



POLICY AND PROCEDURE NO. 400.3

Service Baton/Expandable Baton Guidelines

Date Issued: April 13, 2007

Date Effective: April 13, 2007

5 Pages

The Department authorizes the use of the following police batons and aftermarket products for usage by this Department's sworn personnel:

- The conventional baton, not to exceed fourteen (14) inches in length, constructed of solid wood or plastic.
- The Monadnock™ Expandable Baton, Model: #2526, Detective 26"
- The Monadnock™ 26" Auto Lock Baton with Power safety tip and Super Grip, part-# 9046
- Hindi Cap for either Monadnock style baton (categories B or C)

The large riot baton may be used only by officers who have been properly trained and will only be carried when authorized by an official when that official decides that a disturbance, riot, or Tactical Patrol Force deployment situation may require the use of the riot baton.

Members of the Department's Tactical Patrol Force may carry the Monadnock™ PR-24 #I000 STS for tactical deployment situations (after receiving additional and follow-up training). Only active members are authorized. Once a Tactical Patrol Force member leaves the Patrol Force, the officer must return the PR-24 to an official of the Tactical Patrol Force and return to carrying a baton from categories (A-B-C).

It is the policy of the Department that only reasonably necessary force is used by a police officer when it is required to affect a lawful objective or in the defense of one's self or others.

Where force is necessary, a police officer should use the baton if lesser methods such as verbalization, bodily force or O.C. spray are not feasible, have failed, or would be obviously futile or otherwise inappropriate.

The baton should not be displayed or brandished as a threat unless its actual use in a situation would be proper. This does not prohibit an officer from having the baton readied, in a manner consistent with training, when it is reasonably anticipated that it may be required.

1. BASIS FOR DEPLOYMENT:

Police batons may be used consistent with training:

- As a restraining or come-along tool in instances where there is Level Three resistance (see policy # 400, Use of Force, Level Three) to lesser methods or where the implementation of lesser methods would not be appropriate.
- As a defensive tool to ward off strikes.
- As a defensive tool to deliver disabling defensive strikes to target areas of the body as a means to halt or deter a subject when all lesser means of applying non-deadly force have failed or would obviously be futile. An officer is justified in using this type of force under the following circumstances

- To overcome the violent resistance of an arrestee,
- To overcome an assault on an officer or third party,
- To deter persons engaged in riotous or violent conduct.

2. TARGET AREA PRECAUTIONS / BODILY AREAS TO AVOID:

Target areas for baton strikes are delineated into the following three bodily zones (see chart, pg. 4):

- Green Target Areas- areas where a baton strike or the application of a restraint technique causes a minimum level of resultant trauma. In these areas, injury tends to be temporary rather than permanent, however exceptions can occur.
- Yellow Target Areas- areas where a baton strike or the application of a restraint technique causes a moderate level of resultant trauma. In these areas, injury tends to be more permanent, but may also be temporary.
- Red Target Areas- areas where a baton strike creates the highest level of resultant trauma. Injury tends to be permanent rather than temporary and may include unconsciousness, serious bodily injury, shock or death. For these reasons, strikes to these areas are to be carefully avoided

3. SIGHT TARGETING:

The bodily areas to be targeted in the deployment of batons are designated in the aforementioned green, yellow, and red and target areas. These distinctions shall apply with the use of all batons whether used as complaint/come-along tool or as a means of delivering a strike. The target areas are illustrated in the chart below (pg. 4).

4. METHODS OF DEPLOYMENT:

Baton strikes should be delivered in a paused and penetrating fashion to obtain the maximum effect. Strikes should be swung in a side lateral fashion. Overhead blows should be avoided where possible to reduce the risk of blow to the head. All baton strikes, jabs, and other techniques used in the deployment of this device shall be consistent with initial and follow-up training in baton use.

5. STRIKE EVALUATION:

Unless circumstances do not permit, after the delivery of the baton strike, the officer should back away several feet from the subject to determine the effect of the strike, if any. If the subject has been immobilized, and is no longer perceived by the officer as a Level Four threat (see policy # 400, Use of Force, Level Four), no further strikes should be deployed. Subsequent strikes may only be deployed subsequent to the initial strikes where the subject continues to represent a threat to the officer or any other person present.

Once the subject is under control, the subject is to be monitored for the results of any injuries and, if necessary, taken to a medical facility for treatment prior to being transported to the cell room.

