

**SILVER BAY POLICE DEPARTMENT
TASER X2POLICY**

POLICY #D-3

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the use of the Taser X2, which has been determined to be an extremely effective, less than lethal/minimal impact weapon for gaining compliance of uncooperative subjects.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Silver Bay Police Department to authorize the use of the TASER as a use of force option.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. Taser X2:** is a less than lethal conductive energy weapon. The Taser X2 uses electro-muscular disruption (EMD) technology, which affects the neuromuscular system, causing involuntary muscle contractions.
- B. AFID (Small Identification Tags):** approximately 20-30 identification tags calls AFID's are dispersed every time an air cartridge is fired. These tags are printed with the serial number of the cartridge and can be used to determine who fired the cartridge.

IV. PROCEDURES/CONDITIONS OF USE

- A.** The Taser is an intermediary tool, which falls on the department's force continuum at a level below impact weapons or chemical agents as it is likely to have less lasting effects on a subject. Its use is authorized only when used consistent with department authorized training and provisions of this policy.
 - 1.** Patrol officers currently trained in the use of the X2 Taser models are encouraged to carry the equipment while on duty.
 - 2.** Tasers will be carried in the department supplied and approved carrier. Tasers will be carried on the officer's duty belt at a "cross draw", "weak side" position. Officers working in plain clothes situations may carry the Taser in the supplied and approved carrier while unattached from the duty belt or in a fanny pack on the officer's waist area. In tactical situations, the Taser may be carried in a thigh holster.

B. The Taser may be used:

1. Only as necessary to overcome physical or noncompliant resistance encountered in the discharge of an official duty where it is believed that the use of a less obtrusive method would either allow the individual to escape or would reasonably expose the officer or others to physical injury.
2. Deployed by direct touch when physical confrontations are in progress.
3. As a warning device or intimidation tool to gain compliance with a legal verbal command, but only in circumstances justifying the authorized use of force.
4. To subdue animals deemed to be dangerous to public safety.
5. During department regulated training.

C. The Taser may not be used:

1. On subjects exhibiting compliant or passive resistive behavior.
2. To threaten, harass, coerce, taunt, or abuse subjects.
3. In an unlawful manner.
4. In areas where there are concentrations of combustible or flammable materials, including known or suspected methamphetamine labs.
5. On subjects that have been sprayed with chemical agent.
6. On restrained individuals, unless the actions of the subject present a threat of death or bodily harm to themselves or any other person.
7. On women known to be pregnant, unless all other means short of lethal force have been used.
8. As an interrogative device, through either application or threat thereof.

D. Taser Deployment

The Taser may be used to control a dangerous or violent subject when deadly force does not appear justified and/or necessary; or attempts to subdue a subject by conventional tactics have been, or will likely be, ineffective; or there is a reasonable expectation that it will be unsafe for officers to approach within contact range of a subject.

1. Prior to using the Taser, if practical, announce the use of the Taser, indicating "Taser".
2. Officers should move in, control, and restrain the subject as soon as possible.
3. Request medical assistance to the scene to administer treatment if needed.

4. Do not remove probes that have penetrated sensitive areas, including the head, eye, neck, or groin. In such cases the subject shall be transported to a hospital for medical care and probe removal.
5. The Taser cartridge and probes used shall be gathered and entered into evidence. The probes shall be handled in accordance with biohazard materials. Invert the probes and place them into the portals of the spent Taser cartridge. Secure the probes in place, using tape. When possible, collect several AFID's and include them with the cartridge in evidence.
6. When practical, take photos of where the probes contacted the subject.

E. Documentation

1. Officers are required to fully document the Taser use and results in a narrative report in accordance with the department's use of force policy.
2. The ICR and/or supplemental report shall be completed by the officer prior to the completion of the work shift in which the force was used unless circumstances make this task impractical. If circumstances allow, the Chief or Sergeant shall be notified of the use of the Taser.

F. Training

1. All officers must be trained with the Taser prior to carrying it on duty.
2. Officers must qualify once a year to continue carrying the Taser.

G. Storage and Maintenance

1. The Tasers will be stored in the designated "Armory" when not being used.

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V. SUPERVISORS SIGNATURES

Cole W. Ernest
Chief of Police

Sergeant

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE:

VII. REVISED DATE

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DATE REVIEWED

SIGNATURE