



MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL RISK --- MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

TASER
R.A.P.
Program



MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

MMRMA is a public entity self-insurance pool which provides liability and property coverage.

We provide local governments the opportunity to protect their organizations, their employees, their offices and their citizens from unexpected liability and property losses.

In addition to our broad and high limits of liability and property coverage's, MMRMA provides risk management, claims administration, legal defense and reinsurance services to its members.



OUR MEMBERS ARE....

- Villages, Townships, Cities and Counties
- Health-related facilities
- Municipal authorities
- Boards and commissions
- Library and library systems
- Courts
- Transportation authorities
- 911 Public Safety Communication systems
- Cable Communication systems

LAW ENFORCEMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- MMRMA represents 151 law enforcement agencies in Michigan
- Total of 6,346 officers are employed by those agencies

TASERS IN MICHIGAN



LEGISLATIVE HISTORY FOR TASER IN MICHIGAN

January 2003 TASER use approved in Michigan for:

- Police officers
- State correction officers
- Licensed Private Investigatators
- Aircraft pilot or crew member
- Probation officer
- Court officer
- Bail agent

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY (cont.)

September 2004 statute amended

- Local correction officers added
- Michigan has a distinction between a “sworn peace officer” and a “corrections officer”

RISK AVOIDANCE PROGRAM (RAP)

- **Projects which involve the potential for reduction in risk and liability exposure**
- **May of 2003 the TASER RAP reimbursement project approved**
- **Policy & Procedure for TASER developed for Public Safety and Correctional Officers**

3 TASER RAP PROGRAMS

- **Law enforcement reimbursement program**
- **Jail and lock-up program**
- **Court room program**

REQUIREMENTS OF TASER RAP PROGRAM

- Each department to have a use of force protocol
- Each officer to be trained in use of TASER
- Protocol must include supervisory review of each use of TASER (*we believe key to success in low # claims*)
- Copy of police report forwarded to MMRMA
- Medical clearance on subjects (first 18 months)
- Adopt our model policy/procedure

TASER RAP PROGRAM

- **Train-the-trainer program around state**
- **Included presentation at Ingham Regional Medical Center**
- **July 2003, began partial reimbursement for TASERS**
- **Since project inception MMRMA budgeted \$200,000**
- **As of November 2005 expended in excess of \$155,000**

TASER REPORTING DATA

- 75 police/sheriff agencies taking part in program
- Represents 3,930 police officers
- 46 Departments have complied with our incident reporting requirement (61%)

TASER USE DEFINITIONS

- Deployment – probes are discharged
- Drive stun – contact pain compliance
- Presentation – TASER presented to with laser and/or spark demonstration
- Failure – only included if both probes make contact

DEFINITIONS (cont.)

Injuries: Three types

- 1) Pre-TASER - occurred **prior** to TASER application
 - 2) TASER - Injury occurred **due** to TASER
 - 3) Secondary – occurred **after** TASER application
- Probe puncture was **not** classified as injury

TASER DATA

582 TASER incidents consisting of:

- 346 TASER deployments
- 180 drive stuns
- 31 Presentations
- 25 Failures

TASER USE DATA – cont.

- 9 Pre-TASER injuries
- 41 Second day injuries
- 1 TASER related injury

TASER USE DATA – cont.

Of the 582 TASER incidents,

- **323 reported instances of substance abuse (55.4%). Of this:**
 - 275 involved the use of alcohol (47.2%)
 - 48 instances of drugs/narcotics use (8.2%)
- **49 incidents were reported involving individuals needing psychiatric intervention (8.4%)**

REDUCTION IN EXCESSIVE FORCE CLAIMS

2004 1st full year of program

2000 compared to 2004	51% reduction
2001 compared to 2004	2% reduction
2002 compared to 2004	37% reduction
2004 compared to 2003	37% reduction

REDUCTION IN EXCESSIVE FORCE CLAIMS

2005 (through Nov. 30 2005)

2000 compared to 2005	75% reduction
2001 compared to 2005	63% reduction
2002 compared to 2005	76% reduction
2003 compared to 2005	76% reduction
2004 through 11/30/05	62% reduction

RECENT RESERVES OR LITIGATION

Of the 582 TASER incidents occurring over the last 28 months we have collected data:

5 incidents (less than 1%) have had reserves created:

- 1 closed with \$0 distribution
- 1 closed \$31,600 distribution
- 1 remains open with a negligible reserve/criminal conviction
- 1 open pending litigation/OUIL/in-custody/drive-stun (new 11-15-05)
- 1 open pending litigation/off duty PO/drive-stun

FUTURE TRAINING CONSIDERATIONS



- Two or more TASER applications on single subject – documentation
- TASER application after handcuffed
- TASER application for controlling diabetic reaction
- Securing subject after first TASER application

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Negligible number of claims in reserve
- Low number of excessive force complaints
- Absence of litigation

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