



# MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

### 467 – ~~ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICE~~ CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON

**GENERAL ORDER:** 2023-XX  
**ISSUED:** March 6, 2023

**EFFECTIVE:** March 6, 2023

**REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:**  
Assistant Chief Nicole Waldner  
**DATE:** January 27, 2023

**ACTION:** Amends General Order 2021-02 (March 26, 2021)

**WILEAG STANDARD(S):** 5.1.1, 5.1.4, 5.2.1, 5.3.1, 12.1.1, 12.1.2, 12.1.4, 12.2.1

### ROLL CALL VERSION

Contains only changes to current policy.  
For complete version of SOP, see SharePoint.

#### 467.00 PURPOSE (WILEAG 5.1.4)

The purpose of this standard operating procedure is to provide guidance to police members on the proper use of the department's ~~electronic control devices (ECD)~~ conducted energy weapon (CEW). It is the policy of this department to authorize the use of the ~~ECD~~ CEW as a less-lethal use of force option.

#### 467.05 POLICY (WILEAG 12.1.1)

- A. The department is authorizing the use of a ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~ AXON TASER 7 CEW as a less lethal force option in conjunction with existing department policies, practices, and under law and ordinance.  
(WILEAG 12.1.1.1)
- B. Advantages of the ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~ AXON TASER 7 CEW as a less lethal force option include:
  - 1. ~~ECDs~~ CEWs provide a use of force option that may assist officers when dealing with combative, violent, or aggressive people.
  - 2. ~~ECD~~ CEW use may reduce the risk of injury to police officers, offenders, and members of the public.
  - 3. When properly deployed in ~~probe~~ dart mode, ~~ECDs~~ CEWs may be effective against people who have a high pain threshold, or are temporarily unresponsive to pain stimuli. This includes people who are particularly motivated, extremely aggressive, or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
  - 4. Immobilization (Neuromuscular Incapacitation/NMI) and pain effects cease as the ~~ECD~~ CEW is turned off.

#### 467.10 DEFINITIONS

- A. 3-POINT CONTACT

An ~~ECD~~ ~~CEW~~ deployment method utilized when a ~~probe~~ ~~dart~~ deployment fails to achieve NMI and/or compliance. A contact stun is delivered to a different area of the body while the ~~probes~~ ~~darts~~ are still in the subject. This method causes the electrical current to travel between the ~~probes~~ ~~darts~~ and the front of the ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~ ~~AXON TASER 7 CEW~~, increasing the likelihood of achieving NMI.

## B. ACTIVE DEPLOYMENT

The discharge of electrical current into a subject whether by contact or ~~probes~~ ~~darts~~.

## ~~C. ANTI-FELON IDENTIFICATION DEVICE (AFID)~~

~~Small confetti-like identification tags which are expelled from the smart cartridge of a deployed TASER™ X2 ECD. AFID contain an alpha-numeric identifier unique to the cartridge used.~~

## ~~CJ. TASER™ X2 ECD ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICE (ECD) AXON TASER 7 CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON (CEW)~~

~~A TASER™ X2 ECD, Axon TASER 7 CEW equipped with an Automatic Shutdown Power Performance Magazine (APPM) a rechargeable battery pack and two (2) smart Taser 7 cartridges each containing 2 probes darts attached by 25' wires.~~

The ~~ECD~~ ~~CEW~~ utilizes propelled wires, or direct contact, to conduct electrical energy to affect the sensory and motor functions of the nervous system, disrupting the body's ability to communicate messages from the brain to the muscles, causing temporary motor skill dysfunction (neuro muscular incapacitation or NMI) to a subject. Generally, NMI will only be achieved during a ~~probe~~ ~~dart~~ deployment.

## ~~DE. CONTACT STUN~~

The process of using an ~~ECD~~ ~~CEW~~ to affect the sensory nervous system as a localized pain compliance technique. This is done by placing the front of the ~~ECD~~ ~~CEW~~ against the body of an individual resisting lawful orders to stop physically resisting and activating it. The contact stun causes localized pain in the area tracked by the ~~ECD~~ ~~CEW~~ but does not have a significant effect on the central nervous system.

## ~~EH. PROBE DART DEPLOYMENT~~

The ~~ECD~~ ~~CEW~~ is most effective when the cartridge is deployed and the two ~~darts~~ ~~probes~~ make direct contact with the subject by imbedding themselves into the subject. Proper application will result in temporary immobilization of the subject and provide the officer a "window of opportunity" in which to take the subject safely into custody. Generally, the greater the ~~probe~~ ~~dart~~ spread, the greater the effectiveness.

