



# University of California, San Francisco Police Department General Orders

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Reviewed: 2/16/17

## 4.3.17 Electronic Control Device (Issued: 03/21/17)

### A. Purpose and Scope

1. This policy provides guidelines for the issuance and use of an Electronic Control Device (ECD).
2. The ECD is intended to control a violent or potentially violent individual while minimizing the risk of serious injury. It is anticipated that the appropriate use of such a device will result in fewer serious injuries to officers and suspects.
3. These are the guidelines for the deployment and use of an ECD by officers of the UCSF Police Department. All sworn personnel must comply with the requirements of this policy. The decision to use force shall be reviewed in light of information reasonably available to the officer(s) at the time the decision is made.
4. The intent is for officers to deploy and use the ECD to maximize the safety of all individuals involved in an incident.

### B. Definitions

Officer(s): Any sworn peace officer regardless of rank.

Verbal Warning Reference: Any verbal notification to a subject(s) that an officer will activate an ECD.

Deployment: Removal of the ECD from the holster, regardless of where the ECD is held or pointed.

Activation: Depressing the trigger of the ECD causing an arc or firing the probes.

Active Aggression: A threat or overt act of an assault (through physical or verbal means), coupled with the present ability to carry out the threat or assault, which reasonably indicates that an assault or injury to a person is imminent.

Actively Resisting: Evasive physical movements to defeat an officer's attempt at control, including bracing, tensing, pushing, locking arms or verbally signaling an intention to avoid or prevent being taken into or retained in custody.

AFID: Anti-Felon Identification system, which provides accountability for each use of the ECD device via the dispersal of tiny unique coded tags every time the device is probe deployed, i.e., when a cartridge is discharged

Cartridge: Refers to an ECD cartridge, which contains probes.

ECD: The electronic control device (ECD) is a handheld device that discharges an electronic current to override a subject's central nervous system causing temporary incapacitation (probe mode) or discomfort (drive stun mode).



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## ECD Modes:

1. Probe Deployment or Probe Mode – Two darts on wires are propelled from a cartridge to contact a subject's body. The ECD sends an electrical signal to the probes via wires, which can disrupt the subject's body's ability to communicate messages from the brain to the muscles and likely (depending upon many factors, including the distance between the probes, probe placement, the thickness of clothing on the subject , etc.) usually disrupts motor-skill function.
2. Drive Stun Mode – The ECD is brought into immediate contact with the subject's body or clothing. Drive stun creates discomfort in the immediate area around the point of contact due to the narrow spread of the ECD probes. Drive stun application will likely not cause motor skill dysfunction.

## ECD Use:

1. ECD Displayed – The ECD is withdrawn from the holster and is visible to the subject. The subject complies or the incident concludes without actual use of the ECD.
2. ECD Laser Pointed – The ECDs laser targeting mechanism is activated and pointed in the direction of the subject. In response to the subject's observation of the laser pointing, the subject complies or the incident concludes without further use of the ECD.
3. ECD Demonstrated – The ECD is withdrawn from the holster, the cartridge is removed and the electrical arcing is demonstrated to the subject to attempt to gain voluntary compliance.
4. ECD Deployed – The ECD probes contact the subject's body or clothing and/or a drive stun is used to attempt to gain compliance.

Passive Resistance: Physical actions that do not prevent the officer's attempt to control a subject. For example, a subject who remains in a sitting, standing, limp or prone position with no physical contact (e.g., locked arms) with other individuals. A subject in handcuffs meets the definition of passive resistance if: (a) the subject is in a sitting, standing or prone position as directed by the officer and is not engaged in any motion intended to injure, resist or remove the handcuffs or (b) the subject is walking accompanied by and following the directions of an officer.

A subject who, while sitting or standing, has locked arms with another subject is not engaged in passive resistance but is engaged in proactive action to obstruct.



