

## **521.1 CS CHEMICAL AGENT**

- I. **PURPOSE:** This policy provides guidelines for the use of CS (ortho-chlorobenzalidene malononitrile).
- II. **DISCUSSION:** CS is generally a fast-acting non-lethal chemical irritant, which is less potent than OC (oleoresin capsicum, aka: pepper spray). CS is ordinarily effective against most (not all) subjects. It normally affects them for approximately ten to twenty minutes. Contact with CS will cause a burning sensation to the skin and eyes, copious tearing, and a constricting feeling of the chest, which gives a feeling of suffocation and heavy nasal discharge.

Taser-equipped officers will not use aerosol spray canisters of OC or CS (which contain flammable alcohol propellant) in conjunction with the Taser, due to the risk of ignition.

CS can be deployed in the following ways:

- A. Aerosol canister;
  - B. Pyrotechnic grenades (burning);
  - C. Expulsion grenades (non-burning);
  - D. Barricade penetrating rounds; or
  - E. ISPRA delivery system.
- III. **POLICY:** CS spray (aerosol) may be used directly on subjects in the same manner and with the same restrictions as OC Spray. It may also be used indirectly for an officer to disperse a crowd after verbal warnings have failed. Use for crowd dispersal shall occur only with supervisory approval.

CS may be utilized through other means of deployment in a SWAT Team situation with the approval of the SWAT Team supervisor or by CMG personnel, with the approval of a CMG Commander. Certified personnel may, within training guidelines, utilize non-aerosol means of deployment under exigent circumstances.

- IV. **PROCEDURE:** Officers must be careful not to spray into a strong wind or breeze, which would force the spray back onto themselves.
  - A. Officers will take every precaution to ensure that innocent bystanders are not in the line of fire before discharge.
  - B. When deploying CS, the officer must ensure that an avenue of escape is provided for the aggressor(s).

- C. Officers may choose to indirectly affect a crowd with aerosol CS through general atmosphere contamination and not directly spraying anyone. This would be accomplished by means such as, but not limited to, spraying a nearby surface that causes a slight discomfort to those in the area without full exposure. This shall be considered an extremely mild use of chemical agent and would be appropriate for groups that refuse to disperse, and are not entirely hostile, but their continued presence represents passive resistance. Such resistance would be interfering with lawful activities, and other citizens, creating a potential safety risk to officers or others and no lesser means of dispersing the crowd is appropriate or effective.
- D. The indiscriminate use of CS is expressly forbidden.
- E. Subjects taken into custody after exposure to CS will be decontaminated as soon as practical via the use of water and fresh air. Subjects will be monitored for 15-20 minutes after exposure for any complications. Subjects will be discouraged from rubbing their eyes and will not be allowed to apply salves, lotions, or creams on the affected skin.
- F. Each time CS is utilized, its use will be investigated by the supervisor on scene and entered into Blue Team.
- G. Hybrid forms of CS (which are composed primarily of CS with small amounts of other chemical agents such as OC) will be considered the same as CS for deployment purposes.

Supersedes SOP 521.1, dated 9/24.