Event 2 - Force Options
Session 11 – Taser Certification
LD 20- Use of Force/De-Escalation

Date Revised: 11/13/19

Course Goal: The recruit Officers will understand the Use of Force and Department Policy when using the Taser.

Session Goal: To provide the students with the theory and practical training necessary to safely and effectively operate the Electronic Control Device (ECD) deployed by the department.

Learning Objectives:

- Properly manipulate the X26P Taser
- Properly apply the Department's Use of Force policy with respect to Taser usage
- Know when it is tactically safe or unsafe to deploy the X26P Taser
- Fire three cartridges from the X26P Taser
- Understand the effects of the X26P Taser

Session Time: 4 hours

Resources:

- Classroom with tables
- X26P power point
- Eye protection
- X26P Tasers and holsters
- Live X26P Taser cartridges
- B/O X26P cartridges
- Numb John targets
- Traffic cones
- Mats
- Barricades

Session Summary: The instructor will begin with a facilitated discussion in the classroom followed by a written test with a minimum passing score of 75%. The students will then be exposed to the Taser on Range C at the Davis Training Facility. The students will participate in a practical application after learning how to manipulate and properly use the Taser.

Outline	Instructor Notes
I. Electronic Control Device Technological Development and Medical Research A. Definition: **[1]** The X26P Taser is an Electronic Control Device (ECD) that uses propelled wires or direct contact to conduct energy to affect the sensory and motor functions of the nervous system	○ Need PT instructor ✓ Quality through continuous improvement **2 hours in classroom** ○ *Place a Taser at each table with a spent cartridge. Advise the students not to touch the Tasers*

*The X26P Taser is a brand name associated with specific conducted energy weapons manufactured by "Taser International".	*until instructed to do so*
B. History of Development	**[1] Ask-** Definition of Taser?
1. Taser (Thomas A. Swift Electric Rifle) was invented and patented by Jack Cover an N.A.S.A. scientist. 2. During the development of the Taser non-lethal weapon (1966-1974) it was discovered that very short duration of high energy (microseconds), predominately direct current (D.C.) pulses were non-lethal and non-injurious. However, they had a profound physiological and psychological effect upon humans and animals. 3. From 1971-1974 tests on volunteers were conducted by Dr. Frank Summers with two cardiologists, a physiologist at Saint Joseph's Hospital in Orange County, California. 4. 1976, the Treasury Department classified the Taser as a Title II weapon. This classification also included machine guns, destructive devices and certain other firearms. The Taser was classified as a firearm based on the fact that the Taser required black powder and a rifle primer as the propellant. It was classified as a Title II weapon because of its flashlight shape which caused it not to appear as a firearm. 5. After a re-design of the Taser, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms re-classified the Taser to Title I. The redesign of the cartridge from black powder to compressed air was the difference	○ *Briefly go over the History of Development*
C. Los Angeles Police Department Taser history **[2]**	**[2] Ask-** When do you think LAPD started using the Taser?
1. In 1980, due to an increase of street and jail confrontations, the Department field-tested the Taser. 2. In November 1980, the Department purchased 700 Taser devices and eventually became the first major law enforcement agency in the nation to deploy the device with field officers.	

3. Taser deployed more than 600 times in 1986 alone. **[3]** a. 1994, LAPD begins to replace the older TE-76 (11-watt system) with the TE-93 (5-7 watt system) 4. In 2000, the older Taser technology is used approximately fifteen times with an effectiveness of approximately 56%. A product evaluation begins on newer Taser technology. 5. 2001, a field test is conducted on the Taser 6. 2002, five hundred Taser's are deployed Department wide 7. Between 2002 and 2005, the Taser is deployed over 100 times a year with a success rate of approximately 80-85% effectiveness. 8. Currently the LAPD deploys 1,250 X26P Taser's	**[3] Ask-** How many times do you think the Taser was deployed in 1986 (LAPD)?
II. Taser Technology A. Why does the Taser work? 1. Conducted energy weapons are effective because they override the central nervous system. **[4]** 2. The central nervous system communicates by means of simple electrical impulses. 3. The Taser sends out short duration, high voltage electrical waves, known as Taser waves or T-waves that overpower the normal electrical signals within the nerve fibers.	**[4] Ask-** Why are conducted energy weapons effective?
B. T-waves are very similar to the wave signals used by nerves to communicate within the body. 1. The body's communication is comparable to having a conversation on the telephone where signals are sent from one phone to another via electrical signals. 2. If a third party picks up the phone line and begins to scream the other two parties can no longer hear communication. 3. When the screaming stops communication begins	

again without damage to the phone line.

C. Conducted energy weapons work within the body by jamming the central nervous system and overriding neuromuscular control of the body without long term damage (Neuro-muscular Incapacitation).

"Stun" systems (such as older Taser technology) jam the central nervous system with electrical noise. This only affects the body's sensory nervous system.

1. Central Nervous System is the command center (brain and spinal cord) that processes information and makes decisions. **[5]**
2. Sensory Nervous System is the nerves that carry information from the body to the brain (i.e. touch, temperature, etc.). **[6]**
3. Motor Nervous System is the nerves that carry commands from the brain to the muscles to control movement. **[7]**
4. "Stun" systems cause a tremendous amount of noise to the brain, these sensations that can be overwhelming to most people.
5. "Stun" systems do not cause a direct physical effect only causes pain compliance.

