

**ELECTRONIC WEAPONS COURSE - 4 hours**  
**EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE**

- I. Introduction
  - a. Registration
  - b. Hold Harmless Wavier
  - c. Safety Guidelines
- II. History and Definitions
  - a. What it is and what does it do
    - i. *Taser history*
    - ii. *Use of force considerations*
  - b. Electronic Weapons and Nomenclature
    - i. *Shaped pulse vs. Blunt pulse*
    - ii. *Stun vs. EMD (Electro Muscular Disruption)*
      - 1. Central nervous system
      - 2. Sensory nervous system
      - 3. Motor nervous system
- III. Exposures and Safety
  - a. Electronic Weapons and the Human Body
  - b. How device overrides the central nervous system
    - i. *Pain to incapacitation*
  - c. Areas of the CNS affected
  - d. Medical Aspects
    - i. *Medical effects on the subjects*
  - e. Volunteer exposure
    - i. *Safety requirements*
      - 1. eye protection
      - 2. proper matting
      - 3. safety officers
    - ii. *Weapon safety*
      - 1. proper holster
- IV. Legal / Ethical Considerations
  - a. Case law
    - i. *Graham vs. Connor (1989)*
    - ii. *Mattos v. Agarano (2011)*
  - b. Penal Code Section 835a
  - c. Reasonable Force
    - i. *Scott v. Harris (2007)*
    - ii. *Bryan v. MacPherson (2010)*
  - d. Excessive Force
    - i. *Meyers v. Baltimore County (2013)*
  - e. Terminology used by court and in reports
  - f. Legal aspects of Use of Force

*i. Application of force within the scope and parameters of established laws, rules, regulations and department policy.*

- g. Moral aspects of Use of Force
  - i. LE standards in conflict with current society's expectation?*
- h. Terminology of the device
  - i. Arming the device*
  - ii. Aiming and firing*
  - iii. Reloading the device*
  - iv. Use of the laser light*

V. Force options considerations

- a. Alternative/back-up plan
- b. Department policy
- c. Multiple applications
- d. Multiple electronic weapons used on a subject
- e. Use on handcuffed subject
- f. Known pre-existing medical considerations
  - i. Age of subject*
  - ii. Pregnant female*
  - iii. Pacemaker*
  - iv. Obviously frail*

VI. Deployment and Documentation

- a. Recommended distance from subject
- b. Target areas for subject
  - i. Probe placement issues*
  - ii. Wet conditions*
- c. Communications
  - i. Verbal Warning*
  - ii. With other officers*
  - iii. With subjects*
  - iv. With dispatch*
- d. Evaluate effect after each application
- e. Application of additional or different force options
- f. Safely take subject into custody (cuff under power)
- g. Cover officer considerations in an arrest situation
- h. Post-deployment Considerations
  - i. Medical assessment for subject or officers
  - ii. Documentation
    - 1. Specific forms required?
  - iii. Supervisor notification
  - iv. Probe/dart removal
  - v. Storage of expended darts and wires

- i. Transportation/medical clearance
- j. Evidence collection

VII. Practical application and practice

- a. Drawing
- b. Aiming Exercises
- c. Arming Exercise
- d. Reload Exercise
- e. Firing pre-test check
- f. Transition Drills
- g. Malfunction (Cartridge Change)
- h. Firing for Taser Static Target
  - i. *Concentration on splitting hemisphere*
  - ii. *Simulated deployment*

VIII. Scenarios

- a. #1 One target (one cardboard stand)
  - i. *The officer will encounter one fleeing subject and make the decision whether or not to deploy the Taser based on case law. Proper de-escalation techniques, use of force options considerations, deployment of the Taser as well as proper reloading and removal of the darts will be learned.*

IX. Practical Testing and Course Wrap up

- a. Draw and fire at 8 feet into paper target
- b. Reload
- c. Hit second target at 12 feet with laser site use
- d. All prongs contacting target
- e. Course Wrap Up