

A. **PURPOSE.** To direct and control the use of compliance control devices and intermediate weapons by employees of the Grand Rapids Police Department

B. **GENERAL PROCEDURE**

1. The only compliance control devices and intermediate weapons that shall be possessed by employees of this Department are authorized impact weapons and Aerosol Subject Restraints (ASR). Less-lethal tactical weapons, i.e., “specialty” munitions, electronic control devices (ECD) etc., may only be possessed and deployed by specially trained and authorized personnel.
2. Police officers are authorized to use Department-approved subject control techniques and issued equipment for resolution of incidents to:
  - a. Protect themselves or another from physical harm.
  - b. Restrain or subdue a resistant individual.
  - c. Bring an unlawful situation safely and effectively under control.
3. Employees shall employ any of the aforementioned weapons or tactics only after satisfactorily completing training about their use and related procedures. Employees not attaining minimum levels of proficiency will be required to attend and successfully complete supplemental training. Failure to achieve accepted levels of performance after supplemental training shall subject employees to disciplinary action.

C. **PROCEDURES FOR IMPACT WEAPON USE.** The purpose of the impact weapon is to provide officers an effective control option when confronted by potentially violent subjects. Impact weapons provide for the control of subjects by creating a temporary motor dysfunction of the impacted muscle group.

1. The impact weapon will be carried by all trained, uniformed officers in the approved belt carrier.
2. Impact weapons may be employed by trained personnel when:
  - a. A subject demonstrates active aggression such as physical actions/assaults against officers or citizens with less than deadly force (i.e., advancing, challenging, punching, kicking, grabbing, wrestling, etc.)

- b. An officer reasonably believes that empty hand controls will be insufficient to control the subject's actions based upon the totality of circumstances.
3. The intentional striking of the head, neck, or spine are potentially deadly force techniques.
4. In situations where the use of an impact weapon is justified, an officer may use a flashlight or other improvised device as an impact weapon when:
  - a. The issued/authorized impact weapon is not available for use or quickly accessible, and
  - b. The flashlight or other improvised device is utilized in a manner that is consistent with the techniques as instructed in the Department-approved impact weapons training program, and
  - c. The flashlight or other improvised device is used in strict compliance with all applicable sections of this procedure and the Department's Use of Force policy found elsewhere in this manual.

D. **HANDCUFFS AND RESTRAINTS.** The purpose of handcuffs, flex cuffs, or transport handcuffs is to restrain the movements of a subject in a manner that provides a safe means of transportation for officers and others. Restraints also control further physical resistance from a subject. Only the Department issued/authorized restraint devices and carriers may be used.

1. Handcuffs shall be carried by all trained, on-duty, sworn personnel.
2. Handcuffs shall be carried in an issued carrier or approved manner.
3. Subjects taken into custody shall be handcuffed behind their back. This is to assure the safety of the officer and other citizens. The exceptions to this rule are:
  - a. When the subject has an injury that does not permit his/her arms to move behind the back.
  - b. When, at the officer's discretion, the subject's age, physical condition, or physical limitations indicate an appropriate change in this procedure.

- c. The subject is a juvenile status offender and is compliant to the officer's directions.
4. When one of the conditions listed above exists, the subject should be handcuffed in front with transport handcuffs, if possible.
5. Handcuffs shall be checked for tightness and double locked when practically possible.
6. To assure proper safety for officers, all arrested subjects will be handcuffed before being searched, provided an exception to the handcuffing requirement does not exist.
7. Officers shall secure all separable possessions of the arrested subject prior to placing them in the patrol cruiser. This includes cell phones, other electronic devices, and any potentially dangerous objects.
8. Except under exceptional circumstances, officers should not handcuff a subject to fixed objects such as posts, vehicles, buildings, etc.
9. If an officer encounters resistance after applying handcuffs, the officer should utilize reasonable control techniques to prevent injuries to the officers or injuries to the subject.
10. Use of alternative restraint devices, such as flexcuffs, leg ties, or hobbles, should be limited to situations in which standard departmental restraint devices are unavailable or insufficient to safely secure suspects.
11. "Hog-tying" and other types of restraints that involve bending a person so as to connect his or her hands and feet are prohibited.
12. When a handcuffed subject is in a face-down, prone position, officers shall attempt to position the subject on their side when practical.
13. Handcuffed subjects transported to the jail shall remain handcuffed (unless one of the previously mentioned exceptions apply) until the subject has been searched by Kent County Deputies. Handcuffs may be removed in the booking area to facilitate the logging of personal property, such as jewelry and shoelaces, if the officer feels the subject is cooperative and not a threat to police personnel or other arrestees. The handcuffs shall be reapplied prior to walking the subject into the search vestibule.

E. **AEROSOL SUBJECT RESTRAINTS (ASR).** The purpose of the ASR is to provide members with a safe and effective control option. ASR's provide for the temporary control of subjects while providing a degree of safety for both the officer and the subject.

