

# **PINEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **GENERAL ORDER**

### **SECTION 6: USE OF FORCE / FIREARMS**

#### **SUBJECT: 606 CEW POLICY**

**EFFECTIVE: 10/07/2024**

1. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this policy is to establish the rules and standards for the deployment and use of Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW), namely the Taser X26, Taser X26-P, and the Taser 7
  
2. **POLICY.** The Pineville Police Department places high value on the life and safety of its officers and the public that it serves. Written directives are designed to ensure that this value guides police officers' use of CEW's. When officers utilize CEW's restraint must be considered in their use. Police officers have been delegated the responsibility to protect life and property and apprehend criminal offenders. The apprehension of criminal offenders and the protection of property must always be subservient to the protection of life. The officer's responsibility for protecting life must include his own.
  
3. **GUIDELINES.** The following are guidelines that officers of the Pineville Police Department should observe in the event of deployment and/or use of a CEW. The guidelines shall be used when the applicable conditions warrant the referral to the guideline. An example is that several guidelines can be utilized in sequence with another while in some instances/occurrences a specific guideline will stand-alone.
  - A. Only officers that have been trained and certified by a TASER instructor for a CEW use may utilize a CEW. The training will consist of the proper utilization and the safe and proper use to control dangerous or violent subjects when deadly physical force does not appear to be justified and /or necessary; or attempts to subdue the subject by other tactics have been, or will likely be, ineffective in the situation at hand; or there is a reasonable expectation based on the officer's perception that it will be unsafe for the officer(s) to approach within contact range of the subject. Officers must be certified on the specific device for which they are carrying.
  - B. Departmental CEW's shall be approved by the Chief of Police, and these shall be the only devices that police officers shall carry.
  - C. CEW's shall be issued to and used only by officers who have completed the department's CEW Training Program.
  - D. Each discharge, including accidental discharges, of a CEW shall be investigated and documented in an incident report. The only exception is the discharges fired during departmental training in the presence of a TASER instructor.
  - E. Anytime a person has been subjected to a CEW then the Pineville Fire Department shall be notified. The Pineville Police Department personnel shall remove the CEW dart and Fire Department personnel will evaluate the subject to deem if further medical attention is needed. Retaining the darts for evidence shall follow the protocol that is established in certification training. Remember that the darts are a biohazard and should be handled appropriately.
  - F. Photographs shall be taken of the subject that was subjected to a CEW discharge. The photographs shall consist of the face of the person and the area that accepted the discharge of the CEW.

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- G. A CEW should only be activated by one officer against a single person.
  - H. A fleeing suspect is not an automatic deployment of a CEW. Use of force guidelines should be adhered.
  - I. CEW should not generally used against pregnant women, elderly persons, young children, and visibly frail persons unless exigent circumstances exist.
  - J. CEW devices should not be used against handcuffed persons unless it is justifiable through circumstances by departmental use of force standards.
  - K. When practical the officer needs to consider the area that the CEW is discharged, to prevent further injury to the subject.
  - L. When a subject gains control of a CEW the officer should attempt to move past the range of the CEW, seek cover, request back up, and utilize tactics to mitigate the danger.
  - M. All persons subjected to a CEW activation shall be monitored regularly, according to certification guidelines, while in custody even if they have received medical care.
  - N. All CEW darts should be treated as a biohazard. Officers should utilize protocol that was established in training for proper retrieval of CEW darts.
  - O. Following a CEW activation officers should utilize a restraint technique that does not impair respiration.
  - P. CEW should not be used in the known presence of combustible vapors and liquids or other flammable substances including but not limited to alcohol-based Oleoresin Capsicum (O.C.) spray carriers.
  - Q. NO privately owned CEW will be utilized by an officer.
  - R. Warnings prior to activation of a CEW will follow training protocols.
  - S. A supervisor shall respond to the location when a CEW is discharged, unless circumstances dictate otherwise.
  - T. A supervisor shall conduct an initial review of the CEW activation. If it is found that the CEW discharge violates Pineville Police Department policy, then the appropriate notifications shall be made.
  - U. An officer designated by the Chief of Police shall be the only person to download the data contained in the internal memory of CEW.
  - V. Use of CEW's against aggressive animals is permitted.
  - W. The Chief of Police or his designee shall approve certification procedures and restrictions.
  - X. Officers that are certified in the use of a CEW shall follow the procedures that have been established in the training module to receive a CEW for on duty carry.
4. **TASER AVAILABILITY.** Patrol officers shall always carry a Taser when performing patrol duties.

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5. CARTRIDGES. All Officers shall be issued two Taser Air cartridges for the X-26 or X 26-P and two double cartridges of the T7 (Compressed Nitrogen). It is the officer's responsibility to maintain the cartridges. If the issued cartridges are lost or damaged due to negligence, then the officer will incur the replacement cost of the air cartridge.

6. CARTRIDGE CONFIGURATION. All officers carrying the Taser 7 will have the black, 12-degree close quarters cartridge placed in bay one. In bay two, the officer will have the grey 3.5-degree cartridge. This is to allow the officer to quickly draw and employ the taser for close in target first. The stand off cartridge will be switched to when the officer has cause to employ the taser at over a farther distance.

7. TASER/AXON. For this policy, the business names TASER and AXON are referred to as one in the same.

8. PRONG REMOVAL FOR TASER 7. Each officer who is issued a Taser 7, will be required to keep a minimum of two (2) yellow cartridge carriers in their glove compartment of their patrol unit. The cartridge carriers are to be utilized to remove taser prongs from the T7. Once used for a removal, the carrier is now considered biohazardous material and should be treated as such.

**By order of**

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Darrell Basco  
Chief of Police