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A subject who has previously engaged in passive resistance but who subsequently engages in behavior such as flailing, kicking, elbowing, head butting, biting, shoving, jerking, pulling away, twisting or other action that an officer interprets as a threat or actual act of active resistance is no longer considered to be engaging in passive resistance.

Sensitive Areas: Areas of a subject's body such as the head (face, side, back), neck, groin, genitalia or female's breast.

## C. Policy

The Conducted Energy Device is intended to control a violent or potentially violent individual, while minimizing the risk of serious injury. The appropriate use of such a device should result in fewer serious injuries to officers and suspects.

As with any law enforcement equipment, the ECD has limitations and restrictions requiring consideration before its use. The ECD should only be used when its operator can safely approach the subject within the operational range of the ECD. Although the ECD rarely fails and is generally effective in subduing most individuals, officers should be aware of this potential and be prepared with other options in the unlikely event of such a failure.

The ECD is a device that can be deployed in two different modes, as defined in this policy: probe and/or drive stun. Either or both modes may be used on a particular subject or against a perceived threat (e.g., animal). Officers shall only use ECDs and cartridges that have been issued by the Department.

The ECD, in probe deployment mode, provides a force option which allows officers to maintain a physical separation from subjects or perceived threats in order to reduce the possibility of a serious injury to officers or others, as well as to reduce the possibility of injury to the subject or perceived threat.

The ECD, in drive stun mode, provides a force option when the officer and subject are in close contact.

Using ECDs in either mode may reduce the need for other types of force by the officers, which could foreseeably result in potentially more serious or deadly injuries to the subject, officers or the public.



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## D. Issuance and Carrying ECDs

During the course of enforcement duties, all sworn uniformed personnel who have successfully completed Department-approved training shall be issued and carry the ECD.

Officers shall only use the ECD and cartridges that have been issued by the Department. Uniformed officers who have been issued the ECD shall wear the device in an approved holster on their person in accordance with training and this policy. Non-uniformed officers may secure the ECD on their person in a Department-approved holster.

Officers carrying the ECD should perform a spark test on the unit prior to every shift.

When carried while in uniform officers shall carry and draw the ECD from the support-side holster on the side opposite the duty weapon with the support-side hand.

1. All ECDs shall be clearly and distinctly marked to differentiate them from the duty weapon and any other device.
2. Officers should carry two cartridges on their person when carrying the ECD.
3. Officers shall be responsible for ensuring that their issued ECD is properly maintained and in good working order.
4. Officers should not hold both a firearm and the ECD at the same time.

## E. ECD Equipment

Officers are only authorized to carry Department-issued and -approved ECDs. Officers assigned an ECD are responsible for maintaining the device's operational readiness. No changes, alterations, modifications or substitutions shall be made to the ECD or the cartridges.

Prior to use during an assignment, officers shall:

1. Visibly inspect the ECD and the cartridges for noticeable wear or damage. This includes checking the expiration date and condition of the ECD cartridges. Expired and/or damaged cartridges shall be turned into a supervisor for replacement.
  - a. Officers will note the ECD inspection in their daily activity log. Documentation may be as brief as "ECD checked OK" or checking a box confirming the inspection was completed.



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2. Check the ECDs battery strength to ensure adequate battery charge.
  - a. Officers shall ensure that the cartridge has been removed, prior to checking battery strength or changing the batteries in the unit.
  - b. Officers shall test battery strength by sparking an unloaded ECD before going in service. In the event that the unit's battery strength is not adequate (20% or less), officers shall exchange the unit for another with adequate battery strength. Spark tests should be conducted with the ECD pointed in a safe direction with no apparent persons down range.
  - c. The cartridge is obtained from the storage area and the officer attaches it to the ECD.
3. Store the ECD and extra cartridges in the issued holster or case when not in use. When the ECD is secured at the end of a shift, the cartridge in the ECD is removed first and the officer stores it separately from the ECD.
4. Ensure that the ECD is accessible by carrying the device on the officer's person.
  - a. Extra cartridges should not be carried in pockets to avoid the risk that static electricity could cause an unintentional discharge of the cartridge.

