ASP F-21C tactical expandable baton is the Department's standard issue impact weapon. The Chief may authorize other models and/or types (e.g., side-handle baton) of impact weapons for use by officers upon satisfactory completion of appropriate training and proficiency testing.

6.2.2 The Taser X2 is the Department's standard issue Electronic Control Weapon.

6.2.3 A distinctively marked 12-gauge shotgun will be dedicated for the deployment of beanbag rounds. Only less-lethal munitions will be

loaded in these shotguns. The munition issued by the Department will be either rubber baton, rubber pellets or round sock filled shotgun shells.

6.2.3 Use of “sap” gloves, blackjacks, or similar devices is strictly prohibited.

7. Inspections and Records

7.1 Weapon Inspections

CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.1 c, d

7.1.1 A certified instructor or armorer will thoroughly inspect all weapons for function, cleanliness, and safety prior to initial use by employees and at least biennially thereafter, usually during refresher training. He or she will document these inspections. Malfunctioning or unsafe weapons will either be repaired on the spot or removed from service until the problem(s) can be corrected.

7.1.2 Employees will report suspected material or functional defects of intermediate weapons to a supervisor without delay.

7.1.3 The team watch commander, or corresponding supervisor in other assignments, will inspect intermediate weapons at least monthly.

7.2 Storage and Record Keeping

CALEA 6th edition standard 4.3.1 e

7.2.1 The Department Quartermaster is responsible for the storage of unissued Tasers and cartridges. Replacements will be kept in a secured locker available to Patrol Division supervisors. The Quartermaster will be notified when replacements are removed. If the replacement is removed due to the expiration date of a cartridge, the cartridge will be provided to the Quartermaster for inventory documentation. The Quartermaster will then provide the expired cartridge to the Training Coordinator or designee for use in Taser training.

7.2.2 The Department Quartermaster is responsible for maintaining a complete record of all intermediate weapons issued to and recovered from employees. The record will include, at a minimum, the date of issue, manufacturer/model, serial number (if any) and the names of both the assignee and issuing person.

7.2.2 Taser data will be maintained in compliance with the Georgia State Retention Schedule.

8. DEFINITIONS

Active Aggression: Means a threat or overt act of an assault (through physical or verbal means), coupled with the present ability to carry out the threat or assault, which reasonably indicates that an assault or injury to any person is imminent.

Active Resistance: A subject's physical actions to defeat an officer's attempt at control and to avoid being taken into custody. Verbal statements alone do not constitute active resistance.

Intermediate weapon: A weapon that is less lethal than a firearm, such as a baton, pepper spray, or electronic device.

Officers: For the purpose of this directive, the term used without a specification to sworn or public safety officer means both.

Official duties: For the purpose of this directive, the term means actions performed by an employee in his or her capacity as a law enforcement officer.

Passive Resistance: Physical actions that do not prevent the officer's attempt to control, for example, a person who remains in a limp-prone position, or behavior that is unresponsive to police verbal communication or direction.

Weapon: Includes, but is not limited to: firearms (e.g. handguns, rifles, etc.) and less lethal weapons (e.g., impact weapons, stunning devices, and sprays.)

9. CANCELLATION

This directive cancels SOP 11-02d, "Intermediate Weapons"

10. REFERENCE

Georgia Code section 17-4-20 (b) "...Nothing in this Code section shall be construed so as to restrict such sheriffs or peace officers from the use of such reasonable nondeadly force as may be necessary to apprehend and arrest a suspected felon or misdemeanor."

CALEA 6th edition standards 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.4

SOP 12-01h, "Use of Force"