"Stun" systems may not incapacitate or affect a highly focused individual therefore does not affect the Motor Nervous System. **[8]**

D. Neuro-Muscular Incapacitation (NMI)

1. NMI systems such as the Taser override the central nervous system and takes direct control of the skeletal muscles.
2. NMI systems affect the sensory and motor nervous system.
3. Like a "Stun" system, NMI systems flood the nervous system with signals.
4. NMI systems also directly cause the muscles to contract.
5. Even someone whose sensory nervous system is

[5] Ask- What does the Central Nervous System do?

[6] Ask- What does the Sensory Nervous System control?

[7] Ask- What does the Motor Nervous System control?

[8] Ask- Does the "Stun" mode (no probe) affect the Motor Nervous System?

impaired by drugs will have involuntary muscle contractions. 6. NMI systems cause direct physical incapacitation. 7. NMI systems help officers gain control of a given situation while minimizing the risk of injury to the suspect as well as the officer.	
E. Stun vs. Neuro-Muscular Incapacitation (NMI) video 1. The video demonstrates older stun technology and its effects on volunteers versus the new technology Taser and its effects on volunteers	Video Evolution of Stun System-*Prior to showing the video explain to the class that they are about to see the evolution of Stun system TASERS to NMI TASERS and to observe the effects on the volunteers*
F. Taser Tracking Technology 1. The built-in tracking technology of the Taser provides solid documentation on the use of that particular unit. a. This provides protection for officers from false allegations of misuse. b. Also identifies misuse on behalf of the officer. c. The Taser stores the date, time, temperature, duration of time that the Taser is fired and every time it is fired. The Data Port connects the Taser to a computer and this info can be retrieved. d. Every time a cartridge from a Taser is fired, it disperses 20-30 tiny identification tags called "AFID's". These tags are printed with the serial number of the cartridge and can be utilized in determining who fired the cartridge.	o *"AFID'S" is covered during the Nomenclature slide.*
III. Medical Research A. Tests of the Taser have found: 1. Extensive animal testing has shown effect on heart rhythms or blood pressure to be insignificant. 2. 100,000 human volunteers with a 99% instant incapacitation in less than a second. **[9]**	o *Briefly cover medical research. This is covered during the Nomenclature slide*.
3. Subjects may experience stress caused by pain,	

minor skin irritation, temporary blisters, redness or minor bleeding if probes puncture skin. **[10]** 4. In rare instances, subjects may experience physical exertion type injuries including injuries to muscles, tendons, ligaments, backs, joints, and stress fractures. **[10]**	**[9] Ask-** What do you think the success rate is with 100,000 human volunteers tested?
B. Heart failure tests were performed at the University of Missouri. 1. The Taser was applied directly to the chest of test animals. 2. Using worst case scenarios, two leading experts in cardiac safety found neither system to cause interference with the heart rhythms. 3. No arrhythmia provocation occurred even when the animals were given the stimulant drugs epinephrine and isoproternol, agents that make the heart more susceptible to electrical stimulation. 4. Modern pacemakers and implanted cardiac defibrillators withstand external electrical defibrillators at least 800 times stronger than the Taser conducted energy pulses.	**[10] Ask-** What are some after effects that the Taser may cause?
C. Common effects of Neuro-Muscular Incapacitation (NMI) **[11]** 1. Subject can fall immediately to the ground 2. Yell or scream 3. Involuntary muscle contractions 4. Subject may freeze in place with legs locked 5. Subject may feel dazed for several seconds/minutes 6. Potential vertigo 7. Temporary tingling sensation 8. May experience critical stress amnesia 9. May not remember any pain (It is important for Officers to Identify the effectiveness of the Taser) **[12]**	**[11] Ask-** What are some common effects of Neuro- Muscular Incapacitation?

D. Possible Taser side effects

1. Might cause slight signature marks that resemble minor surface burns—appear red or may blister
2. Can cause eye injury if shot too high
3. Can ignite flammable liquids or gases **[13]**
4. Can cause strong muscle contractions
5. Can cause secondary injuries from person falling
6. Can cause pain and associated stress

[12] Ask- Why is it important for Officers to know the common effects of NMI?

[13] Ask- What can happen if the suspect has a flammable liquid on himself/herself?

Flammability video - Video shows different liquids poured onto a mannequin and subsequently hit with a Taser to test flammability.

E. What Taser weapons don't do

1. Doesn't damage nervous tissue
2. Generally doesn't cause urination or defecation
3. Preliminary animal tests delivering Taser current to the abdomens of pregnant pigs caused no adverse effect to the fetus. However, these results are preliminary and should not be considered conclusive. Pregnant females are at elevated risks from falling, muscle contractions, stress and other factors.
4. Doesn't cause "electrocution" in a wet environment
   a. Exposure to water will not cause electrocution or increase the power delivered to the subject

OC Flammability video - Video shows that some OC have either a flammable propellant or flammable ingredients that can catch fire from a spark from a Taser.