## F. Reasonable Care and Storage of ECD

The ECD is a highly sophisticated piece of electronic equipment that operates with batteries. Therefore, officers shall reasonably protect the ECDs and the cartridges from:

1. Water, rain, etc.
2. Unreasonable exposure to dust, dirt, mud, etc.
3. Unreasonable risk of theft (i.e., avoid storing an ECD in a vehicle where it could be stolen)
4. Unreasonable exposure to inclement storage conditions (i.e., leaving an ECD in a vehicle parking in direct sunlight for an extended period of time, during high temperatures)
5. Unreasonable accessibility to people other than members of the Department.

Officers are not permitted to take ECDs to their residences, unless they are attending training or are involved in an official assignment requiring them to take their gear home.

## G. Criteria for Use

An ECD in probe deployment is designed to stimulate a portion of the nervous system with sufficient pulsed electrical energy to bring about uncontrolled muscle contractions, which override an individual's voluntary motor function. Drive stun



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mode occurs when the ECD makes direct contact with the subject's body and does not override an individual's motor responses. It is intended to cause significant pain. Use of the ECD in probe deployment is preferred in some circumstances over use in drive stun mode, which can only be used at close range and may cause marks and scarring.

When an ECD is used against a subject, either in probe or drive stun mode, it shall be for one standard discharge cycle of five seconds; the officer using the ECD must reassess the situation prior to a secondary discharge cycle. Only the minimum number of five second cycles necessary to place the subject in custody shall be used.

Officers should assume that if they have used the ECD three times against a subject but the subject continues to actively resist or aggress, the ECD may not be effective against that person; the officer shall reassess and consider other options.

Officers shall not deploy multiple ECDs at the same subject, unless the first deployed device fails.

When using ECD in the drive stun mode, officers shall wait a reasonable amount of time between applications to discern if compliance has been gained. An officer's decision to use an ECD is dependent on the officer's objectively reasonable perception of the threats facing the officer under the totality of the circumstances.

ECDs are control devices. However, ECDs, just like any control device or technique, can foreseeably create physical and/or muscle stress and/or exertion or other unexpected, unforeseen or unanticipated primary (directly caused by the ECD) and/or secondary (as a result of the ECD use, but not directly caused by the ECD discharge) injuries.

ECDs should only be used against persons who are actively resisting or exhibiting active aggression or to prevent individuals from harming themselves or others.

## **The use of an ECD is not allowed on subjects engaged in passive resistance.**

### H. Verbal and Visual Warnings

A verbal warning of the intended use of the ECD should precede its application, unless it would otherwise endanger the safety of officers or when it is not practicable due to the circumstances. The purpose of the warning is for the following:





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1. Provide the individual with a reasonable opportunity to voluntarily comply
2. Provide other officers and individuals with a warning that an ECD may be deployed.

However, if officers reasonably believe that the giving of such warning may escalate the risk and/or danger of the incident or diminish the officer's or other's safety, then the officers are not required to give a warning. It is foreseeable that officer's announcements of imminent ECD deployment may cause the subject to attack the officers, flee, inflict self-injury, attempt to injure others, etc.

If, after a verbal warning, an individual is unwilling to voluntarily comply with an officer's lawful orders and it appears both reasonable and practical under the circumstances, the officer may, but is not required to, display the electrical arc (provided there is not a cartridge loaded into the ECD or the laser in a further attempt to gain compliance prior to the application of the ECD. The aiming laser should never be intentionally directed into the eyes of another as it may permanently impair their vision.

In an attempt to minimize the number of ECD discharges needed for subject compliance, officers should, while deploying the ECD, reasonably direct the suspect as the incident mandates. Such verbal commands may include, "stop resisting," "lie flat," "put your hands behind your back," etc. The fact that a verbal and/or other warning was given or the reasons it was not given shall be documented by the officer deploying the ECD.