## F. LASER DISPLAY

When the ~~ECD~~ ~~CEW~~ is activated and the dual lasers are displayed but the system is

not deployed.

#### H. OPERATOR

A sworn police member that has been trained and certified to carry and operate a CEW.

#### I. SMART TASER 7 CARTRIDGE

1. A single use item that contains a small circuit board, compressed nitrogen gas capsule, AFID tags, 2 darts probes and insulated wires, and wire pockets. It is identified with a tamper-resistant serial number.

2. There are two (2) types of Taser 7 Cartridges:

a. Close Quarters (CQ)

12° dart spread from the CEW. The cartridge has a black front and black body. Printed on top is the cartridge serial number, cartridge degree (12°), 2D bar code, and expiration date.

b. Stand Off (SO)

3.5° dart spread from the CEW. The cartridge has a black front and gray body. Printed on top is the cartridge serial number, cartridge degree (3.5°), 2D bar code, and expiration date.

#### J. ARC DISPLAY WARNING ARC

A non-contact demonstration of the ECD's CEWs ability to discharge electricity. This is conducted only by utilizing the ARC switch. The purpose of this display is to convince the subject to comply with a lawful order and avoid the ECD CEW from being deployed in the contact stun or probe dart mode. It is also used to assure the ECD CEW is working properly.

### **467.15 MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITIES (WILEAG 5.2.1, 12.1.2, 12.1.4)**

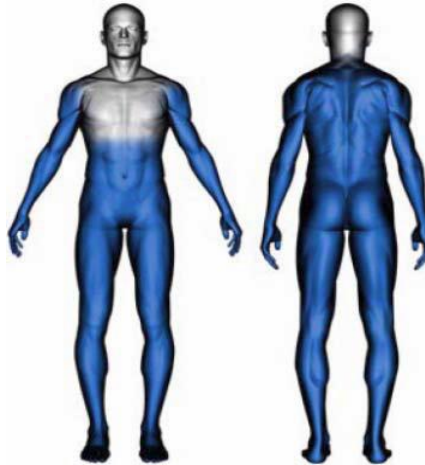
A. Only police members that have completed the department's ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~, Axon ~~TASER 7 CEW~~ certification training program shall be authorized to carry and deploy the ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~, Axon ~~TASER 7 CEW~~. Members are required to complete recertification on an annual basis. Records of employees participating in ~~ECD CEW~~ training and certification shall be updated by Training Division personnel following successful completion of the training. Certified members shall carry a ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~, Axon ~~TASER 7 CEW~~ on their person if one is available.

B. When not in use, the ~~ECD CEW~~, holster, and peripherals shall be stored in a secure area of the work location as designated by the commanding officer. ~~ECD CEW~~ trained and certified members shall sign-out the ~~ECD CEW~~ at the start of their shift and sign-in the ~~ECD CEW~~ at the end of their shift in an ~~ECD CEW~~ control log.