Ask- What would happen if someone is Tased while in a body of water?

F. Officers should avoid deploying the X26P when:

1. Suspect is in control of a motor vehicle.
2. Suspect is in danger of falling, which could cause death or serious bodily injury, (SBI).
3. Suspect could be caught in machinery or heavy equipment.
4. The X26P should not be deployed in environments containing flammable or combustible fumes.
5. Suspects known to have pacemakers.
6. Suspects known to be pregnant.

Video Suspect in a lake- Video shows a suspect who is Tased while in a lake, officers entering lake taking suspect into custody.

Video Suspect Falling- Video shows suspect falling off a balcony after officers used the Taser.

IV. In-Custody Deaths

A. A number of cases have occurred where individuals have died in police custody following Taser use. B. In nearly all cases, the Taser has not been listed as a cause or contributing factor in the death. 1. Majority of deaths ruled drug related including "Agitated Delirium" Definition: "A state of extreme mental and physiological excitement, characterized by extreme agitation, hyperthermia, hostility, exceptional strength and endurance without apparent fatigue." 2. Causes: a. Toxic: b. Cocaine c. Amphetamines d. Ecstasy e. PCP f. LSD g. Drug withdrawal h. Psychosis (psychiatric disorder) 3. Complications: a. Hyperthermia- Unusually high body temperature b. Rhabdomyolysis- The destruction or degeneration of skeletal muscle tissue (as from traumatic injury, excessive exertion, or stroke) that is accompanied by the release of muscle cell contents (as myoglobin and potassium) into the bloodstream resulting in hypovolemia, hyperkalemia, and sometimes acute renal failure c. Hyperkalemia- An abnormally high concentration of potassium ions in the blood d. Metabolic acidosis- Decreased pH and bicarbonate concentration of the body fluids caused either by the accumulation of excess acids stronger than carbonic acid or by abnormal losses of bicarbonate from the body.	○ *Emphasize that a suspect in this state may be considered uncooperative due to the effects of the causes listed, but that the Taser may still be an option based on the officers' training and experience in dealing with suspects in that mental state.*

e. Renal failure- Inability of the kidneys to excrete wastes and to help maintain the electrolyte balance f. Hypoxia- Deficiency in the amount of oxygen reaching body tissues g. Sudden death (arrhythmia) 4. Most occurred during transport or at hospital 5. Most involved subjects demonstrating extremely erratic and bizarre behavior 6. Most have occurred hours to days after actual Taser applications a. Electricity is instantly dissipated as heat and does not linger in the body 7. 1994 DOJ study of 63 deaths involving pepper spray a. Pepper spray cleared from contributing factor in all but 2 cases (asthmatics) C. Sudden Death Common Factors (All cases, not just after Taser use): 1. Toxic drug use 2. Pre-existing heart conditions 3. Obesity and poor cardiovascular condition 4. Diabetes and other pre-existing diseases 5. Protracted physical struggle 6. Exhaustive mania/ excited delirium 7. Compressive asphyxia D. In-Custody Death Warning Signs 1. Should one or more of the following behaviors manifest, the suspect may require immediate medical assistance due to pre-existing conditions, possible overdose, cocaine psychosis, excited delirium, etc. 2. Bizarre or violent behavior 3. Signs of overheating such as a naked person in a public or cold place 4. Slurring or slowness of speech	○ *Explain that medical personnel may be requested prior to Taser deployment if any of these signs*

5. Self-mutilation 6. Disturbances in breathing patterns or loss of consciousness 7. Dilated pupils 8. Fear 9. Panic 10. Paranoia 11. Seizures 12. Unexpected physical strength E. Possible Agitated Delirium 1. Texas incident caught on an in-car camera showing some of the signs listed above Reminder: Once officers engage in detention and restraint procedures, regardless of the type of force option, it is important to minimize the duration of the physical struggle and amount of force used. The longer the struggle, the greater the risk of injury or death related to overexertion, trauma or escalation. V. Taser Exposure A. Purpose 1. Benefits **[14]** a. Officers can better understand the effects of the device b. For deployment c. Confidence to go "hands-on" with a suspect without receiving a shock d. Self-defense e. Court expertise 1) Mateyko v. Felix a) Two Oxnard officers utilize a Taser b) Arrest suspect ultimately sues the City of Oxnard and officers for $400,000 c) Judge rules suspect is at fault 95% and the officers the other 5% and awards the suspect approximately $20,000 d) Officers were unable to testify the	*are observed.* <u>Video Texas incident caught on an in-car camera-</u> Suspect walking in the middle of the street showing signs of Agitated Delirium. (Notice suspects arms and legs still flailing, why? Possible probe spread or Taser not full charged, M26) ➢ **Learning Activity 1-** Taser Exposure **[14] Ask-** Why do you think the department requires you to get exposed with the Taser? ○ *Explain why court expertise is important- Mateyko vs. Felix*

