

RENO POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER

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Chief of Police: Jason Soto /s/		
Approving Deputy Chief: Tom Robinson /s/		
General Order No: P-405-17	Issued: March 12, 2010	Revised: July 2 nd , 2019
General Order Title CONDUCTED ELECTRICAL WEAPONS		

I. POLICY

Because Conducted Electrical Weapons (CEW) constitute an intermediate level of force, CEWs may be displayed or used only by authorized and trained personnel in accordance with GO P-400 Use of Force and additional guidelines established herein.

II. DEFINITIONS

Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW): Any device deploying battery-powered electrical energy sufficient to cause uncontrolled muscle contractions, override an individual's voluntary motor responses or cause pain compliance.

Drive Stun: Activating the CEW and placing it against the subject, in order to gain the subject's compliance. This can be done with or without a cartridge in place or after a cartridge has been deployed.

Intermediate Force: A level of force which is justified based upon an objectively reasonable belief that a subject poses an immediate threat to the safety of the officer or others.

Officer: For the purpose of this general order, an officer is any sworn personnel, regardless of rank or assignment, who is assigned a CEW and has undergone departmental training.

III. PROCEDURES

A CEW is an additional force option meant to be used in conformance with other tactics and training. A CEW is considered an Intermediate Force option and should be handled be done in accordance with departmental training. A CEW is not a replacement for a firearm.

A. General Procedures – only trained officers may carry a departmentally issued CEW.

1. **Officer's Responsibilities** – Officers will only carry their assigned CEW in a department issued or approved holster. Officers will not carry the CEW on the same side as their duty firearm. At their discretion, Officers may perform daily function tests of their assigned CEW in accordance with departmental training.

B. Deployment of an CEW – An officer's decision to use the CEW is dependent on the totality of circumstances encountered by the officer, in accordance with departmental training. An officer's decision to discharge a CEW must be objectively reasonable in light of the circumstances and based on the officer's perception of:

1. The severity of the crime,
2. The subject's level of resistance,
3. The threat the subject poses to themselves, the officer or another,
4. The totality of the situational risks.

Officers must assess the effectiveness of the CEW during each application and determine if an additional application is warranted or if a different tactic should be employed.

C. Officer's Post-Deployment Responsibilities – Except when deployed in training, officers shall call emergency medical personnel to evaluate anyone that has been subjected to a CEW drive stun or deployment, and to remove the CEW probes. Additionally, officers that have deployed a CEW shall notify a supervisor as soon as practicable.

D. Reporting Procedures – Except when deployed in training or when function testing, a Use of Force Report is required anytime a subject is struck or contacted by an activated CEW.

1. **Supervisor's responsibilities** – upon notification of a CEW deployment, the supervisor will:
 - a. Ensure emergency medical personnel have been called to the scene.
 - b. Respond to the scene as soon as practicable.
 - c. Obtain the information necessary to document the CEW deployment in a Use of Force Report.
 - d. Ensure photographs are taken of the subject.
 - e. Ensure photographs are taken of the location on the subject's body where the CEW's probes and/or drive stun were located.
 - f. Ensure that the CEW is synced with its corresponding software system and the CEW's log is downloaded.
 - g. Ensure that the CEW's probes and tags are disposed of appropriately and the used cartridge is returned to supply and exchanged for a replacement.