

<u>TASER</u> ENERGY WEAPON	Document Number	GO 817
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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide the operational guidelines for the use of Taser Energy Weapons for police service.

2. PERSONS AFFECTED

All sworn personnel.

3. POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Hawai'i Police Department that qualified personnel may carry authorized Taser Energy Weapons (TEW) for use in less-lethal situations.

4. DEFINITIONS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. Officers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- 5.1.5. All officers must receive initial certification training and be certified in proper use before being authorized by the Department to possess and/or use the TEW. Annual refresher training or recertification is required for continued use of any TEW. Any deployment of the TEW shall be in accordance with the latest certification or refresher training.

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5.1.6. Prior to any officer being authorized to possess and/or use the TEW, the officer shall receive instruction in *General Order 804, Use of Force*.

5.1.7. Officers shall immediately report any loss, theft, or damage to the TEW or related equipment to the supervisor. In cases where the TEW or associated equipment is damaged beyond the repair capabilities of a Taser Instructor, officers shall also submit a memorandum to the Police Chief with the circumstances leading to the loss, theft, or damage.




5.2. Training Section

5.2.1. The Training Section shall be responsible for maintaining a list of all personnel currently certified in the use, care and maintenance of the TEW and notifying the Special Response Team Tactical Commander when training is required.

5.2.2. The Special Response Team Tactical Commander shall be responsible for coordinating with the certified Taser Master Instructor(s) to select certified TEW Instructors and determining a feasible training schedule and venue.

5.2.3. The Taser Master Instructor(s) and selected TEW Instructors shall be responsible for providing the requested training.

5.3. Special Response Team

5.3.1. The Special Response Team Tactical Commander shall be responsible for maintaining an inventory of all Taser Energy Weapons and Taser Cam HD units, to include the serial numbers and to whom each TEW is assigned. 

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5.3.2. The Special Response Team Tactical Commander shall be responsible for maintaining a supply of all TEW consumables such as cartridges, magazines, and PPM's/battery packs, and resupplying sections upon request.

5.3.3. The Special Response Team Tactical Commander shall be responsible for reviewing the information contained within the TEW Use Report to evaluate departmental and training procedures.

5.4. Police Chief

5.4.1. The Police Chief shall determine the continued suitability of the authorized TEW and may terminate its continued use at his/her discretion.

5.4.2. The Police Chief shall have the sole authority to suspend or revoke the certification of any personnel in the use of the TEW.

6. PROCEDURES

6.1. The TEW shall be used in a manner consistent with training and departmental policy. Any use of the TEW which is not consistent with training and departmental policy shall result in an administrative investigation.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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- 6.4. Whenever a TEW is used on a subject, appropriate medical attention shall be employed in accordance with the certification and/or refresher training.

7. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

7.1. Officer

- 7.1.1. A supervisor shall be immediately notified whenever a TEW is used or activated, including probe deployment, drive stun, or arc display (excluding daily spark/function tests and Taser 10 warning alerts).
- 7.1.2. If the subject is to be detained in the Hilo or Kona Cellblock, the receiving desk supervisor shall be notified that the subject had been struck by TEW probes or received a drive-stun. Documentation shall also be noted on the Hawai'i Police Department's *Arrestee Health Screening Form*.
- 7.1.3. An officer who uses a TEW to deploy probes, drive stun, or display a warning arc (excluding Taser 10 warning alert), shall submit the following reports:
- A memorandum to the Police Chief, via proper channels, describing the facts regarding its use and the reasons for each application of force (warning arc, probe deployment(s), drive-stun(s)). When a probe deployment is utilized, the serial number of the expended X2 cartridge(s) shall be included in this memorandum;
 - The Hawai'i Police Department's TEW Use Report shall be completed and submitted with the memorandum to the Police Chief;

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- c. Both the memorandum and TEW Use Report shall be completed by the end of the officer's tour of duty. After being reviewed by the Police Chief, the documents shall be forwarded to the Special Response Team Tactical Commander for his/her information and review;
- d. The facts and circumstances regarding its use shall be documented in the correlating incident report.

7.1.4. An officer involved in an unintentional discharge of a cartridge or unintentional activation shall document the facts and circumstances in a memorandum to the Police Chief, via proper channels.