voltage of the Taser or the effects on the body e) Lecture provides students with knowledge of the voltage and medical information on the effects of the body. Exposure gives students more expertise since they can describe the effects they experienced f) Secondary exposures g) Getting exposed can cause involuntary reflexes	
2. Risks a. Risks of training injuries	<u>Video Involuntary reflexes-</u> The video demonstrates the spotters holding an individual being exposed to the Taser
3. Officers are to be reminded that the use of the Taser must be within 835(a) p.c. **[15]** Officers should be aware of the effect the Taser is having on the suspect, and monitor its prolonged use. If the Taser is not having the desired effect upon the suspect, officers are advised to move on to another type of force option.	**[15] Ask-** What Penal Code section allows you to use reasonable force?
VI. X26P Specifications and Nomenclature	
A. Nomenclature	
1. X26P a. Front and rear sites. b. Trigger. c. Built-in laser sight, (top dart). d. Blast doors e. APPM release. f. Illumination selector. g. APPM (Automatic Performance Power Magazine) h. Safety switch i. CID(Central Information Display) j. AFIDs k. Probes	○ *Clearly identify the parts of the Taser and there functions. Demonstrate the proper finger placement of the trigger press and the duration of each press, and what happens when you hold the trigger past five seconds.* ○ *Demonstrate how the PPM (Performance Power Magazine) release button works.* ○ *Demonstrate how the Illumination selector button works*
2. Expendable cartridges. a. Solid yellow face is a live 15-foot cartridge.	○ *Demonstrate how the Safety*

b. Solid silver face is a 21-foot cartridge. c. Solid green face is a 25-foot cartidge **{16}** d. Solid blue is a simulation cartridge e. Two-pressure release buttons. f. Reversible design prevents jamming of the cartridges. g. A cartridge missing the blast doors is B/O	*switch works* ○ *Explain the different symbols that may be displayed in the CID* **[16] Ask-** What does the field cartridge look like?
B. Specifications for the X26P Taser:	
1. Watts are the "broadcast power" that the weapon transmits into the nervous system of the target.	
2. 6.8 watt system, compared to stun units that range from 5 to 11 watts.	
3. "It's not the volts that are dangerous; it's the amps." Volts only measure how far a spark can arc through the air.	
4. 50,000-volt system **[17]** a. Static discharge-door knob (35,000 to 100,000 volts).	**[17] Ask-** How many volts the Taser has?
5. Low amperage: X26P < 0.0021 amps a. 110 Volt wall outlet: 16 amps b. Christmas tree bulb: 1 amp c. TASER output: 0.0021 amp or 2.1 milliamps	
6. Pulses at 19 per second	
7. Safe energy: X-26P = 0.36 joules (stored) 0.07 per pulse a. Cardiac defibrillators are greater than 150-400 joules per pulse	
8. Uses compressed nitrogen to fire two small probes	
9. Maximum range is 21 feet. **[18]**	**[18] Ask-** What is the maximum range of the field cartridges?
10. Optimum performance is 7-15 feet from target for probe spread, officer safety and accuracy **[19]** a. Greater probe spread increases effectiveness	

b. If possible, minimum 4 inch spread	**[19] Ask-** What is the optimum range?
11. "Automatic Impulse Regulation" a. Single trigger press discharges current for 5-second cycle **[20]** b. Trigger presses during the 5-second cycle will not affect the cycle unless held continuously c. Holding the trigger continuously beyond the 5-second cycle will continue the electrical discharge until trigger is released. (The discharge will cease immediately once the trigger is released) **[21]** d. Move safety switch down (SAFE) to immediately stop a discharge (e.g. if accidentally discharged**)**	**[20] Ask-** Each trigger press discharges for how long? (Demonstrate Trigger Press) **[21] Ask-** What happens if you leave your finger on the trigger after you press? (Demonstrate)
12. Effective on suspects with as much as 2 inches of clothing on, including leather jackets. **[22]**	**[22] Ask-** Does the probes have to enter the suspect's skin to be effective? (Emphasize the Taser will work with thick clothing, up to 2 inches cumulative or 1 inch per probe)
13. Effective in temperatures ranging from -4 to 122 degrees Fahrenheit.	
14. 2 X 3 volt lithium energy cells power the X-26P provides up to 195 – 5 second cycles	
15. Total weight is 7.20 ounces.	
C. Probe Hits	
1. Probe hits are almost always more desirable than drive stuns a. More effective (NMI vs. Pain compliance) b. Can be applied from a safe distance c. Usually requires fewer cycles d. Fewer injuries	○ *Explain the difference between Drive Stun and Probe Hits.*
2. The X26P Taser will always deploy/fire a live cartridge when activated. If loaded with a previously fired cartridge it will still have Drive Stun capabilities. a. A drive stun with a live cartridge is possible. However, the probes will fire into the subject	

