



# GENERAL ORDER

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

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**Chapter:** Operations

**Section:** 403.7

**Subject:** Use of Force

**Topic:** Electronic Restraint Device

**Accreditation:** A.05.01, A.05.02, A.05.04, A.06.01, **Revised:** 10/19/2015  
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**Enacted:** 07/30/2015

**Last Review:** 10/19/2015

**Review:** 01/30/2016

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## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this General Order is to establish policy and procedures governing the use of force by members of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office.

## II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office that sworn personnel shall attend and successfully complete all applicable training. The deployment of the Electronic Restraint Device by sworn personnel shall be done in accordance with General Order 403.1 and all applicable LCSO training protocols. However it is ultimately the responsibility of the deputy deploying the Electronic Restraint Device to ensure that it is deployed within the standards of Graham v Conner.

Deputies have an affirmative duty to act if they observe another deputy using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances, and shall safely intercede to prevent the use of excessive force. Deputies shall promptly report the incident to a supervisor.

## III. DEFINITIONS

A. **Electronic Restraint Device:** An Electronic Restraint Device is used on the waist, arm, or legs of a prisoner, which, when activated by a certified operator, emits a less lethal electronic shock to temporarily incapacitate the individual wearing the device.

## IV. PROCEDURE

A. Electronic Restraint Devices shall only be used by deputies who have been trained and certified to operate the specific device.

B. The devices shall only be used in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and guidelines and within applicable LCSO training protocols.

C. Electronic Restraint Devices may be used to provide added security and restraint during courtroom proceedings, high-risk transports, and transfers of disruptive prisoners.

- D. Prisoners who are restrained by use of an Electronic Restraint Device will have the rules for use explained to them prior to the device being applied. They will also be given an opportunity to sign a form, which explains the rules and expectations while the device is applied. If the prisoner refuses to sign the form, notation will be made on the form and two witnesses must sign the form. One witness must be the person who will be in control of the device.
- E. Electronic Restraint Device may be activated under the following circumstances:
  - 1. Any attempt to escape or assault any person
  - 2. Any outburst or movement that appears to threaten escape or assault
  - 3. Any failure to comply with a lawful direction of the custodial deputy(s)
  - 4. Any tampering with the device.

V. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

- A. Prisoners who are subjected to the activation of an Electronic Restraint Device shall be assessed and/or treated by medical personnel.

VI. REPORTING

- A. In all cases where there is an activation of an Electronic Restraint Device, any deputies involved, or who witnessed the incident, shall submit an IBR or supplemental incident report thoroughly documenting the events.
- B. In all cases where there is an activation of an Electronic Restraint Device, the supervisor shall complete a full and thorough investigation of the incident and document the investigation on the Administrative Investigation Inquiry Use of Force form.
  - 1. Refer to General Order 302 for further direction on completing Administrative Investigation Inquiries.
  - 2. Any injury received that results in serious injury or requires hospitalization shall be reported to the Internal Affairs section, which shall conduct the investigation.
  - 3. If a death occurs, it shall be investigated in accordance with General Order 403.12.
- C. In all cases where there is an activation of an Electronic Restraint Device, the affected area shall be photographed and any other evidence shall be documented appropriately.

1. Typical evidence related to uses of force may include, but are not limited to: video (in-car and/or body cameras), witness statements, incident reports and/or supplemental incident reports, related physical evidence, etc.
- D. The on-scene supervisor shall notify the chain of command of the deployment of an Electronic Restraint Device in all cases that result in death, serious injury or requires hospitalization.
- E. Copies of all documents shall be forwarded to the Internal Affairs section.