## I. Advising Other Officers of Imminent Use

The ECD deploying officers may reasonably notify any on-scene, assisting officers that they intend to deploy an ECD.

Prior to deploying ECDs the deploying officers should consider announcing, if reasonably safe and tactically feasible, "TASER! TASER! TASER!" The announcement should be made only if it would not reasonably further endanger any officers, other persons or the subject.

## J. Criteria for Probe Deployment/Probe Mode

As with any law enforcement equipment, the ECD has limitations and restrictions requiring consideration before its use. The ECD should only be used when its operator can safely approach the subject within the operational range of the ECD.

Although the ECD is generally effective in controlling most individuals, officers should be alert to the potential for failure and be prepared with other options.



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Any deployment and/or use of an ECD must be consistent with Department training, applicable policies and legal standards. Officers shall not use ECDs when such use would violate Department training, applicable policies and legal standards. The ECD shall not be used to torture, psychologically torment, elicit statements or inflict undue pain on any individual.

Officers may use an ECD in the probe mode when circumstances known to the officer at the time indicate that the application of the ECD in probe mode is reasonable to subdue or control a person in any of the following circumstances:

1. A violent or physically resisting subject or
2. A subject who by words or action has demonstrated an intention to be violent or to physically resist and who reasonably appears to present the potential to harm officers, their self or others.

When practicable, the officer should give a verbal warning of the intended use of the ECD, followed by a reasonable opportunity to voluntarily comply.

The officer must be able to articulate an objectively reasonable belief that the ECD would be effective, for example when other available options appeared ineffective, impractical or would have presented a greater danger to the officer, the subject or others.

Absent meeting the conditions set forth in 1 or 2 above or a reasonable belief that an individual has committed or threatened to commit a serious offense, mere flight from a pursuing officer shall not serve as good cause for the use of the ECD to apprehend an individual.

## K. Criteria for Drive Stun

The use of an ECD in drive stun mode will not reliably or foreseeably incapacitate the subject. Officers will not use ECDs in drive stun mode if they reasonably believe that discomfort will not cause the subject to be compliant with the officers. Because the application of the ECD in the Drive Stun mode (i.e., direct contact without darts) relies primarily on pain compliance and requires close proximity to the subject, additional caution should be exercised and the controlling effects may be limited.

Officers may use an ECD in a drive stun capacity, as a pain compliance technique, in the following situations:

1. To eliminate active aggression or active resistance from an arrestee in accomplishing an arrest or physical search





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2. During Department authorized training programs and/or demonstrations
3. To stop a dangerous animal.

## L. Factors to Determine Reasonableness of Force

The application of the ECD is likely to cause intense, but momentary, pain. As such, officers should carefully consider and balance the totality of circumstances available prior to using the ECD including, but not limited to, the following factors:

1. The conduct of the individual being confronted (as reasonably perceived by the officer at the time)
2. Officer/subject factors [e.g., age, size, relative strength, skill level, injury/exhaustion, number of officers vs. subject(s)]
3. Influence of drugs/alcohol (mental capacity)
4. Proximity of weapons
5. The degree to which the subject has been effectively restrained and their ability to resist despite being restrained
6. Time and circumstances permitting, the availability of other options (what resources are reasonably available to the officer under the circumstances)
7. Seriousness of the suspected offense or the reason for contact with the individual
8. Training and experience of the officer
9. Potential for injury to members of the public, officers and suspects
10. Risk of escape
11. Other exigent circumstances.

## M. Targeting Considerations

While manufacturers generally recommend that reasonable efforts should be made to target lower center mass and to avoid intentionally targeting the head, face, throat, neck, chest, spine and groin, it is recognized that the dynamics of each situation and officer safety may not permit the officer to limit the application of the ECD darts to a precise target area. As such, officers should take prompt and ongoing care to monitor the condition of the subject if one or more darts strikes the head, face, throat, neck, chest, spine or groin until they are released to the care of paramedics or other medical personnel.

