
Conducted Energy Device

301.1 DEFINITIONS

Agency Content

Activation - Pulling the trigger of an ECW, causing arcing or probe discharge.

Active Aggression - A threat or overt act of an assault (through physical or verbal means), coupled with the present ability to carry out the threat or assault, which reasonably indicates that an assault or injury to any person is imminent.

Active Resistance - Active resistance means any physical act undertaken by a subject, against an officer, that could reasonably defeat a lawful attempt by the officer to gain control of the subject.

Application - The actual contact and delivery of electrical impulse to the subject via probe discharge or drive stun.

Arcing - Pulling the trigger to activate an ECW without discharging the probes. This may be done as a warning to the subject or to test the ECW prior to deployment (sometimes referred to as a spark test).

Cartridge - A replacement vessel that generally contains compressed gas, probes, connecting wires, and confetti tags.

Cycle – The period during which the electrical impulses are emitted from the ECW following activation.

Display - Drawing and exhibiting the ECW as part of a warning tactic, typically, but not always accompanied by verbal warnings.

Drive Stun - Acting as a touch-stun when the ECW is brought into immediate, or close proximity, contact with a subject's body or clothing.

Duration – The aggregate time that the ECW is activated. It is important to note that the duration of activation may be different from the duration of time that a subject is subjected to the electrical impulse from the ECW.

ECW Application – ECW application means the contact and delivery of electrical impulse to a subject with an ECW.

Electronic Control Weapon (ECW) – An ECW is a less-lethal weapon. ECW means a weapon designed primarily to discharge electrical charges into a subject that will cause involuntary muscle contractions and override the subject's voluntary motor responses.

Embedded – Fix (an object) firmly and deeply in a surrounding mass.

Exigent Circumstances – Circumstances that would cause a reasonable person to believe that prompt and unusual action is necessary to prevent physical injury to self or others.

Laser Painting – The act of un-holstering and pointing an ECW at a subject and activating the ECW's laser dot to show that the weapon is aimed at the subject.

Syracuse Police Department

Supplemental Manual

Conducted Energy Device

Neuromuscular Incapacitation – The effect of the ECW on a subject when, through the application of an electrical pulse, the ECW dominates the motor nervous system by interfering with the electrical signals sent to the skeletal muscles by the central nervous system.

Passive Resistance – Passive resistance means non-compliance with officer commands that is non-violent and does not pose an immediate threat to the officer or the public.

Penetration – To pierce or pass into or through.

Probe Discharge/Deployment – Pulling the trigger to release the probes from the cartridge to make contact with the subject and achieve neuromuscular incapacitation.

Probe Spread – The amount of distance between the probes fired from an ECW.

Probes – Projectiles with wires contained in an ECW cartridge. When the ECW is discharged, probes are expelled from the ECW and penetrate the subject's clothing and/or skin, allowing application of the electric impulse.

Sensitive Areas – An area of the subject's body that may cause more serious injury to the subject if struck with an ECW probe (e.g., eyes, head, neck, genitalia, or female breasts).