b. There is no over penetration or burning c. Cartridge might not deploy when in direct contact with subject, but will still have Drive Stun effect d. Probes can help maintain contact with a violent suspect e. You can then apply a drive stun away from probes to achieve NMI	
3. Upon the deployment of the cartridge, the X26P Taser is capable of functioning in the stun mode immediately as backup weapon without having to remove the deployed cartridge. 4. To use drive stun without deploying probes, remove the live cartridge. 5. The drive stun mode affects the sensory nervous system ONLY making it a pain compliance weapon that will not cause NMI. **[23]** 6. If not effective, evaluate location of drive stun and change target of opportunity to pressure points or consider alternative force options. 7. For maximum effectiveness in Drive Stun mode, aggressively drive the Taser into the below listed areas: a. Brachial plexus tie-in (upper chest) b. Radial (forearm) c. Common peronial (outside of thigh) d. Tibial (calf muscle)	<u>Video Drive Stun with cartridge-</u> Three officers utilizing a close contact probe deployment followed by a drive stun on volunteer o *Explain avoid removing the live cartridge, drive stun still works with cartridge.* **[23] Ask-** Does the Drive Stun mode cause NMI?
D. Holster 1. The Taser should be stored in the protective holster when not in use. 2. Approved holster- SOTECH Nylon thigh holster and Blade Tech. 3. Can be carried in cross draw or support side draw 4. The Taser should be loaded with a cartridge 5. The Taser should not be carried in pants or jacket pockets since static electricity can deploy a cartridge	**Ask-** Why carry the Taser holster on support side?
VII. Use of Force Policy	

A. Deployment by trained personnel

1. Only personnel specifically trained in the use of the X26P Taser shall be authorized to deploy this weapon system. Deployment of the Taser including minimum and maximum standoff distances, carrying, target location, care, cleaning, and maintenance shall be conducted in accordance with approved Training Division lesson plans and guidelines.

B. The X26P Taser may be used when an officer reasonbly believes that a suspect is violently resisting arrest or poses an immediate threat of violence or physical harm.**[24]**

Less-Lethal force shall not be used for a suspect or subject who is passively resisting or **merely failing to comply** with commands. Verbval threats of violence or **mere non-compliance** do not alone justify the use of Less-Lethal force.

[24] Ask- What is the policy for using the Taser?

C. Deorle v. Rutherford Court Decision

1. Use of Force Warning **[25]**

A verbal warning shall be given, when feasible, to a suspect before a Taser is utilized. The verbal warning should include a command and a warning of potential consequences of the use of force. The command should be similar to, "drop the weapon," or "stop what you are doing," followed by "or we may us the Taser, which may cause you serious injury." The warning is not required when an officer is attacked and must respond to the suspect's actions.

[25] Ask- Is a verbal warning mandatory when using the Taser?

D. Duration of Field Applications

1. The application of the Taser is a physically stressful event. Although there is no predetermined limit to the number of cycles that can be administered to the suspect, officers should only apply the

number of cycles reasonably necessary to allow them to safely approach and restrain the suspect. Especially when dealing with person in a health crisis such as excited delirium, it is advisable to minimize the physical and psychological stress to the suspect to the greatest degree possible. E. Use of Deadly Force 1. Electronic Control Devices(ECD) are target specific weapons 2. Even though Electronic Control Devices are not considered lethal, they can incapacitate an officer if used against the officer. 3. If an Electronic Control Device were to be used against an officer **with** a partner officer present, the use of deadly force would generally not be authorized. a. Since one officer may be temporarily incapacitated, the partner officer could resort to other less-lethal tactics and options available to de-escalate the situation 4. If an Electronic Control Device were to be used against an officer working alone, the officer may be authorized to use deadly force. If the officer reasonably believes that if the Electronic Control Weapon were to incapacitate the officer as designed, the suspect could cause the officer serious bodily injury or death with another weapon, possibly the officer's own weapon. Officers should attempt **to use distance and cover** as their first defense against a suspect armed with a Taser. VIII. Medical Treatment and Reporting Procedures A. Medical Treatment: 1. Whenever the Taser is used and the darts make contact with the suspect's clothing or skin, a physician at a contract hospital or jail dispensary shall immediately examine the suspect.	○ *Explain the force options for an officer(s) when confronted by a suspect armed with an ECD.*

2. Only medical personnel may remove darts that are embedded in a suspect's skin. **[26]**
3. Officers shall immediately request an ambulance if the suspect loses consciousness. **[27]**
4. If officers observe that the suspect is possibly under the influence of a drug and they feel that the use of the Taser is a possibility, it is suggested that an R/A unit be requested to help stabilize the suspect after the use of the Taser is completed.

B. Reporting Procedures

1. An officer using a TASER shall notify a supervisor without delay. **[28]**
2. The full account of the Use of Force will be documented in the related Department crime or arrest report.
3. Should these reports not be required, officers shall document the incident on an Employee's Report, Form 15.7
4. Supervisors will conduct an investigation of the incident and report their findings on a Use of Force Report, Form 1.67.2
5. Supervisors shall photograph all visible as well as complained of injuries, even when evidence is not present.
6. If no contact is made, the circumstances shall be documented in the appropriated report such as a crime, arrest or Employee's Report, Form 15.7. **[29]**
7. Use of the laser sight or sparking of the TASER for purposes of gaining compliance is not considered a use of force if no other force was used before, during or after
   a. Use of this tactic is not required before deployment of the TASER
   b. Suspect's actions must be aggressive/combative

IX. Taser Failures

A. One or both probes misses the suspect or subject.

[26] Ask- If the darts are embedded in the suspect's skin who may remove the darts?

