



CLYDE H. PARRY
CHIEF OF POLICE

GENERAL ORDER

**AEROSOL SUBJECT RESTRAINT (ASR)/
USE OF OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (OC)**
Implementation Date: July 30, 1998
Revokes: None

GENERAL ORDER - 3A

3A.1 INTRODUCTION

This Directive is for Department use only and should not be construed as a creation of higher legal standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense with respect to third party claims. Violations of this Directive will only form the basis for Department administrative sanctions. Violations of law will form the basis for civil and criminal sanctions in a recognized judicial forum.

The purpose of this General Order is to establish guidelines for the use of Aerosol Subject Restraint (ASR) /Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) as a non-lethal method of controlling violent or potentially violent individuals. This procedure shall apply to all authorized non-sworn members.

All authorized non-sworn members shall be issued a copy of this Order and be instructed in Department policies regarding the use of force prior to the issuance and authorization to use ASR/OC.

3A.2 DEFINITIONS

See General Order 3D.

3A.3 POLICY/PROCEDURES

The use of ASR/OC by non-sworn members is intended to prevent injury to the subject involved and other persons present.

- A. Authorized non-sworn members shall use their issued ASR/OC spray only as necessary to protect themselves from injury when dealing with a combative subject.
- B. ASR/OC spray may be used as necessary against an animal to prevent injury to the non-sworn member or another person.
- C. Sworn members are prohibited from carrying ASR/OC spray effective as of 06-04-08.

3A.3.1 Issue of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Sprays

- A. Only non-lethal chemical or OC spray that is issued by the Department shall be carried by authorized non-sworn members. Non-sworn members shall wear the OC canister in an issued holster.
- B. The only authorized non-sworn members to carry OC spray are: Traffic Accident Investigators, Humane Officers, Crime Scene Technicians, and those members authorized by the Chief of Police.
- C. Training
 - 1. All authorized non-sworn members shall undergo an initial training program. Non-sworn members must demonstrate proficiency with ASR/OC prior to being authorized to carry the spray. All training shall be coordinated by the Training Unit and conducted by a certified weapons instructor.
 - 2. Biennially, in the third quarter, all authorized non-sworn members will receive proficiency training in the use of OC spray. At the time of the proficiency training, the instructor shall inspect the canister and approve its continued use.
 - 3. During biennial proficiency training, should a non-sworn member not be able to show proficiency, they will not be allowed to carry OC. A memo will be sent from the Training Unit to the member's supervisor. Any retraining will be arranged between the Unit Supervisor and the Training Unit.
- D. Maintenance
 - 1. Once the canister and holster have been issued to the non-sworn member, it shall be their responsibility to care for and maintain the equipment.
 - 2. The canister shall be shaken vigorously when first issued and prior to reporting for duty. The canister shall be test sprayed quarterly and the expiration date checked. To test, spray a ¼ second deployment into a drain or toward the ground while outside. The member's supervisor shall document the quarterly test spray and expiration date in their unit's line inspection report.
 - 3. If any defect is detected in the metal canister due to wear or the expiration date has passed, the canister shall be returned to the Training Unit and replaced.

3A.3.2 Use Of OC

- A. When a non-sworn member decides to use OC, time permitting, and if feasible, the subject shall be verbally warned and advised that they will be sprayed if they do not cease their combative, resistive or aggressive behavior and comply with the non-sworn member's directions.
- B. When other officers or non-sworn members are present, the non-sworn member using the OC spray shall warn the other officers or non-sworn members of their intention by loudly saying "OC". This warning should give other officers or non-sworn members time to disengage from the subject and avoid being sprayed by any residual OC.

- C. The non-sworn member should not discharge the OC spray inside of a hospital complex.
- D. One burst of spray for one to two seconds in the suspect's face should be sufficient to stop the most violent subject.
- E. Once the situation is under control and the subject is in custody, no further OC is permitted.
- F. OC is biodegradable and does not require special decontamination except access to air ventilation and a rinse with water.
- G. Subjects who are sprayed with OC should be monitored and assisted when necessary and only when it is safe for the non-sworn member to do so. The subject shall be verbally assured of the temporary nature of their discomfort and that it will soon pass. The subject should be encouraged to relax and try to breathe normally.
- H. Normal ventilation will remove OC from the room environment in 30-45 minutes.
- I. After Care
 - 1. The subject shall be taken out of the area of contact as quickly as possible to another controlled area, once properly restrained and under control, in order to provide water to flush with. The subject shall be advised that rubbing the eyes will only create more irritation. Commercial eye wash should **not** be utilized for flushing. A general application of mild soap and water, or the application of Bioshield, a commercial decontaminant will expedite the relief of the temporary skin irritation. When a towel is provided, the subject should be told to "pat and not rub off" the water. When transporting in a patrol vehicle, the windows should be down, allowing for air ventilation for both subject and officer.
 - 2. All symptoms of OC should disappear within 45 minutes with no apparent physical after effects for the subject. If symptoms continue to persist, especially without relief for the eyes, skin, and respiratory system, the subject shall be immediately taken to the closest hospital for medical attention.
 - 3. If transported to a BSO detention facility, upon arrival advise the detention deputy that the suspect was sprayed with OC.
- J. Non-sworn members using OC shall complete a Response to Resistance Report in addition to their Incident Report.
- K. Non-sworn members authorized to carry OC shall not be permitted to carry it while off-duty.

APPROVED


Clyde H. Parry
Chief of Police