

**University of Chicago Police Department  
PROCEDURAL ORDER**

		<b>Effective Date:</b> September 27, 2019	<b>Number:</b> <b>PO 108-01</b>
<b>Subject:</b> <b>Taser Procedures</b>			
<b>References:</b>			
<b>Reevaluation Date</b>			<b>No. Pages:</b> 4
<b>Amends:</b> 30 AUG 2019 Version O.D.P.			<b>Rescinds:</b>
<b>Approved By:</b> Kenton W. Rainey, Chief of Police		<b>Signature:</b> Official Signed document on file in Accreditation Office.	

**I. PURPOSE**

To provide procedures for use with the Taser/CEW (conducted energy weapon).

**II. TASER 7**

- A. Sworn personnel are authorized to carry only Department owned and maintained Taser 7 devices. The use or carry of privately owned Taser devices on-duty, is strictly prohibited.
- B. The Taser 7 can be used for a subject whose actions are aggressively offensive with or without weapons. This type of assailant is one who places a person in reasonable apprehension of receiving a battery. See GO 108.4.C:

Assailant: a subject whose actions are aggressively offensive with or without weapons. This type of assailant is one who places a person in reasonable apprehension of receiving a battery.

Personnel are not expected to place themselves at unreasonable risk to deploy the Taser 7, nor shall an employee deploy the Taser 7 when facing a firearm or deadly force threat unless circumstances permit such use.

For example, two or more officers are present in a deadly force situation. One or more deploy a firearm, one may deploy a Taser.

- C. The Taser 7 stores the date and time of each discharge of the weapon. The complete downloaded data will be included by the supervisor, as a supplement to the Tactical Response Report as covered in GO 108.8.

- D. The Taser 7, is not considered use of deadly force or force likely to cause great bodily harm.
- E. The Taser 7 may be issued to and used only by sworn personnel who have completed the Department's user or instructor Taser training program.
- F. Only properly functioning and charged Taser 7 units shall be carried on duty. Any Taser 7 which is not functioning properly, damaged or unsafe, will be immediately removed from service. This will be reported to the employee's supervisor and the Taser 7 will be returned to the Training Unit for repair or replacement.
- G. Each non-training discharge, including unintended/negligent discharges of a Taser 7, shall be investigated and documented. A detailed police report shall be completed after each operational use of the Taser 7.
- H. Following a non-training discharge, including unintended/negligent discharges of a Taser 7, the Taser unit will be turned over to a supervisor of the employee, who will then complete a data download or will turn it over to the Training Unit for a data download.
- I. Cartridges will be replaced by the expiration date. All expired cartridges will be turned in to the Training Unit for use during training exercises or for disposal.
- J. Any non-training activation of the Taser 7 (excluding routine functional checks) requires immediate notification of a supervisor and a Tactical Response Report as covered in GO 108.7.
  - 1. A sworn police supervisor will respond to the scene of any non-training activation of the Taser 7.
  - 2. The appropriate Deputy Chief will be notified in the event any of the following circumstances occur:
    - a. A subject experiences death or serious injury.
    - b. A person experiences prolonged Taser 7 activation.
    - c. The Taser 7 appears to have been used in a punitive or abusive manner.
    - d. There appears to be a substantial deviation from training.
    - e. A person in an at-risk category has been subjected to a Taser 7 activation. Generally, a Taser 7 should not be used against a person in an at-risk category which includes: young children, persons who are elderly/frail, pregnant

women, and persons in control of a motor vehicle in motion.

NOTE: That notification will go up the chain of command, to the Chief of Police.

- K. Taser equipped sworn personnel will be designated Sergeants, FTOs, and Department approved Master Taser Instructors, and may carry the Taser 7 while on duty.
  - a. The Taser 7 shall be carried in a specially designed holster opposite the employee's duty pistol or on an exterior vest carrier.
- L. The Training Unit will maintain a record of the serial numbers of the Taser 7 units and the cartridges used for each Taser 7.
  - a. All training for the Taser 7 shall be coordinated through the Training Unit.
  - b. Only a Department-approved certified Taser instructor will conduct training/user certification/recertification for the Taser 7.
  - c. Training and certification/recertification shall include the user demonstrating proficiency with the Taser 7, as well as training on the Department's use of force policies.
  - d. Recertification will occur annually
- M. When not in use, the Taser 7 shall be properly secured and will only be removed from the holster/carry pocket or other secure location when it is to be checked, deployed, or taken in or out of service.
- N. Any electronic or functional checks (Arc Test) performed on the Taser will be conducted while the Taser is directed into an approved clearing device or safely pointed into a locker or other safe receptacle.
- O. The Taser will not be discharged, arc tested or used for drive stun when gasoline, other flammable liquids or vapor are known to be present. CEW use can result in a fire or explosion when flammable gases, fumes, vapors, liquids, or materials are present. Use of a CEW in the presence of a fire or explosion hazard could result in death or serious injury.
- P. Before discharging the Taser 7, the employee should notify other employees on the scene so that they are aware that its use is imminent. This should be done by stating aloud, the word "Taser."

- a. When discharging a Taser 7, sworn personnel should use one standard cycle (a standard cycle is five seconds) and stop to evaluate the situation. If subsequent cycles are necessary, the number and duration are restricted to what is reasonably necessary to place the subject in custody.
- b. Sworn personnel should avoid firing darts at a subject's head, neck, or genitalia.
- c. The Taser should not be utilized for young children, pregnant women, the elderly/frail or persons in control of a motor vehicle in motion.
- d. Employees must be aware of potential injury in deploying the Taser against a violent or combative offender is that of falling from a standing position.
- e. The cartridge and probes shall be retained as evidence. Care shall be exercised with the sharp probes and blood present.

Q. The Training Commander or designee shall be responsible to inspect and ensure the maintenance and replacement of the Taser 7 units assigned to Department personnel.

- a. Establish and maintain systems to record issuance of the Taser 7 and cartridges. Serial numbers will be recorded.
- b. Maintain an adequate supply of batteries and air cartridges.
- c. Return defective or damaged Taser units and cartridges to supplier.
- d. Obtain service and/or replacement for defective or damaged Taser 7 components.
- e. Provide annual re-training to certified users.