[27] Ask- What should you do if the suspect loses consciousness?

[28] Ask- After using a Taser who shall you notify?

1. If the electrical current is loud during field hit and the suspect is not reacting, the energy is most likely shorting out and may not be effective. 2. The TASER device's electrical current is relatively quiet in actual human use B. Clothing 1. If the electrical current is loud during field hit and the suspect is not reacting, the energy is most likely shorting out and may not be effective. 2. The TASER device's electrical current is relatively quiet in actual human use C. Low Nerve/Muscle mass between the probes X. Maintenance and Care A. X26P TASER 1. Avoid dropping 2. Check APPM regularly 3. Check expiration of APPM 4. Secure in protective holster, when not in use 5. Do not store in pockets without holster 6. B/O Taser's and APPM's shall be returned to Tactics Unit, Training Division (DTF) for replacement a. Tactics Unit shall download the Taser prior to return to Taser International 7. Do not let the Taser get excessively wet 8. Occasionally wipe out the APPM firing bay with dry cloth. B. Dropped or Wet Taser 1. Safety switch down 2. Remove cartridge 3. Dry the Taser thoroughly 4. Safety switch up and return to Tactics Unit, In-	**[29] Ask-** Should the Taser be used but does not make contact with the suspect, what is the proper reporting procedure? o *Explain to the students how to identify a Taser failure* <u>Video RCMP Testing-</u> Shows Taser failures on volunteers

Service Training Division (ISTD), DTF immediately

XI. Tactics

A. Deployment

1. Officers should attempt to obtain sufficient back-up personnel to contain and control the suspect prior to using the Taser. Proper pre-planning will help in bringing a successful outcome of the situation, with a reduction of injuries to suspects and officer's.
2. To request a Taser, units must broadcast a "Code-Tom". **[30]**
3. Whenever possible, have a back-up Taser on-scene in case the primary Taser fails.
4. Request a supervisor to the scene; however a supervisor need not be present for the officers to deploy the Taser.
5. Isolate the suspect as much as possible.
6. Form an arrest team.
7. Communicate to the other officers at scene your back-up plan in the event the Taser is ineffective.

B. Arrest Team

1. Can be accomplished with two officers
2. Ideally a five-member team assembled to deploy the Taser.
   a. Team Leader **[31]**
      1) Supervisor or senior officer at scene.
      2) Gives direction and commands to the officers.
      3) Control arrest teams movements and deployment.
      4) Responsible for decision making in deploying the Taser.

3. Arrest Team (two)
   a. Responsible for the physical control of the suspect. **[32]**
   b. Handcuffs and if necessary "hobble" restraints

[30] Ask- To request a Taser, what should units broadcast?

the suspect. c. Places the suspect in the upright seated position and monitor the suspect for signs of distress. d. Can also be deployed as a "cover officer". 4. Taser officer a. Must be trained and authorized to use the Taser. b. Deploys the Taser within established Department guidelines. 5. Contact Officer **[33]** a. Verbalizes to the suspect in a constant effort to de-escalate the situation before, during and after. 1) If applicable, tell the suspect to drop any weapon or item held 2) Tell suspect to raise their hands or place their hands on their head 3) Tell suspect to turn around facing away from officers 4) Place suspect in a position that is advantageous to the officers C. Engagement Tactics 1. Team Leader advises the take down team to deploy on the suspect. 2. Team members should avoid standing within range of the Taser. 3. The Taser officer is positioned within 25 feet of, optimally 7 – 15 feet from, the suspect, and preferable to the rear of the suspect a. Deploying to the rear of the suspect prevents the officer from telegraphing their intentions to the suspect. b. Prevents the darts from accidentally striking the suspect's face. c. More muscle mass on the back 4. Preferred Target zones **[34]**	**[31] Ask-** What are the team leader responsibilities? **[32] Ask-** What are the arrest team responsibilities? **[33] Ask-** What are the Contact Officer responsibilities?

a. Avoid chest/breast shots whenever possible.
b. Frontal shots, the Taser has been found to be more effective if the probes are in the abdominal to pelvic region.
c. This will improve the effective use of the Taser while further increasing safety margins.
d. Back shots, below the neck, remain the preferred target area when practical.

5. The team leader advises the officers of the intentions to deploy the Taser by the use of a prearranged visual or audible signal to the Taser officer.
6. Once the Taser is activated and the darts have made proper contact the suspect will generally fall down.
7. The Taser officer will allow the Taser to run through its preset "Automatic Impulse Regulation" (5 seconds) or until the suspect stops their aggressive/combative behavior. **[35]**
   a. A full 5-second cycle deployment should be applied without interruption (unless circumstances dictate otherwise)
   b. Each 5-second cycle is a "window of opportunity" for the arrest team to apprehend the suspect and go hands on **[36]**
   c. The suspect is only incapacitated during the Taser cycle. The suspect can recover immediately.
   d. Officers are encouraged to subdue and cuff the suspect during the Taser cycle.
      1) Do not touch probes
      2) Do not touch wires two inches from probes or Taser
      3) Do not place hands within two inches of probes
      4) Do not place any body parts between probes
8. The Taser officer then announces "clear" when the Taser is switched off.
9. The Taser officer should continue to maintain

[34] Ask- What are the preferred target zones?