1. An ECD, with proper probe placement, may incapacitate the following:
  - a. Humans
  - b. Humans under the influence of controlled substances and/or alcohol
  - c. Domesticated animals
  - d. Wild animals.



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2. Precautions
  - a. May cause slight signature marks which resemble minor surface burns.
  - b. The skin may appear red or blisters may form.
  - c. Can cause eye injury if the subject is struck by a probe in or near the eye.
  - d. Can ignite flammable liquids or gases.
  - e. Can cause strong muscle contractions.
    - (1) The exertion is similar to what is experienced during strenuous athletic activities, and may result in injuries such as muscle or tendon strain or tear, joint injuries, back injuries, stress fractures, or other secondary injuries resulting from strong muscle contraction.
    - (2) Muscle contractions may pose additional risk to certain persons, such as pregnant women.
    - (3) May cause secondary injuries from falling. Fall injuries, particularly from elevated heights, can pose a risk of significant injury or death.
    - (4) May cause pain and associated stress.
    - (5) When a subject has been exposed to an ECD and is suspected to be under the influence of stimulants, a true medical condition may exist. The individual shall receive medical attention as soon as practical.
3. As with the initial ECD application, each subsequent application of an ECD must be individually justified.
4. When restraining a subject that has been struck with an ECD, officers shall use a technique that does not impair respiration.
5. Once a subject is under control, officers shall place him or her in a recovery position until such time as medical aid arrives.

## N. Multiple Activations of ECD

If the first application of the ECD appears to be ineffective in gaining control of an individual and if circumstances allow, the officer should consider the following before additional applications of the ECD:

1. Whether the probes or darts are making proper contact
2. Whether the application of the ECD device is interfering with the ability of the individual to comply
3. Whether verbal commands, other options or tactics may be more effective.

This, however, shall not preclude any officer from deploying multiple, reasonable applications of the ECD on an individual.



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Note that application of the ECD causes physical exertion. And, each successive ECD application/discharge will likely continue to cause physical exertion for the subject. If officers discharge an ECD several times, the officers need to be aware of, and monitor, the subject's condition for signs of physical distress.

## O. Other Factors to Consider

Other factors to consider before deploying the use of an ECD are:

1. Deadly force – Officers are not required to use an ECD in deadly force situations. If an officer chooses to deploy an ECD in a deadly force situation, it should be backed up with the immediate availability of deadly force.
2. Recognition of ECD versus firearm – Prior to the deployment of an ECD the officers have the responsibility to visually and physically confirm that the use of force tool selected is in fact an ECD and not a firearm.

## P. Prohibited Use of ECD

The ECD shall not be used in the following manner:

1. On handcuffed individuals, unless they pose an imminent threat of serious injury to an officer, themselves or others
2. On a subject who is simply non-compliant or in control of a vehicle in motion (including motorcycles and bicycles)
3. Against a person in control of a vehicle if the uniformed employee has reason to believe the vehicle could be put into motion
4. To torture, psychologically torment, or inflict undue pain on any individual
5. In drive stun mode as a prod or escort device, except under exigent circumstances and not merely to inflict undue pain, injury or psychological trauma
6. To rouse unconscious, impaired or intoxicated individuals
7. To elicit statements
8. As a prod or escort device
9. To experiment on a person or allow a person to experience the ECD, even if the person requests it when the use of the ECD would not otherwise be allowed by this policy. (This prohibition does not apply to voluntary ECD training exposures authorized by the Department and conducted under the supervision of a training instructor.)
10. For horse play or in an unprofessional manner.



