



**Baltimore County Sheriff's Office
Towson, Maryland**

**Sheriff
R. Jay Fisher**

General Order

Subject: Stun Cuff	Effective Date 9/1/11	Number B-17
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Purpose:

The purpose of this directive is to establish procedures and policies for utilization of the Stun Cuff®.

Contents:

- I. Policy**
- II. Definitions**
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I. Policy

It is the policy of the Sheriff's Office that members shall only utilize the Stun Cuff® when necessary and reasonable. Additionally, the use will fall within the guidelines of the Use of Force policy and matrix.

II. Definitions

- A. Stun Cuff®** – A conducted energy device that is secured to a subject's ankle and deployed remotely.
- B. Electronic Control Device (ECD)** – A non-lethal device that emits an electronic energy charge, which causes electro-muscular disruption, which affects the sensory and motor functions of the central nervous system.

III. Use of the Stun Cuff®

- A.** Prior to being authorized to utilize a Stun Cuff®, members must successfully complete an approved training course. The Stun Cuff® will also require annual training.
- B.** The Stun Cuff® shall only be activated in those situations where the use of a firearm is not warranted and it is unsafe for members to approach within contact range of the prisoner. The Stun Cuff® is an effective control device for close range immobilization. The Stun Cuff® is only to be used on prisoners who are deemed to be a security risk during trials, hearings or transports. The Stun Cuff® may be used to control violent or potentially violent prisoners when a member reasonably believes that the following conditions exist:

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1. Lethal force does not appear to be justifiable and/or necessary.
 2. Attempts to subdue the individual by conventional tactics will likely cause injury to the individual, members, court personnel or citizens.
 3. There is a reasonable expectation that it will be unsafe for members to approach the individual within contact range.
- C. Only members trained in the use of the Stun Cuff® may utilize it.
- D. The Stun Cuff® will be secured in the Road Sergeant Office.
- E. Members that require the use of the Stun Cuff® shall notify the Desk Sergeant and explain their justification for its utilization.
- F. If the Desk Sergeant concurs with the request he/she shall fill out the Stun Cuff® logbook and log the Stun Cuff® out to the member in question.
- G. Prior to affixing the Stun Cuff® to the prisoner's ankle the member shall:
1. Ensure a second member is standing by as a back up.
 2. Explain how the device works and under what conditions it will be activated.
 3. Provide a demonstration of how the device works to the prisoner.
- H. The Stun Cuff® shall be placed on the prisoner's ankle before removing leg irons.
- I. In the event of a jury trial the Stun Cuff® is to be affixed to the leg that is farthest from the jury when the prisoner is seated at the defense table.
- J. The Judge will be notified when a Stun Cuff® is utilized in his/her courtroom.
- K. If the member is required to activate the Stun Cuff® he/she shall:
1. Announce "Stun Cuff®" to the other members on the scene prior to discharging the Stun Cuff®.
 2. Ensure that no members or other persons are in close proximity to the prisoner.
 3. Activate the Stun Cuff® for one three-second burst.
 4. Evaluate the situation and administer a second three-second burst if necessary.

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5. The Stun Cuff® shall not be fired for longer than is necessary to gain compliance from the prisoner.
 6. After securing the prisoner, ensure that he/she is placed in a position that does not interfere with breathing, i.e. place the subject on his/her side or in a sitting position.
 7. Report the incident to a supervisor as soon as possible.
- L. The Stun Cuff® is to be removed prior to the prisoner being left unattended in a cell.
- M. Before removing the Stun Cuff®, leg irons are to be placed on the prisoner.
- N. If a Stun Cuff® is on a prisoner being transported to another jurisdiction the transporting member shall:
1. Notify the host jurisdiction.
 2. Ensure the Judge hearing the case is advised.
 3. Remain with the prisoner in the courtroom.
- O. Members shall obtain the permission of the presiding Judge or Master, if he/she wishes to utilize the Stun Cuff® on a juvenile or outside jurisdiction prisoner.

IV. Medical Attention

- A. The Stun Cuff® is designed for temporary immobilization of a subject. It should not cause any significant injury. However, a subject may receive secondary injuries as a result of falling when the subject is immobilized.
- B. If the subject complains of medical problems, the member observes any injuries or medical problems to the subject, appropriate medical aid must be rendered.
- C. The member shall notify medical personnel if the Stun Cuff® was deployed three or more times.

V. Required Reports and Notifications

- A. Members must comply with the reporting and notification requirements of General Order B-1, "Use of Force" when the Stun Cuff® is deployed.
 1. The narrative of the Use of Force Report must include the level of force encountered, as well the number of discharges and duration of each discharge.

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- B. If the Stun Cuff® is damaged, the member must complete and submit an Administrative Report Form 125.

VI. Desk Sergeant's/Supervisor's Responsibilities

- A. Ensure that the Stun Cuff® has been charged prior to use and placed in the charging device when not in use.
- B. Ensure that members requesting the use of a Stun Cuff® have a valid reason and complete the Stun Cuff® Logbook.
- C. Notify the Court Lieutenant that the Stun Cuff® is being utilized. The Court Lieutenant will then notify the chain of command.
- D. In the event of a Stun Cuff® discharge, ensure that medical attention is requested if necessary.
- E. Ensure that the appropriate detention facility is advised that the individual received a Stun Cuff® discharge.
- F. All reports and actions regarding the deployment of the Stun Cuff® will be conducted in accordance with the written directive "*Use of Force.*"

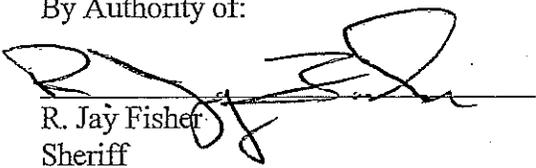
Rescissions

Remove from manuals/files and rescind:
Memorandum entitled, "Stun Cuff® Use Policy" dated 06/04/07

Distribution

Sworn Members

By Authority of:


R. Jay Fisher
Sheriff