1. The ECD CEW shall be stored in its holster and with two (2) smart cartridges inserted into the cartridge bays.
  2. The cartridges shall be placed in the bays as such: a CQ cartridge shall be in the 1<sup>st</sup> (left if looking from the top of the CEW) bay and a SO cartridge shall be placed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> (right if looking from the top of the CEW) bay. This shall be the configuration unless an alternate configuration is authorized by the Milwaukee Police Department Taser Administrator or the Training Division – Firearms Unit.
- C. Prior to the start of each shift, as well as at the end of the shift, the member signing out the ECD CEW shall inspect the ECD CEW smart cartridges, and holster. A ~~5 second spark check~~ functions check shall be conducted prior to the start of each shift to ensure the equipment is in proper working order with no fault icons displayed in the central information display (CID) and has adequate battery power. The ECD CEW battery should be changed when the battery icon displays one (1) bar percentage is less than 25% or every 30 days. The rechargeable battery shall be placed on the charging dock for no less than 30 minutes to complete its download.
- D. A supervisor shall be notified immediately if any ECD CEW equipment is damaged, not functioning properly, ~~only one (1) battery power bar is displayed in the CID (indicating less than 20% battery power remaining)~~, or if both smart cartridges are not accounted for. If the ECD CEW is damaged or not functioning, the ECD CEW shall be placed out of service and be conveyed to the Training Division – Firearms Unit as soon as practicable. If the battery or cartridges need to be replaced, they shall be replaced with the spare batteries or cartridges at the work location (work locations should keep ~~at least five (5) spare cartridges and two (2) to three (3) extra batteries~~ 12 spare rechargeable batteries and 5 of each spare cartridges. All ~~replaced~~ damaged batteries and damaged / replaced cartridges shall be returned to the Training Division – Firearms Unit.
- E. ~~Members~~ Operators shall carry the ECD CEW in a Blackhawk!™ X2 Taser holster on the reaction side of the body (opposite the duty weapon) and in the “safety on” position. The CEW shall be drawn and deployed with the support side hand.
- F. At the start of each shift, members equipped with an ECD CEW shall notify the dispatcher that they are equipped with a ECD CEW. A notation identifying the member as being equipped with the ECD CEW shall also be made on the daily line-up in the MPD (N:) drive “Lineup” folder.
- G. The ECD CEW shall only be removed from its holster when a member anticipates its use, when it is being inspected, conducting a functions check test in a safe area, or it is being taken out of service.
- H. The ECD CEW has a maximum effective range of up to 25 feet, ~~although~~. The optimal recommended distances ~~are 7 to 15 feet~~ for the close quarters cartridges are 4 to 11 feet. The optimal recommended distance for the stand off cartridges are 8 to 18 feet. If the ECD CEW is to be deployed, the preferred target areas (with the exception of sensitive ECD CEW target areas) are lower center of mass (below chest or area of the

heart) and legs for front exposure and below the neck for back exposures (with the back being the most preferred area).

Preferred Target Areas in Blue



When practical, the most preferred target area for the ECD CEW is the back area.

- I. Attempts should be made to avoid targeting sensitive tissue areas such as head, face, neck, groin, or female breast area, however, probes darts penetrating these areas shall be removed by medical personnel at a medical facility. Medical personnel shall remove probes darts appearing deeply imbedded in tissue.
- J. After the subject has been properly stabilized and handcuffed, the ECD CEW certified member operator shall remove the probes darts, if applicable, and provide appropriate care to the subject except in those sensitive areas listed above in subsection I. The subject shall be transported to an appropriate medical facility for treatment and medical clearance before being conveyed to a district temporary holding facility, the Central Booking Division, or CJF.
  2. In those circumstances when a trained ECD CEW officer operator removes the probes darts and the subject displays no other injuries or adverse effects, they shall be transported by department vehicle in accordance with SOP 090 - Transportation of Arrestees.
- K. If the ECD CEW is discharged deployed, whether intentional or unintentional, the member shall notify a supervisor immediately. If a person is struck by any probes darts or receives any electric current, the person shall be medically cleared.
- L. Conveying officers shall notify detention medical personnel, at the time of booking, that the subject has been struck with ECD CEW probes darts or received a contact stun. An examination will be conducted by detention medical personnel to determine whether the individual has suffered any injury, either directly from the ECD CEW discharge or indirectly, such as by falling after incapacitation.
- M. If the ECD CEW was intentionally deployed in probe dart mode, the discharged smart deployed cartridge with wires and probes darts attached (if possible) shall be

inventoried as "Evidence" and retained for seven (7) years. If the ~~ECD~~ CEW was discharged ~~deployed~~ accidentally, the discharged ~~deployed~~ smart cartridge with wires and probes darts attached (if possible) shall be inventoried as "Safe Keeping". A copy of the ~~WinAce Officer Drop~~ inventory report shall be sent to the Training Division – Firearms Unit.

#### **467.20 GUIDELINES FOR USE (WILEAG 5.1.1)**

The ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~, Axon TASER 7 CEW has limitations and restrictions requiring consideration before its use. ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~, Axon TASER 7 CEW should only be used when the operator can safely approach the subject within the operational range of the device. Although the ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~, Axon TASER 7 CEW is generally effective in controlling most individuals, officers should be aware that the device may not achieve the intended results and be prepared with other options Control Alternatives.