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## Q. Special Deployment Considerations

The use of the ECD should generally be avoided in the following situations unless the totality of the circumstances indicate that other available options reasonably appear ineffective, impractical or would present a greater danger to the officer, the subject or others, and the officer reasonably believes that the need to control the individual outweighs the risk of using the ECD device:

1. Women who appear pregnant
2. Elderly individuals or obvious juveniles
3. Individuals who appear to be frail
4. Passive subjects who are being detained or arrested
5. Individuals who have been recently sprayed with a flammable chemical agent or who are otherwise in close proximity to any flammable material.
6. If the use would occur in a flammable or explosive environment where the spark may cause ignition (such as in a clandestine laboratory)
7. Individuals whose position or activity may result in collateral injury (e.g., in danger of falling from height, operating vehicles)
8. Individuals who appear to weigh less than 80 pounds.

Because the application of the ECD in the drive-stun mode (i.e., direct contact without darts) relies primarily on pain compliance and requires close proximity to the subject, additional caution should be exercised. The application in drive-stun mode should be limited to brief applications in which pain compliance would reasonably appear necessary to achieve control.

The ECD shall not be used to torture, to psychologically torment, as a means of eliciting statements or to punish any individual.

## R. Use on Animals

Using an ECD against animals may reduce the need for greater, more injurious force against such animals. The use of an ECD on an animal should be based on the intent to provide a safer, more humane and less traumatic conclusion to the incident.

An ECD may be deployed on an animal when:

1. The animal is threatening or is attacking a person, including officers, another animal or property.
2. The animal has threatened or attacked a person, including officers, another animal or has caused a continuing public nuisance and the animal needs to be captured for reason of public peace or safety, preservation of property or other legitimate purpose; and the animal poses an active threat to officers in their efforts to perform their duty.



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The center mass of the animal should be targeted. Care should be taken to avoid the head and other sensitive areas of the animal. It is understood that deployments against animals may be very dynamic in nature and probes may impact unintended areas.

Procedures for probe removal should take place as outlined in this policy. Personnel will take reasonable measures to consider that the animal's welfare is provided for, in the event that the probes impact a sensitive area or it appears the animal's health is in jeopardy. It is generally understood that as long as officers acted reasonably, the animal's owner will be responsible for any medical attention needed for the animal.

## S. Accidental Cartridge Discharge

In the event of an accidental ECD cartridge discharge, the officer shall promptly notify his/her supervisor. The supervisor shall reasonably investigate the incident and prepare a written memo documenting the incident.

Alternatively, the supervisor may have the officer prepare a written report, and then the supervisor shall make appropriate notifications and/or take other appropriate actions.

## T. Post Deployment Responsibilities

Any use or attempted use of an ECD against a subject shall be immediately reported to the Watch Commander or a patrol supervisor. A supervisor will respond to the scene of an ECD use. A supervisor shall review with the officers involved the circumstances under which the ECD was used. The circumstances surrounding the discharge of an ECD shall be documented and forwarded to the Field Operations Lieutenant.

When an ECD is discharged, officers shall:

1. Restrain and secure the subject, as soon as possible.
  - a. In crowd control or crowd management situations that require the deployment and use of weapons, the Incident Commander will provide instructions to the squads on the use the techniques or devices. The Incident Commander will determine whether the tactical situation allows for officers to safely contact subjects who have restraining techniques, or pain compliance tools or techniques, applied to him/her to be medically assessed on-scene by paramedics and/or EMS-1, or to be transported to a medical facility for examination/treatment by medical personnel. The



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Incident Commander will designate a supervisor with a team to safely contact and assess the subject if the Incident Commander determines the tactical situation permits this medical assessment. The designated team may physically control and move subjects(s) to a staging area if the assessment cannot be made at the location of the event.