[35] Ask- When using the Taser on a suspect how long should the Taser run?

control of the Taser and the ability to reactivate it, should it become necessary, until the suspect is in custody. a. The Taser officer should not assist the arrest team officers with the handcuffing procedures unless it becomes absolutely necessary. At the conclusion of the presentation the instructor should allow for any questions from the students. The instructor will administer and grade the TASER test . (15 mins.)	**[36] Ask-** When should the arrest team move in and take the suspect into custody?

Learning Activity 1- Taser Exposure

Purpose- Provide the students with the effects during and after exposure of the X26P Taser.

Description- The safety ratio for Taser exposure is one instructor per eight students. No firearm loaded or unloaded shall be permitted in the training area. The instructors will demonstrate to the class how to support the student being exposed. If the student is currently "light duty," the student should not be exposed to the ECD until they have returned to "full duty." Prior to taking an exposure, the students should be encouraged to stretch.

Four mats will be set up in range C. There will be two students to support the student being exposed to the Taser. The instructor will determine if any pre-existing medical conditions or injuries exist with the students prior to exposure. If pre-existing conditions exist, instructors should avoid the area for exposure.

The student will stand in the center of the mat or center of the mat room and will be supported by two holders. The holders will support the student by each holding an upper arm of the standing student under the armpit, so that the shoulder, arm, elbow, and wrist are stabilized close to the body to prevent stress, tension, or torsion on the joints. This will additionally prevent the student from falling to the ground injuring oneself. The holders will discover that they will not feel the effects of the Taser while the student is exposed.

An instructor will attach the Taser wires or probes (hooks removed) to the right or left pocket and to the right or left boot. The wires or probes will be placed on the same side. The instructors shall not place the probes in sensitive areas such as the groin, neck and head. After the wires or probes are attached and the student has the holders, a Certified Tactics instructor will activate the Taser. If the student says "stop" after the Taser is activated, the instructor shall immediately deactivate the Taser. If the student does not say "stop" the student will experience the effects of the X26P Taser for 5 seconds.

No student shall be shot with the Taser even if the student request so.

After all the students are exposed with the X26P Taser, the instructor will advise the class to document the exposure in their Field Officers Notebook (Date and time).

Resources needed:

- X26P Tasers
- Mats
- Eye protection

Key learning points:

- Effects of the Taser
- Effects of NMI

Time needed: 20-30 minutes (entire class)

Purpose- Familiarizes student with the basic operation of the ECD controls and provides students with the practical experience to safely and effectively operate the ECD.

Description- The safety ratio for Taser manipulations is one instructor per eight students. When students do live fire the safety ratio is one instructor to one student. No firearm loaded or unloaded shall be permitted in the training area. All participants during Taser live fire scenario-based training must wear eye protection.The students will treat all ECD's as if they are loaded.

There will be four stations equipped with TASER's with B/O cartridges, one live cartidge per student and a Numb John. The students will will be divided into four groups. At each station students will receive a Taser and a spent/BO cartridge. The instructors will verify the cartridges the students receive are in fact B/O and cannot fire probes. One instructor will demonstrate the Taser manipulations.

The first drill will be Safety Switch/Spark drill. The instructor will demonstrate how to properly operate the safety switch and trigger on the ECD. The students will follow as demonstrated. The students will conduct a spark check allowing the cycle to run for the full five seconds. Next the students will be shown then demonstrate pressing the trigger and ending the cycle early.

The second drill will be loading and unloading cartridges. The students will have the opportunity to practice proper loading and unloading of the Taser cartridges. The instructor will ensure that the safety switch is down in the safe position while loading and unloading the Taser cartridge, rotating cartridge each time to emphasize the reversible fit. The student will load a B/O cartridge into the ECD held just below eye level so the student keeps his/her head up to monitor the threat while they are reloading. The student will put the safety in the down position (safe) and unload the cartridge keeping the Taser at eye level. The instructors will ensure the safety is in the down position before unloading. Additionally, the instructors will ensure the students are not covering their hand while loading and unloading. The students will demonstrate a spark test.

Drill number three will provide each student the opportunity to fire a live cartridge in a low stress environment.. The students will be issued a live cartridge with an ECD at the front of the line . The student will load cartridge at the firing line. The student will point the ECD at the Numb John, at the preferred target area. The instructors will remind the student to keep the Taser at eye level. The student will give a warning and a consequence to the Numb John, deploy probes and allow the Taser to cycle for the full 5 seconds. The student will put the safety switch down (safe) and remove the cartridge dropping it to the ground.

The instructors will ensure the students are giving the proper verbal command as well as aiming at the preferred target zones.

Resources needed:

- X26P Tasers
- Eye protection
- Live X26P Taser cartridges
- Numb John
- B/O X26P cartridges
- Traffic cones

Key learning points:

- Components of the ECD
- Properly deploy cartridges from the ECD
- Proper preferred target areas when firing the ECD

Time needed: 20-30 minutes (entire class)

Learning Activity 3- Live Fire with Tactical Reloads

Event 2 - Force Options
Session 11 – Taser Certification
LD 20- Use of Force/De-Escalation

Purpose-The activity is designed to force the student to reload a new Taser cartridge under stress after firing the first Taser cartridge. The student will additionally identify when the Taser cartridge is B/O.