- A. The ~~ECD~~ CEW shall be used within the guidelines established by the department's Use of Force policy (SOP 460).
- B. The ~~ECD~~ CEW is located on the Disturbance Resolution Model, Intervention Options, in the section titled "Control Alternative-Control Devices." The purpose of the ~~ECD~~ CEW is to provide officers with a less-lethal force intervention option to defend themselves, and to overcome active resistance or its threat. Active resistance is defined as behavior that physically counteracts an officer's attempts to control a subject and which pose a risk of bodily harm to the officer, subject, and others.
- C. The ~~ECD~~ CEW is designed to incapacitate individuals where alternative restraint tactics have been or are reasonably likely to fail, and/or where it would be unsafe for officers to approach a subject to apply restraints.
- D. The ~~ECD~~ CEW is not a substitute for lethal force. However, the use of less-lethal force, such as an ~~ECD~~ CEW, may prevent situations from escalating to deadly force levels and save lives.
- E. The ~~ECD~~ CEW shall not be pointed at any individual unless the member involved reasonably believes it will be necessary to use the device.
- F. The deployment of the ~~ECD~~ CEW will be evaluated using the department use of force policy and within the framework of the authorized Defense and Arrest Tactics Disturbance Resolution Model, Intervention Options. The ~~ECD~~ CEW may be used under the following circumstances:
  - 1. To overcome active resistance or its threat.
  - 2. To control persons in order to prevent them from harming themselves or others.
- G. The ~~ECD~~ CEW shall not be used when it is reasonable to believe that incapacitation of the subject may result in serious injury or death:
  - 1. In proximity to flammable liquids, fumes, gases, blasting materials, or any other

highly combustible materials that may be ignited by use of the device, including, but not limited to, any subject who may have been contaminated with combustible liquids.

**Note: Some areas within hospitals have oxygen or other flammable gases or substances in use. Officers Operators need to be aware of this when deciding whether to use an ECD CEW.**

H. The ECD CEW should not be used in the following circumstances (unless there are compelling reasons to do so which can be clearly articulated):

6. Against a person with apparent medical conditions that may be adversely affected by using the ECD CEW, left to the totality of the situation and tactical necessity of the user.

I. ECD CEW / OFF-DUTY

1. When off-duty, only police members who have completed the department's ECD CEW certification training program shall be authorized to carry a personally owned ECD CEW in a holster approved by the range master. The range master shall establish clear and consistent guidelines for the approval of off duty ECDs CEWs and written protocols establishing department expectations for carrying ECDs CEWs when off duty. Members must carry their department issued identification card and metal badge and have them readily accessible for display when carrying an ECD CEW off-duty.

2. The range master shall record the type, description, manufacturer, model, and serial number of members off duty ECDs CEWs and will keep this information on file. It is recommended members consult the range master or designee at the Training Division prior to purchasing an off-duty ECD CEW or holster to ensure compatibility with department standards. The range master will maintain a list of approved off-duty ECDs CEWs and holsters. Police members must demonstrate proficiency with the ECD CEW prior to carrying it. The range master or designee shall determine proficiency.

3. Police members appearing at the Milwaukee County Courthouse complex as litigants in personal matters such as divorce hearings, family matters, small claims procedures, or as a defendant in a criminal matter, are to do so unarmed. Police members summoned for jury duty shall not carry an ECD CEW. This prohibition does not apply to matters in which police members are a witness and/or are under subpoena in their official capacity, and this does not restrict police members from conducting official business in or about the courthouse complex while on duty and armed.

4. Members shall not carry department owned ECDs CEWs while off-duty.

## J. MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS OF THE ECD CEW

Members Operators should apply the ECD CEW for one standard cycle and then evaluate the situation before applying any subsequent cycles. Multiple applications of the ECD CEW against a single individual are generally not recommended and should be avoided unless the member reasonably believes that the need to control the individual outweighs the potential risk posed by multiple applications. In determining the need for additional cycles, members should be aware that an energized subject may not be able to respond to commands during or immediately following exposure.

### 467.25 USE ON ANIMALS

- A. An ECD CEW may be used on an animal to create temporary incapacitation in order to restrain and control with a capture pole. The ECD CEW is a less lethal option that can be used in situations where the animal is not deemed an imminent threat to the officer or the public.
- B. During active deployment of the ECD CEW, the target area for use on an animal is the profile of the body which appears to provide the most muscle mass.
- C. When feasible, secondary officers may choose to provide deadly force cover if the ECD CEW fails to have the desired controlling effect and the animal becomes an imminent threat.
- D. If active or multiple ECD CEW deployment proves to be ineffective against the animal, officer(s) should reassess the force options available to them and apply the appropriate level of force needed to control the animal and protect the public or officers.
- E. Deployment of the ECD CEW on an animal should be treated like any other use of force.