2. Arrange for the removal of the probes, in accordance with this policy. Probe removal will be a high priority when the probes are located in sensitive areas such as the genitals.
3. All persons who have been struck by ECD darts or who have been subjected to the electric discharge of the device shall be medically assessed prior to booking.
4. Ensure the subject's injuries or complaints of injury (if any) are appropriately treated by medical personnel.
  - a. If officers reasonably believe that the subject is in need of medical treatment the officers shall make reasonable efforts to obtain such treatment.
  - b. If needed and appropriate, medical personnel (i.e., SFFD) shall be summoned to the scene to assess the ECD subject. If the exam or other circumstances dictate the subject needs further medical treatment, the subject shall be transported by reasonable means to a suitable medical facility.
  - c. Persons suspected of being under the influence of drugs, alcohol or who exhibit extreme agitation, violent irrational behavior accompanied by profuse sweating, extraordinary strength beyond physical characteristics, unusually high tolerance to pain (sometimes called excited delirium) or who require a protracted physical encounter with multiple officers to bring under control may be at an increased risk of sudden death and should be examined by qualified medical personnel as soon as practicable. Any individual exhibiting signs of distress after such an encounter shall be medically cleared prior to booking.
  - d. Medical treatment will not be refused for anyone who requests it.
  - e. If emergency medical care or transport is not reasonably available, or if the perceived response delay appears excessive, then the subject may be transported by the officers for medical evaluation. During transport the officers shall reasonably monitor the subject's observable physical condition.
    - (1) If any individual refuses medical attention, such a refusal should be witnessed by another officer and/or medical personnel and shall be fully documented in related reports.





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If an audio recording is made of the contact or an interview with the individual, any refusal should be included if possible.

- (2) The transporting officer shall inform any person receiving custody or any person placed in a position of providing medical care that the individual has been subjected to the application of an ECD.
- (3) Do not leave an ECD unattended, except in exigent circumstances such as when an officer is forced to act alone in taking custody of a subject reasonably posing an imminent threat.
- (4) Secure the scene, if applicable.
- (5) Comply with the reporting procedures/supervisor's responsibilities specified in the Department General Order 4.3.16 Reporting Use of Force.
- (6) Ensure that any discharged cartridges, probes and a sampling of AFID (Anti-Felon Identification) microdots, which are discharged with the probes, are collected and booked as evidence. Probes are to be handled and booked as bio hazardous sharps.
- (7) Ensure that the serial number of the ECD and cartridge (s) used are documented in the appropriate report(s).
- (8) Ensure that photographs are taken of probe impact sites and any other injuries to preserve evidence of the use of the ECD, except that photographs should not be taken if the probes impacted particular areas of the suspect's body such as genitals or female breasts.

## U. Medical Treatment

Absent extenuating circumstances or unavailability, only qualified personnel, including certified paramedics, should carefully remove ECD darts from a person's body. Used ECD darts shall be considered a sharp biohazard, similar to a used hypodermic needle. Universal precautions should be taken accordingly.

Additionally, any such individual who falls under any of the following categories should, as soon as practicable, be examined by paramedics or other qualified medical personnel:

1. The person is suspected of being under the influence of controlled substances and/or alcohol.
2. The person may be pregnant.
3. The person reasonably appears to be in need of medical attention.



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4. The ECD device darts are lodged in a sensitive area (e.g., groin, female breast, in or near the eyes).
5. The person requests medical treatment.

The transporting officer shall inform any person receiving custody or any person placed in a position of providing care that the individual has been subjected to the application of the ECD.

## V. Transportation of Subjects

Officers should avoid transporting in a face down position any subject who has been controlled by the use of an ECD.

If the probes are still embedded in the subject, officers should avoid transporting the subject in a position that would foreseeably further embed the probes in the subject.

## W. Supervisor Responsibilities

The Watch Commander or patrol supervisor shall monitor the use ECDs in the same manner as all other use of force incidents.

1. The Watch Commander or immediate supervisor may authorize the use of an ECD provided the officers authorized have the required training. The officer should broadcast on the radio if an ECD is deployed.
2. The Watch Commander or immediate supervisor shall review each use of ECDs by any personnel within their command.
3. The Watch Commander or immediate supervisor shall ensure briefing training on the use of ECDs is provided, as needed.