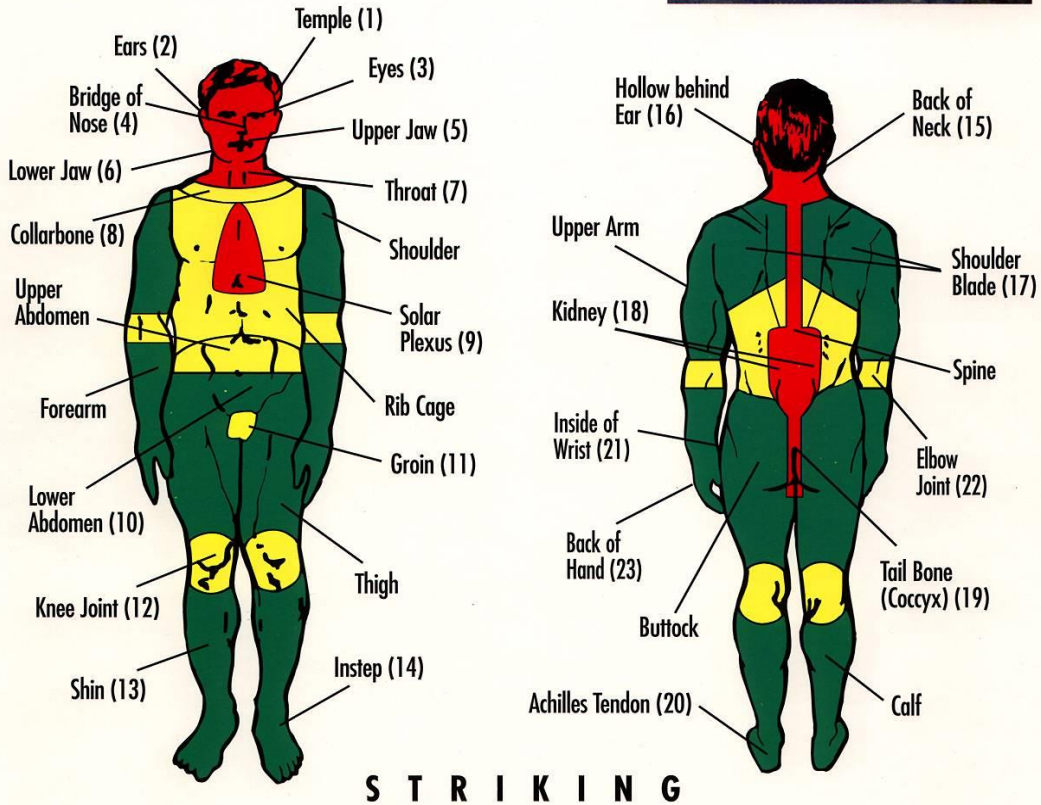
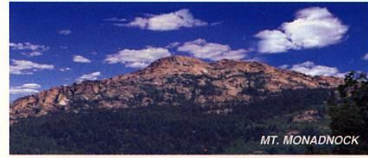
Any person complaining of injury or discomfort and requests medical attention shall be taken to the nearest medical facility available.

6. REPORTING PROCEDURES:

The use of a Service Baton/Expandable Baton as a striking tool is a reportable Use of Force. See policy # 400, Use of Force (section X, Reporting Use of Force Incidents).

MONADNOCK BATON CHART

Escalation Of Trauma By Vital And Vulnerable Striking Areas



S T R I K I N G

GREEN TARGET AREAS	YELLOW TARGET AREAS	RED TARGET AREAS
<p>REASONING: Minimal level of resultant trauma. Injury tends to be temporary rather than long-lasting, however exceptions can occur.</p> <p>Except for the HEAD, NECK, and SPINE, the whole body is a Green Target Area for the application of baton blocking and restraint skills.</p>	<p>REASONING: Moderate to serious level of resultant trauma. Injury tends to be more long-lasting, but may also be temporary.</p>	<p>REASONING: Highest level of resultant trauma. Injury tends to range from serious to long-lasting rather than temporary and may include unconsciousness, serious bodily injury, shock or death.</p>

©1998 MONADNOCK POLICE TRAINING COUNCIL, INC. Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire USA

Per:

Gary J. Gemme
Chief of Police

(Policy #410 Service Baton/Expandable Baton June 7, 2001, was revised November 05, 2002.)

(Policy #410 changed to Service Baton/Expandable Baton Guidelines 400.3 and revised April 13, 2007)