

NORTH TONAWANDA POLICE DEPT. ADVANCED TASER SOP

G. Advanced Taser® new 6/00

The use of the Taser® is a legal right granted to Police Officers as an alternative force in those situations where its use is justifiable and necessary.

1. The use of the Taser® will be limited to the degree of force which is reasonably necessary to provide protection for the Officer, the subject, a third party, and/or to effect a legal arrest.
2. An officer after receiving a "Certificate of Competency" from an authorized Taser® instructor shall be permitted to utilize a Taser®.
3. A Taser® will be secured in the Supervisor's patrol vehicle, when not in use, and will be the responsibility of the shift supervisor. Another Taser® will be kept accessible in the gun cabinet for back-up and use by certified ERT members.
4. The Taser® is not a replacement for the firearm and should not be used without firearm back-up in those incidents where there is a potential threat towards the Officers or third parties involved in the incident.
5. The Taser® is not to be used where there is a known possibility of pregnancy with the subject involved.
6. In all cases where the Taser® is used on a subject, a Subject Management Report (NT33) will be submitted prior to the end of the Officer's tour of duty on which it use used.
 - a. Included on the NT33 will be the point of contact made by the Taser® probes upon the subject, whether penetration of the skin was made, and any medical attention that was provided
7. If the Taser® is used to gain control of a subject, after he/she is restrained, the subject will be transported to the Emergency Room under the following conditions:
 - a. Embedded Probes - An extra Taser® probe with an intact barb will be kept in the Taser® case at all times as a visual reference for EMS personnel required to extract an embedded probe.
 - b. The request of the subject for medical treatment
 - c. At the direction of the Officer in Charge
 - d. Officers should obtain a copy of the medical release or waiver of treatment from the attending EMS personnel.
8. Collect the expended Taser® cartridge and probes as evidence and clearly label as to biohazard. The probes may be safely contained by inverting them into the cartridge bores and taping them in place.