
	SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY MANUAL	POLICY #1.6.2
EFFECTIVE DATE 5/30/23	 Andrew Shearer, Chief of Police	

Control Devices and Techniques

1.6.2.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use and maintenance of control devices that are described in this policy.

1.6.2.2 POLICY

The Springfield Police Department authorizes officers to use control devices for patrol and investigative duties in accordance with the guidelines in this policy and Policy 1.5.1, Use of Force.

Any control device used for the purpose of crowd management must also follow Policy 46.2.1, Civil Disturbance Operations.

1.6.2.3 DEFINITIONS

Baton: A Department-issued instrument designed for guiding, blocking, pushing, jabbing, striking or applying control holds while engaged in a police action

Chemical Incapacitant: Handheld or launched munitions and devices specifically designed to cause temporary pain, temporary irritation, temporary disruption of vital processes, temporary incapacitation or temporary disability or permanent harm through the toxic properties of toxic chemicals, or their precursors, that would be released as a result of the employment of the handheld or launched munitions and devices and any equipment specifically designed for use directly in connection with the employment of handheld or launched munitions and devices as described in this policy. This includes but is not limited to pepper spray, pepper ball and Presidia Gel.

Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW): A weapon, including Tasers, designed primarily to discharge electrical charges into a person that will cause involuntary muscle contractions and overrides the person's voluntary motor responses

Control Device: An apprehension or restraint tool that, when used as designed and intended, is less likely to cause death or serious physical injury than a conventional lethal weapon such as a firearm

Crowd Management: A public-safety practice in which crowds are managed to prevent the outbreak of crowd crushes, affrays, fights or riots, or in which an assembly, protest or demonstration is dispersed

Flash Sound Diversion/Distraction Device (FSDD): A device that creates intense light and a sudden loud noise intended to temporarily stun, distract and disperse people

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Kinetic Impact Projectile (KIP): All non-lethal, less lethal or semi-lethal projectiles, including, but not limited to, rubber and plastic bullets, beanbag rounds, sponge rounds and pellet rounds

Tear Gas: Oleoresin capsicum or orthochlorobenzalmalononitrile, or other similar chemicals meant to accomplish the same effect, administered by any shell, cartridge or bomb capable of being discharged or exploded, when the discharge or explosion will cause or permit the release or emission of the chemicals. Tear gas differs from chemical incapacitants by the way it is administered in crowd management incidents.

1.6.2.4 BATON

Only personnel who have successfully completed a Department-approved training course in the proper use of and deployment of the baton are authorized to carry them.

- a) Personnel assigned to Patrol may carry only Department-issued batons in authorized holders.
- b) The head, neck, spine, kidneys, sternum and groin should not be intentionally targeted except when the officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others.
- c) Personnel assigned to Patrol shall carry either the collapsible baton and/or a handheld chemical incapacitant.
- d) Personnel not assigned to Patrol may carry the collapsible baton as authorized and in accordance with the needs of their assignment at the direction of their supervisor.
- e) A clear, verbal warning shall be given to the subject of the intended use prior to deployment, unless circumstances make such a warning unreasonable.
- f) Operational application of a baton shall be documented. This includes shows of force where the baton was directed toward the suspect, whether or not it was used.

1.6.2.5 KINETIC IMPACT PROJECTILE (KIP) SYSTEMS

Only personnel who have successfully completed a Department-approved training course in the proper use of and deployment may utilize these systems. Trained personnel shall complete an annual refresher course in which they demonstrate proficiency in the use of the weapon.

- a) KIPs may be considered for use whenever time is available to plan and execute a mission to reduce the risk of injury to officers, community members and/or suspects. These systems should generally not be used by an individual officer without a cover officer present.
- b) A clear, verbal warning shall be given to the subject of the intended use prior to deployment, unless circumstances make such a warning unreasonable.
- c) Only factory manufactured rounds shall be used. Each round shall be inspected to ensure it is the proper type of ammunition before being loaded into the weapon.