7.2. Supervisors

7.2.1. Supervisors shall be responsible and accountable for the investigation and submission of all reports. A notification sent via the Records Management System (RMS) shall be sent to the Tactical Commander of the Special Response Team for his/her review and information.

7.2.2. A supervisor shall investigate any unintentional discharge of a cartridge or an unintentional activation (arc display/warning alert) of the TEW in accordance with departmental disciplinary procedures.

- a. The supervisor shall document his/her findings in a memorandum to the Police Chief, via proper channels.

7.2.3. The activation and/or use of the Taser 10 does not in and of itself require the initiation of a critical incident.

7.3. Inventory and Accountability

7.3.1. District/Division commanders shall be responsible for maintaining an inventory of replacement TEW's and cartridges, to include the serial numbers, status of the cartridge, and status date.

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- a. Issued X2 cartridges shall be listed with the name and ID number of the issued officer and the date issued.
 - b. X2 cartridges of officers that transfer into a District/Division shall be added to that District/Division's inventory and documented the same way as issued cartridges, with the date issued being the date of transfer.
 - c. X2 cartridges of officers that transfer out of a District/Division shall be documented as such on the District/Division's inventory.
 - d. Taser 10 cartridges though marked with an external serial number are not required to be recorded, rather, District/Division commanders shall account for the quantity received from the Special Response Team and the issuance to officers under their command.
 - e. Damaged or defective cartridges shall be documented as such on the District/Division's inventory and returned to the Special Response Team Tactical Commander.
 - f. Spent cartridges shall also be documented as such on the District/Division's inventory, and officers shall dispose of spent cartridges in accordance with certification/refreshers training.
 - g. If a replacement Taser 10 TEW is assigned to an officer, the District/Division commander shall immediately notify the Special Response Team Tactical Commander via email with the serial number and officer assigned the TEW. The Tactical Commander will then update the equipment assignment on evidence.com.
- 7.3.2. Officers shall document damaged, defective, or spent cartridges and request replacement cartridges via TEW Repair Form to the District/Division commander.
- 7.3.3. District/Division commanders shall document issued cartridges on submitted TEW Repair Forms and ensure that their inventory of

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issued, damaged/defective, and spent cartridges is updated. District/Division commanders shall forward all completed TEW Repair Forms to the Tactical Commander of the Special Response Team.

7.3.4. District/Division Commanders shall submit requests for additional Taser 10 TEW's or cartridges as needed via email to the Tactical Commander of the Special Response Team.

7.3.5. The Tactical Commander of the Special Response Team shall prepare a set of replacement equipment with applicable serial numbers in a reply email along with plans on how and when the items will be transported to the district or division.

7.3.6. At any given time, the Office of Professional Standards may conduct a data inspection of the TEW to ensure that the device is being used in accordance with the department's policies and procedures.

7.3.7. Only authorized personnel shall download the audio, video footage, and data information files on the TEW.

8. QUALIFICATIONS

8.1. Qualifications shall be conducted in a manner consistent with manufacturer specifications and in accordance with current case law.

8.2. An officer must complete all certification requirements and perform demonstrated tasks that are necessary for officer safety (example: being able to stand up from a supine position within a reasonable amount of time without assistance) in order to qualify with their TEW. If an officer fails to qualify, the instructor shall:

8.2.1. Notify the officer of the specific certification requirements that were not completed, or of the tasks necessary for officer safety that need to be performed; and

8.2.2. Advise the officer on how to qualify.

8.3. The officer(s) that fail to qualify shall:

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- 8.3.1. Be assigned in a light-duty capacity where the likelihood of a physical confrontation is low, if the officer failed to qualify as a result of being unable to perform demonstrated tasks that are necessary for officer safety, until the officer is qualified;
- 8.3.2. Be assigned in their regular capacity without an issued TEW, if the officer failed to qualify as a result of being unable to complete all certification requirements, until the officer is qualified;
- 8.3.3. Study and train using a department authorized TEW Instructor and training facility; and
- 8.3.4. After approval from the instructor, be scheduled to qualify within two weeks.
- 8.4. If the officer fails to qualify after remedial training and re-testing, the officer may be subject to further administrative action.