

**Jackson County Sheriff's Office
Standard Operating Procedure
TASER HANDHELD ECD**

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- 1. Policy:** It is the policy of the Jackson County Sheriff's Office to allow the deployment of TASER ECD's in situations where the safety of the deputy and/or offender is at risk
- 2. Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to establish the proper methods of TASER ECD deployment to ensure the safety of both the deputy and the offender.
- 3. Definitions:**

 1. Deployment is any shooting of the projectiles from a TASER ECD.
 2. Discharge is anytime the TASER ECD is triggered without a cartridge of projectiles on it, or when the projectiles have already been deployed.
 3. TASER ECD refers to a Taser X-26 or Taser X-2 Electronic Control Device, which is designed to be hand held.
- 4. Responsibilities:**

 1. The Jackson County Sheriff's Office is responsible for establishing the requirements contained within this policy.
 2. The Sheriff or designee is responsible for insuring that his personnel are properly trained in the use of TASER ECD's before allowing them to carry and use it.
 3. The Sheriff or designee are responsible for providing approved training Courses in the use of TASER ECD's.
 4. Those deputies certified to use a TASER ECD shall be responsible for the constant control and safety of any unit issued to them.
 5. All personnel are responsible for complying with the requirements contained within this policy.
 6. The Sheriff or designated personnel are responsible for performing inspections of TASER ECD's each month for effective use. Any batteries older than ten years from the manufacture date shall be discarded and replaced. The Sheriff or designated person shall also perform a yearly function test of the TASER ECD, and inspection of the cartridges for their ten year expiration date.
 7. The individual deputy shall be responsible for reporting of any deployment or discharge of the TASER ECD to the Sheriff as soon as reasonably possible.
 8. Any deployment or discharge of the TASER ECD rather than

intentional (spark testing) or accidental shall be reported and verification through the TASER ECD shall be conducted by the Sheriff or designated personnel.

5. Procedural Guidelines:

1. There are many models of TASER ECD's. The Jackson County Sheriff's office shall use TASER X2 and TASER X26.
2. Only those who have current certification in the use of the TASER X2 AND TASER X26 may deploy the device.
3. Each deputy carrying the TASER X2 or TASER X26 shall have a minimum of two cartridges with them.
4. The TASER ECD's may only be deployed as taught and certified in training.
5. The TASER ECD's should not be deployed when flammables are present.
6. The TASER ECD's should be deployed from three to 35 feet, but optimal range is seven to 15 feet.
7. TASER ECD deployment may be in any situation where verbal commands are not effective in controlling a subject. To reduce risk to the subject and deputies, TASER ECD's will normally be used up to a need for an impact weapon or less lethal force. TASER ECD's may be used in place of pepper spray based on the deputy's observations of the situation and what he/she deems to be the safest and most effective given the totality of circumstances. Certification of TASER ECD will address this issue. The TASER ECD may be used to control a non-compliant subject or a dangerous and/or violent subject where attempts to subdue the subject by other conventional tactics have been, or will likely be, ineffective to the situation at hand; or there is reasonable expectation that it will be unsafe for deputies to approach within contact range of the subject or when deadly physical force does not appear to be justified and/or necessary. The TASER ECD is not intended to replace firearms or self defense techniques.
8. The primary consideration when deploying TASER ECD's will be shot placement. Shots shall be attempted to the center mass or to the back of the subject whenever possible.

6. Medical Considerations:

1. Subjects who have been subjected to a TASER ECD or the probes, shall be treated as follows:
 1. Once the subject is under control, a certified TASER ECD deputy shall advise the jail staff that the subject has been subjected to a TASER ECD and the approximate time the action occurred.
 2. If the probes penetrate the skin, the probes may be removed by a

trained deputy, or medical staff, then treated with a disinfectant to sterilize the contact area.

3. If the probes are embedded in soft tissue areas such as the neck, face and groin area, removal of probes shall be by medical staff only.
A sample probe will go with the subject to the hospital or emergency room to be shown to the staff treating the subject.
4. If the subject receives a secondary injury (i.e.: injury to a fall or other actions) seek medical attention if necessary.

7. Deployment Reports:

1. All documentation of the incident from all deputies and other personnel involved shall be turned into the Sheriff.
2. All treatment reports from medical personnel.
3. A review of policy and debriefing.

Russ Kettmann
Russ Kettmann, Sheriff

1-23-13
Date