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- d) KIPs can launch munitions that are capable of deploying chemical incapacitants. These may only be deployed by members trained in the use of such devices.
- e) When not in use, these weapons are to be stored unloaded. Weapons are to be loaded at the time of deployment only, and by the officer designated to employ them.
- f) The head, neck, throat, spine, heart, kidneys and groin should not be intentionally targeted except when the officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others.
- g) A medical examination shall be provided to any individual sustaining an impact from a KIP. The area of the suspect's body sustaining the impact shall be photographed to document the existence or absence of visible injury.
- h) Officers encountering a situation that warrants the use of KIPs shall notify a supervisor as soon as practicable. A supervisor shall respond to all incidents where a person/s has been struck by a KIP.
- i) Operational deployment of a KIP shall be documented. This includes shows of force where the KIP was directed toward a person, whether or not the system was used. Negligent discharges shall be promptly reported to a supervisor and documented on the appropriate report form.

1.6.2.6 CHEMICAL INCAPACITANTS

Only personnel who have successfully completed a Department-approved training course in the proper use of and deployment of chemical incapacitants are authorized to use them.

- a) Chemical incapacitants may be used in accordance with the Use of Force policy to subdue a person if the person is threatening an officer or another person with physical harm, has signaled an intent to resist the officer's efforts to make an arrest, or to defend themselves from actual assault or threat of physical harm.
- b) A clear, verbal warning shall be given to the subject of the intended use prior to deployment, unless circumstances make such a warning unreasonable.
- c) Chemical incapacitants may be used against persons barricaded in a structure, vehicles not readily capable of being driven, or other locations designed to conceal or impede Law Enforcement's ability to detain the individual.
- d) Personnel assigned to Patrol shall carry either the collapsible baton and/or a handheld chemical incapacitant.

1.6.2.7 CONDUCTED ELECTRICAL WEAPON (CEW)

Only personnel who have successfully completed a Department-approved training course in the proper use and deployment of a CEW are authorized to deploy the weapon system. Trained personnel shall complete an annual refresher course in which they demonstrate proficiency in the use of the weapon. Personnel assigned to Patrol and the Municipal Jail are required to carry a CEW. Plainclothes and non-

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field personnel may carry a CEW as authorized and in accordance with the needs of their assignment or at the direction of their supervisor.

- a) The CEW shall be worn in a Department-approved holster on the support side, or opposite side of the primary handgun.
- b) The head, neck, throat, spine, heart, kidneys and groin should not be intentionally targeted except when the officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others.
- c) The CEW, when deployed as a projectile weapon, shall be fired at the center of mass of the suspect's back. If directed at the front plane of the body, the zone shall be below the nipple line and offline from center, if possible. The CEW, when deployed as a touch weapon, shall be directed towards muscle or nerve points (radial nerve, brachial plexus tie-in, etc.) in the front, back, side, legs or arms.
- d) The CEW may be used by Community Service Officers (CSO), including Animal Control, only for the purpose of self-defense.
- e) A clear, verbal warning shall be given to the subject of the intended use prior to deployment unless circumstances make such a warning unreasonable.
- f) CEWs should generally not be used by officers in situations where the suspect is armed with a dangerous or deadly weapon. However, if officers at the scene determine a CEW is capable of being safely deployed to rectify the problem, it shall be done in the presence of an armed cover officer.
- g) CEWs shall not be used against females known to be pregnant, suspects near flammable liquids or gases, in conjunction with alcohol-based chemical incapacitants, or in situations where the suspect may fall from a significant height. Additionally, the CEW shall not be used punitively against a restrained suspect or against an individual who is unconscious or non-combative.
- h) CEW use in the Municipal Jail shall not be used as punishment and shall comply with this policy.
- i) Upon deployment, probes not penetrating the skin of the suspect may be removed by police personnel. Probes penetrating the skin of the suspect shall be removed by medical personnel. When CEW probes penetrate the suspect's eyes, face, throat or groin, the suspect shall be transported to a medical facility for treatment. If possible, photographs should be taken of the wound area prior to probe removal. A supervisor should be notified as soon as possible.
- j) Recovered probes shall be placed barb downwards into the expended cartridge and covered with a bio-hazard sticker. The spent CEW cartridge shall be preserved as evidence.
- k) Each application of a CEW shall be documented. This includes shows of force where the CEW was directed toward a person/s whether or not it was used. Only non-incident use, such as training and product demonstrations, are exempt from the reporting requirement.

