

Memorandum

TO: ALL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL **FROM: Edgardo Garcia**
Chief of Police

**SUBJECT: CHEMICAL AGENT
DUTY MANUAL REVISIONS**

DATE: October 30, 2020

Memo# 2020-043

SUBJECT

DUTY MANUAL REVISIONS:

C 1448	CHEMICAL AGENT DEVICES
L 2610	PROVIDING FIRST AID
L 7802	CHEMICAL WEAPONS
S 1144	CHEMICAL AGENTS

BACKGROUND

The Chief of Police has authorized the use of a new version of chemical agent OC spray. Community Service Officers and all sworn personnel are now authorized to carry SABRE Red Gel Formula. This chemical agent OC spray offers officers unique benefits over the previously authorized OC Spray:

- The OC concentration has increased from 0.2% to 1.33% OC.
- The product is delivered in a gel stream, limiting risk of cross exposure/contamination.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Each canister contains approximately [REDACTED] 1-second bursts.

Procedures for the safe carrying and use of the new OC spray are the same as for the previously authorized OC spray. The circumstances justifying the use of OC spray remain unchanged in Department policy. There are new mandatory first aid procedures in section L 2610 for after the use of OC spray, including a requirement to request emergency medical personnel for on-scene medical assessment. Reporting requirements remain unchanged.

The Department has developed an informational video which can be viewed from department computer terminals using this link [<https://youtu.be/77G4reNLxbs>].

ANALYSIS

The Duty Manual has been revised to reflect changes made to the following section(s). Additions are shown in *italics and underlined*. Deletions are shown in “strike through” form.

C 1448 **CHEMICAL AGENT DEVICES:**
Revised 10-30-20

Officers will only carry chemical agents devices issued or approved by the Department as specified in DM Section S 1100 (Authorized and Required Equipment).

L 2610 **PROVIDING FIRST AID:**
Revised 10-30-20

Since chemical agents are irritating to the eyes, nose and skin, officers using a chemical agent will ensure that persons exposed to such agents receive adequate first aid treatment at the scene as soon as practical. ~~Generally, flushing the exposed areas of the body with water will constitute adequate treatment. Severe exposure may require gentle but copious amounts of water. Persons with highly sensitive skin may experience mild burns and first aid treatment by paramedics, fire department personnel or medical facility personnel may be required. If a person is wearing contact lenses, the subject or medical personnel should remove the lenses as soon as possible.~~ Officers shall administer first aid by:

- Seating the subject or other person(s) exposed to chemical agent in an upright position (or other appropriate position dependent on circumstances).
- Flushing the affected person's eyes with clean water and ventilating with fresh air.
- Requesting on-scene medical assessment by emergency medical personnel as soon as practical, prior to any transportation.
- Maintaining direct visual observation of any exposed person(s) until they have been medically assessed at the scene.
- When booking subjects exposed to chemical agents, jail personnel will be advised of this fact to prevent contamination of other jail occupants or custodial personnel.

L 7802 **CHEMICAL WEAPONS:**
Revised 10-30-20

Chemical weapons, such as tear gas, mace, OC spray, etc., are not taken on board passenger aircraft on the person or in baggage of an officer under any circumstances.

S 1144 **CHEMICAL AGENTS:**
Revised 10-30-20

All sworn Officers and Community Service Officers are authorized to use Department issued OC spray canisters containing .2-up to 1.33% Capsaicinoid.

Officers assigned to or functioning in a uniformed capacity, either on-duty or off, may only carry chemical agent canisters issued by the Department.

ALL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: CHEMICAL AGENT DUTY MANUAL REVISIONS

October 30, 2020

Page 3

Officers functioning in a plainclothes capacity, or members in an off-duty status, may carry either the Department-issued chemical agent canister or the smaller variety by the same manufacturer containing the same agent.

ORDER

Effective immediately, all sworn personnel will adhere to the above listed Duty Manual changes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Edgardo Garcia', with a stylized 'E' and 'G' and the letters 'FDR' written below the signature.

EDGARDO GARCIA
Chief of Police

EG:SD:JH