1. The approved ASR shall be carried by all trained on-duty uniformed sworn personnel (including plainclothes officers during tactical responses) except when:
  - a. Authorized by a supervisor for special undercover assignment;
  - b. Authorized for training purposes.
2. The approved ASR shall be carried in the issued carrier or approved manner.
3. The ASR may be employed by trained personnel to:
  - a. Effect control during a lawful arrest of a subject(s) who physically resists or threatens to physically resist or who does not comply with verbal requests.
  - b. Bring unlawful situations safely and effectively under control.
4. The ASR must be carried in a manner that provides for the adequate security and retention of the ASR when not in use.
5. In the event an officer is personally threatened with an ASR, the officer may use a reasonable amount of force to defend against the assault, based upon the totality of the circumstances.

F. **ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICES (ECDs).** The purpose of the ECD is to provide members with a safe and effective control option. ECDs provide for the temporary control of subjects while providing a degree of safety for both the officer and the subject.

1. The approved ECD shall only be carried by trained on-duty sworn personnel. They are responsible for maintaining the device's operational readiness.
2. The ECD shall be carried in the issued holster on the support side in the approved manner, fully armed with the safety on.

3. Based on the totality of the facts and circumstances, the ECD may be employed in an objectively reasonable manner by trained personnel to effect control during a lawful arrest of a subject(s) who physically resists or threatens to physically resist an officer.
4. The subject should be secured as soon as practical while disabled by ECD power to minimize the number of deployment cycles. i.e., “controlling under power.”
5. Any use or attempted use of an ECD against a subject shall be immediately reported to a supervisor. After use, ensure the suspect’s injuries, if any, are appropriately treated.
6. ECD probes will be removed at the earliest opportunity by trained personnel or medical personnel. It should be noted that medical personnel at the Kent County Correctional Facility may not remove ECD probes per their protocol. Probes that have struck the face, neck, groin, or female breasts, shall only be removed by medical personnel. Personnel shall inspect the probes after removal to ensure that the entire probe barb has been removed.
7. Officers shall collect and handle probes as bio-hazardous “sharps,” and they shall be tagged as evidence. All other materials relating to ECD deployment shall be collected and tagged in as evidence.
8. Officers shall document each actual deployment or attempted deployment on a use of force report and shall include the ECD serial and cartridge numbers deployed.
9. Unintentional ECD discharges shall be documented in an incident report titled “Unintentional discharge of ECD” and include the ECD serial and cartridge numbers discharged.
10. The ECD shall not be used in a punitive or coercive manner, nor shall it be used to dislodge, retrieve, or prevent the ingestion of contraband.

#### G. USE OF SPECIALTY MUNITIONS/ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICES (ECDs)

1. *Definition.* For the purpose of this procedure, specialty munitions will include:
  - a. Less-lethal ammunition

- b. ECDs
  - c. “Flash noise” diversionary devices
  - d. Tactical chemical agents
2. Only personnel who have successfully completed a Departmental training program regarding the proper use and deployment of “specialty” munitions shall be authorized to deploy them. Additionally, authorized personnel shall successfully complete a “refresher” training course at least once a year regarding “specialty” munitions/ECDs.
  3. Specialty munitions are additional tactical tools that are generally utilized in dynamic situations that are rapidly evolving. The decision to implement these control methods must be based on the totality of the circumstances in compliance with the Use of Force procedure.
  4. Circumstances that may justify the use of specialty munitions are:
    - a. Barricaded subject and/or hostage situations
    - b. High-risk warrant services
    - c. Apprehension of violent, mentally ill persons
    - d. Apprehension of subjects under the influence of alcohol or drugs and displaying potential or actual violent conduct
    - e. Civil disorder
    - f. Empty hand control has failed, or the officer reasonably believes that empty hand control will be insufficient to establish controls, and the use of deadly force is not justified.
  5. If time, resources, and circumstances (i.e., critical incident) of the tactical mission dictate a planned deployment of specialty munitions, the incident commander will be responsible for deployment.

## H. MEDICAL ATTENTION

1. Subjects having contact with ASRs shall be encouraged to receive fresh air after their conduct is controlled, i.e., standing in open air, windows open in the police vehicle, rapid opening and closing of eyes, verbal reassurance, etc. If an officer observes pronounced breathing

difficulties or the loss of consciousness, the subject shall be immediately transported to a hospital emergency room or an emergency medical team should be summoned to the scene for treatment of the subject.

2. When less lethal munitions and/or ECDs have been utilized, the subject may be transported to KCCF. Officers should follow Kent County Correctional Facility Pre-Booking Medical Protocols. However, certain medical conditions may require an officer to transport the subject to an advanced medical care facility.
3. If requested, medical attention shall be provided.