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1.6.2.8 HANDCUFFS

- a) Handcuffs, including temporary nylon or plastic cuffs, may be used only to restrain a person's hands to ensure officer safety.
- b) Only Department-approved handcuffs will be used.
- c) In most situations, handcuffs should be applied with the hands behind the person's back. When feasible, handcuffs should be double-locked to prevent tightening, which may cause undue discomfort or injury to the hands or wrists.
- d) Alternate means of securing a subject may be used if the person in custody has, or reasonably appears to have, an injury or condition that would be further aggravated by handcuffing.
- e) In situations where one pair of handcuffs does not appear sufficient to restrain the person or may cause unreasonable discomfort due to the person's size or existing medical condition, members should consider alternatives, such as using an additional set of handcuffs or multiple plastic cuffs.
- f) Handcuffs should be removed as soon as it is reasonable or after the person has been searched and is safely confined within a detention facility.
- g) Only members who have successfully completed Department-approved training on the use of restraint devices described in this policy are authorized to use these devices.

1.6.2.9 HOBBLE RESTRAINT

Members may use a hobble restraint to control a person beyond the capability of handcuffs.

- a) The restraint should supplement handcuffs. Members shall not use the restraint in lieu of handcuffs.
- b) If a person attempts to slip his/her handcuffs to the front of his/her body, members may use the restraint on the person's upper arms to prevent such an action.
- c) Members may use the restraint to secure a combative person's legs together to prevent kicking.
- d) Members may use the restraint to secure an animal.
- e) Members shall not use the maximum restraint technique (i.e., securing a person's knees or ankles in a straight leg restraint, then fastening the hobble to the handcuffs).
- f) Once secured, members shall not leave a person on his/her stomach for an extended period. If feasible, members shall place the person on his/her side or in a seated position.
- g) Only members who have successfully completed Department-approved training on the use of restraint devices described in this policy are authorized to use these devices.

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1.6.2.10 FLASH SOUND DIVERSIONARY DEVICE (FSDD)

Members shall only use FSDDs when authorized by an Incident Commander. A clear, verbal warning shall be given to the subject of the intended use prior to deployment, unless circumstances make such a warning unreasonable.

1.6.2.11 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

After the use of any control device, officers shall be alert to any indications the person needs medical attention. This includes, but is not limited to, breathing difficulties, gagging, profuse sweating and loss of consciousness. Upon observing these or other medical problems, or if the person requests medical assistance, the officer shall immediately summon emergency medical aid.

- a) Individuals who have been sprayed with chemical incapacitants are among those identified as a higher risk for a complication known as asphyxia. Positional asphyxia is a condition that results in respiratory difficulty and cessation of breathing that may result in death. Any person sprayed with a chemical incapacitant shall be continually monitored and not left alone while in police custody.
- b) Persons sprayed with chemical incapacitants shall have the contacted area flushed with water or other authorized solution and exposed to fresh air as soon as possible. If the individual refuses this assistance, the time and circumstances of this refusal shall be documented in the incident report.

1.6.2.12 TEAR GAS

Tear gas may only be administered when authorized by an Incident Commander in compliance with Policy 46.2.1, Civil Disturbance Operations. Tear gas shall not be used for crowd control except in circumstances that constitute a riot, as described in ORS 166.015. Prior to deploying tear gas for crowd control purposes, the Incident Commander shall direct that the intent to use tear gas be announced twice via reasonable and available means, the second announcement occurring after a reasonable amount of time has elapsed to allow for crowd dispersal (ORS 181A.708).

1.6.2.13 TRAINING

In addition to receiving training in physical control and defense techniques, all personnel authorized in control devices will receive initial and ongoing training (at least every 2 years) from a certified instructor and prove proficiency. Proficiency training shall be delivered and documented by a certified control device or techniques instructor. All training and proficiency for control devices and techniques will be documented in the officer's training file.