### 467.30 IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES (WILEAG 5.2.1, 5.3.1)

- A. When there is an active deployment of the ECD CEW, whether intentional or not, a supervisor shall be notified and will respond to the scene. The responding supervisor shall ensure the subject receives appropriate medical treatment, conduct an administrative review of the incident and file a *Use of Force Report* via the AIM system in accordance with SOP 460.  
(WILEAG 5.3.1.3)
- B. Supervisors shall ensure that deployed / spent smart cartridges, probes darts, and wires are properly inventoried taking into consideration biohazard procedures. A copy of the inventory (safekeeping or evidence) shall be forwarded to the Training Division – Firearms Unit.
- C. Supervisors shall ensure the discharged smart cartridge is replaced from the work location spare smart cartridge inventory after a discharge of the ECD CEW smart cartridge. Work locations shall be issued spare smart cartridges in increments of ten



(10). Supervisors shall request additional spare smart cartridges from the Training Division – Firearms Unit when ~~three (3)~~ **five (5)** spare smart cartridges remain.

- D. Supervisors shall ensure that ~~ECD~~ **CEW** use data has been downloaded and a copy of the data is forwarded to the Internal Affairs Division – ~~Risk Management~~ with the PF# denoted.
- E. Supervisors shall ensure that the ~~ECD~~ **CEW** is downloaded **using the Taser battery and the loading/charging dock**:
1. ~~Quarterly~~ **Every month** (whether or not there was an active deployment). A *Department Memorandum* (form PM-9E) shall be completed and endorsed by the district or work location commanding officer stating that the ~~quarterly~~ **monthly** download was completed.
    - a. The *Department Memorandum* shall note any discrepancies or issues discovered during the ~~quarterly~~ **monthly** download. The original *Department Memorandum* shall be sent to the ~~Training Division – Firearms Unit~~ and a copy shall be retained by the work location kept at the work location. A copy shall be sent to the ~~Training Division – Firearms Unit~~ if any discrepancies are found.
    - b. Work locations shall retain the ~~quarterly~~ **monthly** download report according to the record retention schedule.
- F. Supervisors shall ensure all ~~TASER™ X2 ECD~~, **Axon TASER 7 CEW** certified ~~members~~ **operators** sign out an ~~ECD~~ **CEW** and carry it on their person if ~~ECDs~~ **CEWs** are available. Supervisors may give priority assignment to overlapping shifts (e.g., power shifts).

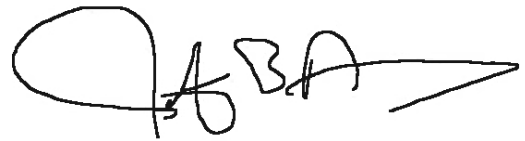
#### **467.35 SHIFT COMMANDER / COMMANDING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. Shift commanders shall ensure that the ~~ECD~~ **CEW** control log is properly used, only certified and trained ~~ECD~~ **CEW** users **operators** are fielding the ~~ECD~~ **CEW**, and the ~~ECDs~~ **CEWs** are properly maintained by the individual users. Commanding officers shall ensure a control log is maintained for every ~~ECD~~ **CEW** as well as a register of smart cartridges. The control log shall include the type, description, manufacturer, model, and serial number for each ~~ECD~~ **CEW** and smart cartridge as well as the name of the assignee.
- B. Commanding officers shall review all *Use of Force Reports* related to the use of the ~~ECD~~ **CEW**. They shall ensure that the reports are complete and accurate and tracked pursuant to SOP 460 Use of Force.

#### **467.40 EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND CARE (WILEAG 12.1.1)**

- A. Only ~~ECDs~~ **CEW** smart cartridges issued, inspected, and approved by the Training Division - Firearms Unit shall be used. The Blackhawk!™ ~~X2~~ **Taser 7** holster is the only holster approved for use.

- B. The ECD CEW and peripheral equipment shall be treated with due care and shall not be abused or mistreated.
- C. Only personnel authorized by the Training Division - Firearms Unit shall conduct repairs of the ECD CEW and peripherals.
- D. Members may make a personal purchase of a Blackhawk!™ X2 Taser 7 holster for duty use. Certified members operators are authorized to make a personal purchase of a Blackhawk!™ X2 Taser 7 holster and may make a private purchase of a Blackhawk!™ Tactical Holster Platform for wearing the ECD CEW on the support side thigh.  
(WILEAG 12.1.1.3)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JBN' followed by a stylized flourish.

JEFFREY B. NORMAN  
CHIEF OF POLICE

JBN:mfk