



Clayton County Police Department

PROCEDURES

Subject LESS-LETHAL DEFENSIVE SKILLS AND STRIKING WEAPON PROFICIENCY			Procedure # D29
Authorizing Signature Chief Jeffrey Turner	Effective 07-06-2009	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Rescinds	Total Pages 3

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a policy to govern the use of and demonstrated proficiency of authorized police less-lethal skills and striking weapons.

II. POLICY

Biannually, all sworn personnel, either permanent employees or reserve officers, shall demonstrate individual proficiency with less-lethal skills and striking weapon tactics. Such proficiency assessment will be administered and monitored by GPOSTC certified defensive tactics instructors currently assigned to, or approved in writing by, the Department's Training Unit.

III. DEFINITIONS

1. The term "Officer" as a used in this directive applies to all GPOSTC-Certified sworn employees regardless of rank.
2. The term "Less-Lethal Skill" as used in this directive applies to all physical skills used as a means of personal defense or lawful control of a resisting offender.

3. The term "Impact Weapon" means all police striking weapons which have been approved for duty carry by the Department; including, but not limited to, the ASP, PR-24 and wood or polymer straight striking weapons.

IV. PROCEDURES

1. Officers are authorized to utilize only those impact weapons with which they have been certified and where such certification is current. Certification may be obtained by attending training and classes that have been recognized and authorized by the Department. This training will be administered by GPOSTC certified defensive tactics instructors either currently assigned to, or recognized in writing by, the Department's Training Unit.
2. To implement this policy, biannually, each sworn employee will be given a proficiency assessment of their ability to perform less-lethal tactics skills. This "skills" assessment will include, but not be limited to, personal defense strategies and defensive striking weapon tactics currently taught in the Department's defensive tactics program. An officer, who fails to adequately perform required tactics, will receive a deficiency rating. Officers receiving a deficiency rating will be scheduled for remedial training. All defensive tactics training will be administered and monitored by a GPOSTC certified defensive tactics instructor.
3. All agency personnel who are authorized to carry less lethal weapons, such as police striking weapons, are required to receive in-service training concerning use of force policy which specifically addresses Constitutional and legal issues surrounding law enforcement use of force. This training may be accomplished by attendance to formal training sessions, during shift briefing training sessions, while reviewing legal updates on use of force or while participating in written or skills examinations during annual firearms qualification courses.
4. Officers may report to the defensive tactics classroom, or other designated location, for any scheduled defensive tactics assessment session in order to fulfill this mandate. Officers who are on-duty and scheduled through the Training Unit for a specific assessment date and time shall be given preference. All other officers shall be permitted assessment as opportunity creates rater availability.
5. Individual skill enhancement can be schedules through the Training Unit.
6. Officers may attend other defensive tactics and striking weapon training sessions as offered by the department or other qualified parties, when possible. Departmental sessions shall be offered on a monthly basis. Officers may attend on-duty where such training has been approved by appropriate supervisory

personnel. Attendance at such sessions while off-duty shall be governed as mandated by existing policy.

7. Officers who are unable to perform approved controlling tactics will receive remedial training. Officers who continue to exhibit an inability to perform required un-armed tactics following such remediation may be directed to the Office of the Chief of Police or appointed designee for a change of status review.
8. All defensive tactics training will be documented by the Department's Training Coordinator, their designee, or other approved departmental instructor, through the use of either written or electronic means. All Departmental training will be properly documented by use of the GPOSTC Course Completion Form (Post Form C-12).
9. All personnel who are authorized to carry less-lethal weapons shall receive training relative to , and be issued a copy of, this procedure.