



## **SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT ELECTRONIC WEAPONS UPDATE COURSE (23093) EXPANDED OUTLINE**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

- A. Goal of course
  - 1. To provide theory and practical training to safely and effectively operate Electronic Weapons.
- B. Safety Rules
  - 1. Weapons are to remain on "safe"
  - 2. Point them in a safe direction
  - 3. No firearm permitted in the classroom
  - 4. Activity will stop at call of cease fire

### **II. OVERVIEW**

- A. Technology of electronic weapons
  - 1. "Taser waves" matching brain waves
  - 2. Tasers effect on the motor nervous system causing NMI
- B. High risk populations with less lethal weapons
  - 1. Pregnant
  - 2. Infirm
  - 3. Elderly
  - 4. Small children
  - 5. Low BMI
- C. Arrest related deaths
  - 1. Pre-existing conditions
  - 2. Individual susceptibility
  - 3. Excited delirium
- D. Nomenclature
  - 1. Trigger
  - 2. ARC switch
  - 3. Power Performance Magazine (PPM)
  - 4. Safety switch
  - 5. Central Image Display (CID)
  - 6. Light
  - 7. Dual lasers
  - 8. Front and rear sights
  - 9. PPM release button
- E. Loading and unloading
  - 1. Weapon on safe

2. Pointed in a safe direction
  3. Body parts away from front of cartridges
  4. Probes placed in sharps container
- F. Deployment distances
1. 0 to 25 feet
  2. Optimal range being 7 to 15 feet
    - a. High hit probability
    - b. Good spread for NMI
    - c. Good reactionary distance
  3. Max distance determined by type of cartridge used
- G. Tactical Considerations
1. Flammability with certain OC's
  2. Probe placement and point of aim
    - a. Away from sensitive areas (i.e. eyes, genitals, lips, nipples, head)
    - b. The back as a desired point of aim
    - c. Splitting the hemispheres
    - d. Drive stun
  3. Having lethal cover when using less lethal options

### III. LEGAL ISSUES

- A. Risk vs. benefit when using force
  1. Scott v. Harris
- B. Quantum of force
  1. Foreseeable injuries of a chosen force option
  2. Active resistance/Imminent Jeopardy
- C. Beaver v. City of Federal Way
  1. Each 5 second charge with an ECD is a separate UOF
- D. Considerations of the courts when determining justifiable force
  1. Type of force used
  2. Gravity of crime
  3. Safety threat to officers and the public
  4. The degree of resistance shown by the suspect
  5. Totality of the circumstance
- E. Less lethal weapons on agencies UOF continuum
  1. Moderate level of force
- F. Documentation of use
  1. Advisal to supervisor
  2. Documented in the following
    - a. UOF report
    - b. Criminal report
    - c. Booking application
    - d. W&I 5150 forms

#### IV. PROFICIENCY TESTING

- A. On the range practical testing will be conducted and safety equipment will be used.
- B. Student requirements
  - 1. Safety while handling and utilizing weapons
  - 2. Demonstrate proficiency with weapons and particular features of the device
  - 3. Demonstrate proficiency loading and unloading the weapon
  - 4. Demonstrate proficiency drawing and holstering the weapon
  - 5. Accurately impact the target in designated points of aim
    - a. Not impacting sensitive areas of the body
  - 6. Demonstrate proficiency with the handling of malfunctions