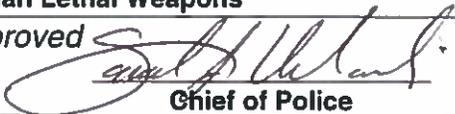


**LANCASTER POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL**

Effective Date August 19, 2015		Amended Date June 11, 2020		Directive 3.02.1	
Subject Use of Force Training and Proficiency for Less than Lethal Weapons					
Reference			Approved  Chief of Police		
Distribution All Personnel City Manager City Attorney	TPCA Best Practices Recognition Program Reference 3.04		Review Date		Pages 3

This Operations Directive is for internal use only and does not enhance an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as a creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this Operations Directive, if proven, may only form the basis for a complaint by this Department, and only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

SECTION 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the training for less than lethal weapons for all personnel who are authorized to carry such weapons.

SECTION 2 POLICY

It is the policy of the department that all officers who are authorized to carry less than lethal weapons receive training and demonstrate proficiency at least biennially in the use of the less than lethal weapon(s) which they carry. (TPCA 3.04)

SECTION 3 PROCEDURES

A. LESS THAN LETHAL WEAPONS

1. Officers or supervisors are authorized to carry the weapons listed below only after they have received the proper training and have demonstrated proficiency with each weapon they carry:
 - a. Expandable Baton (ASP Baton)
 - b. OC Spray
 - c. Conducted Electrical Device (Taser)
2. Officers will not carry or use any weapon that has not been approved by the Chief of Police.
3. Officers will not carry or use any weapon that they have not been qualified for by the department.

B. SECURITY AND INSPECTION OF WEAPONS

1. Officers are responsible for the care and security of department weapons issued to them.
2. Officers shall inspect issued weapons at the beginning of each duty assignment to ensure they are in proper working order.

LANCASTER POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

<i>Effective Date</i> August 19, 2015	<i>Amended Date</i> June 11, 2020	<i>Directive</i> 3.02.1
<i>Subject</i> Use of Force Training and Proficiency for Less than Lethal Weapons		

3. Officers shall make a written report of any weapon loss or malfunction as required by Lancaster Police Department General Orders Manual, Directive 1.12.1 "Agency Issued Property and Equipment."
4. Officers shall not use a weapon after it has malfunctions until it has been repaired or replaced.

C. MODIFICATION AND MAINTENANCE OF WEAPONS

1. Departmental weapons shall not be modified or altered without written approval of the Chief of Police.
2. Any modification or alteration shall be in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation.
3. Officers are responsible for cleaning and maintenance of the non-lethal or less-than-lethal weapons issued to them.
4. All non-lethal or less-than-lethal weapons shall be plainly distinguishable from lethal weapons.

D. TRAINING

1. Officers shall receive de-escalation training as mandated by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE).
2. All department personnel shall receive training with any less-than-lethal weapons that they carry.
3. Training shall cover the mechanics of the weapon, sound safety practices and departmental policy governing the use of the weapon and the use-of-force.
4. Tactical considerations shall be a part of this training.
5. Officers will receive training and demonstrate proficiency at least biennially on all departmental less-than-lethal weapons. Failure to qualify with a less-than-lethal weapon will be cause for remedial training.
6. Any officer who does not qualify shall not carry or utilize the non-qualifying weapon until properly training and qualified.
7. The training must be conducted by a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) certified instructor who is certified to instruct in the proper use of the specific type of less than lethal weapon to be employed. The instructor must insure that the training is properly documented, and that the documentation is submitted to the department's training coordinator to be kept in the officer's training file. (TPCA 3.04)
8. Instructors for any less-than-lethal weapon where the manufacturer recommends the instructors be certified before providing initial or refresher training shall be certified before providing the said training.

E. SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

1. All members of the department shall know and comply with all aspects of this directive.

LANCASTER POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

<i>Effective Date</i> August 19, 2015	<i>Amended Date</i> June 11, 2020	<i>Directive</i> 3.02.1
<i>Subject</i> Use of Force Training and Proficiency for Less than Lethal Weapons		

2. All Division Commanders and supervisory personnel are responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions and intent of this directive.