Description- The safety ratio for Taser live fire is one instructor per one student. No firearm loaded or unloaded shall be permitted in the training area. All participants during Taser live fire scenario-based training must wear eye protection. The students will treat all ECD's as if they are loaded.

The students will line up with a partner outside of Range C. Each student will be given a Taser holster containing two live cartridges and a Taser with an expended cartridge placed inside. The students will place the holster on their belt. The students will run a short distance and perform approximately 10 pushups and 10 jumping jacks under the direction of a PT instructor. Upon completion, the student will run a short distance to a Taser target (Numb John). The student will draw their ECD and be told the suspect is attacking him/her. Through sight and sound, the student will identify the deployment was unsuccessful. The student will unload the expended cartridge and reload with a live cartridge. Student will deploy the live cartridge and allow the ECD to cycle for the full five seconds. After the full five seconds the student will be told there is a Code Sam request. The student will unload the cartridge and run a short distance to the next target (Numb John). The student will draw their Taser and load a live cartridge. The student will be told the suspect is threatening him/her and taking a fighting stance. The student will issue a warning and deploy the Taser. The student will allow the ECD to cycle for five seconds then unload the cartridge dropping it to the ground. The student will holster the ECD and the problem will be rendered cold.

<u>Key observations the instructors will look for are:</u>

- Verbal commands
- Aiming at preferred target zones (safety down)
- Proper reloading position
- Proper hand position on cartridge while reloading
- Holding ECD up just below eye level

Resources needed:

- Eye protection
- X26P Tasers and holsters
- Live X26P Taser cartridges
- B/O X26P cartridges
- Numb John targets
- Traffic cones
- Barricades

Key learning points:

- Components of the ECD
- Properly deploy cartridges from the ECD
- Proper preferred target areas when firing the ECD

Time needed: 30 minutes (entire class)

Learning Activity 4- Combative Arrest Control Team

Purpose-The students will understand the importance of communicating and forming together a Combative Suspect Control Team.

Description- The safety ratio for Taser scenarios is one instructor per eight students. No firearm loaded or unloaded shall be permitted in the training area. All participants during Taser live fire scenario-based training must wear eye protection.

A group of 6 students will simulate a Combative Suspect Control Team. They will be given a radio call of a "Female suspect with a box cutter threatening to cute hurt herself." One student will be the Taser operator. One student will be the team leader, one student as cover officer, one student as verbalization officer and 2 officers assigned as Arrest Team.

The team leader will assign a responsibility for everyone including having additional less lethal on standby. The suspect does not drop the box cutter so the team leader communicates any necessary information. The Taser operator will deploy the Taser and the suspect will fall to the ground. The team will move in to take the suspect in custody. Each student will assume their responsibility when moving in which will include securing the weapon.

The instructors will debrief the scenario which will include why it wasn't feasible to issue a verbal warning and the importance of going hands on while the suspect is being exposed to the Taser.

Resources needed:

- Taser
- Live cartridge
- Red/Orange inert handgun
- Eye protection
- 'Cuff Man'

Key learning points:

- Importance of communication
- Issuing verbal warning
- Having additional less lethal
- Importance of cover officer
- Not issuing a verbal warning
- Hands on while the suspect is being exposed to the Taser

Time needed: 10 minutes

Learning Activity 5- Demonstration Close Contact with Probes

Event 2 - Force Options
Session 11 – Taser Certification
LD 20- Use of Force/De-Escalation

Purpose- The students will understand the effects of using the Drive Stun Mode with cartridge in place and achieving NMI (Neuro Muscular Incapacitation). The students will recognize that it is safe to leave the cartridge in the Taser while deploying the Taser at a close distance. Additionally, the demonstration will show the students that touching the cartridge wires will not affect the officers.

Description- The safety ratio for Taser demonstrations is one instructor per eight students. No firearm loaded or unloaded shall be permitted in the training area. All participants during Taser live fire scenario-based training must wear eye protection.

The 'Cuff Man' will be placed lying down. The instructor will deploy the Taser with the cartridge in the back of the 'Cuff Man' then move the Taser to the leg of the 'Cuff Man' creating NMI (Neuro Muscular Incapacitation). While the Taser is being deployed the students (arrest team) will simulate taking the suspect into custody. The students will discover the Taser will not affect them while taking the suspect into custody.

The instructor will demonstrate touching the wires while the Taser is deployed. While the Taser is activated the instructor will grab the middle of the wires demonstrating it is safe to touch the wires while being deployed (With the exception of within two inches from the cartridge and two inches from the probes).

Resources needed:

- Taser
- Live cartridge
- Eye protection
- 'Cuff Man'

Key learning points:

- Importance of communication
- Having additional less lethal
- Hands on while the suspect is being exposed to the Taser
- Creating NMI with the Drive Stun mode with cartridge in Taser

Time needed: 5 minutes