## X. Defensive Tactics Instructor Responsibilities

The Defensive Tactics Instructor is the primary person responsible for maintaining and caring for the ECDs. The Defensive Tactics Instructor may delegate responsibilities among range staff but is ultimately responsible for the completion of these duties. The Defensive Tactics Instructor shall:

1. Upon ECD discharge notification as outlined in this policy, download the discharge memory of the involved ECD
2. Log and track ECDs and cartridges
3. Conduct inspections of ECDs
4. Order and maintain adequate cartridges and supplies.

The Defensive Tactics Instructor shall control the inventory of ECDs. All damaged, inoperative and/or expended ECDs shall be returned to the Defensive Tactics Instructor or staff for disposition, repair or replacement.



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The Defensive Tactics Instructor shall be the custodian of ECD records and the person responsible for collecting and maintaining all ECD records.

In the event that an ECD is returned for repairs or is no longer utilized for Department use, the use history of that particular ECD will be downloaded using the data port access and appropriate software. The use history will be maintained by the Department for a period of six years from the date the ECD was taken out of service.

Y. ECD Maintenance Responsibilities

All normal maintenance, charging or cleaning shall remain the responsibility of personnel using the ECDs.

All repairs to ECDs or accessories shall be completed by a Department authorized armorer or vendor. ECD repairs shall be documented and the records shall be maintained by the Defensive Tactics Instructor.

Z. Officer Responsibility for Damaged ECD Cartridges

Officers who are issued an ECD and cartridges are solely responsible for reporting to their supervisor promptly after learning that the ECD and/or the cartridges are damaged and/or in need of maintenance and/or repair.

The supervisor will forward the damaged ECD/cartridge to the Defensive Tactics Instructor and provide replacements to the officer.

AA. ECD Use Reports

ECD use reports will be run on each ECD as necessary. Mandatory ECD use reports include:

1. Following claims of excessive force by ECD application
2. Hospitalization of the ECD subject following ECD application
3. A death associated with ECD usage
4. Claims of excessive numbers of ECD discharges.

ECD use reports will be forwarded to the Professional Standards Division Lieutenant monthly. The Defensive Tactics Instructor will be responsible for completing and forwarding the use report.

AB. Report Use of ECD

All ECD discharges shall be documented in the related arrest/crime report and notification made to a supervisor in compliance with Department General Order



# University of California, San Francisco Police Department General Orders

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4.3, "Use of Force." Accidental discharges of an ECD cartridge will also be documented. Any report documenting the discharge of an ECD cartridge will include the cartridge serial number and an explanation of the circumstances surrounding the discharge.

The onboard ECD memory will be downloaded through the data port by the Defensive Tactics Instructor and saved with the related arrest/crime report. Photographs of probe sites should be taken, AFID tags should be collected and the expended cartridge, along with both probes and wire, should be submitted by the officer collecting the cartridge into evidence for future reference. The cartridge serial number should be noted and documented on the evidence paperwork. The evidence packaging should be marked "Biohazard" if the probes penetrated the subject's skin.

In addition to other Department use of force and/or reporting requirements, all written reports associated with the ECD incident shall include:

1. What precipitated the use of the ECD (include specific subject behaviors and statements)
2. To what extent was the ECD utilized
3. The known results of the usage
4. The name and rank of the responding and reviewing supervisor
5. If medical personnel were involved with the subject and the names and affiliation of the responding medical personnel.

## AC. Training

In addition to the initial Department-approved training required to carry and use an ECD, personnel shall be recertified by a Department approved ECD instructor annually. The reassessment of an officer's knowledge and/or practical skill may be required at any time if deemed appropriate by the Defensive Tactics Instructor, supervisor or command officer.

The Defensive Tactics Instructor should ensure that all training includes the following:

1. A review of this policy
2. A review of the Department General Order 4.3, "Use of Force"
3. Target area considerations, to include techniques or options to reduce the intentional application of probes near the head, neck, chest and groin
4. De-escalation.