

CULVER CITY POLICE

GENERAL ORDER

07/24/2024

2024-11

TO: ALL SWORN PERSONNEL

FROM: THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

SUBJECT: BOLAWRAP POLICY

INTRODUCTION:

This General Order was created to notify all department regarding the new Culver City Police Department BolaWrap Policy.

PURPOSE:

This policy provides guidelines for the issuance and use of BolaWrap 150 (referred to as “BolaWrap”) devices to minimize injury to suspects and officers. The BolaWrap device is intended to immobilize and control resistive/non-compliant individuals.

DEFINITIONS:

1. **BolaWrap:** A hand-held remote restraint device that discharges a Kevlar® cord to entangle an individual at a range of 10-25 feet, equipped with anchors at each end.
2. **Passive Non-Compliance:** A subject does not respond to verbal commands but offers no physical resistance.
3. **Active Resistance:** A subject uses physically evasive movements to defeat an officer’s attempt at control.
4. **Assaultive:** A subject who is aggressive or combative, attempting to assault the officer or another person.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

1. Only department-approved BolaWrap devices, issued by the Department, shall be used by trained personnel.
2. The BolaWrap device is not a substitute for deadly force; a cover officer should be employed when using the device.
3. BolaWrap devices shall be clearly marked to differentiate them from duty weapons and other devices.
4. Uniformed officers issued the BolaWrap device shall wear it in an approved holster.
5. BolaWrap devices should not be used on handcuffed persons unless they are actively resisting or posing a threat.
6. Officers must ensure their BolaWrap device is properly maintained and conduct pre-shift inspections.
7. Officers should not hold both a firearm and the BolaWrap device simultaneously.
8. The use of the BolaWrap must comply with departmental use of force guidelines and penal code regulations.
9. The BolaWrap is not intended to be a transportation restraint device. The Kevlar® cord should be removed with an approved device once a subject is restrained.

DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS:

1. The BolaWrap device should be used when its operator can safely approach the subject within the operational range. The device may not always achieve the intended results, so officers should be prepared with other options.
2. Avoid using BolaWrap on:
 - o Known pregnant individuals.
 - o Elderly or obvious juveniles.
 - o Handcuffed or restrained individuals.
 - o Individuals in danger of falling or becoming entangled in machinery.
 - o Individuals near bodies of water.
 - o Individuals whose position may result in collateral injury (e.g., falls from height, near stairs, or tripping hazards).

PRE-DEPLOYMENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. A verbal warning of "Wrap Wrap Wrap" should precede BolaWrap device application unless it endangers safety or is impracticable due to circumstances. Document the given or omitted warning in the related report.

APPLICATION OF THE BOLAWRAP DEVICE:

1. The BolaWrap device may be used when the totality of circumstances perceived by the officer indicates that it is necessary to control a person who is:
 - o Assaultive, actively resisting, or passively non-compliant.
 - o Demonstrating an intention to be violent or physically resist, posing a potential threat.
2. Mere flight without other circumstances does not justify BolaWrap use.
3. Simultaneous applications by multiple devices on a single individual are allowed in authorized target areas.

TACTICAL USE:

1. Target lower extremities or lower arms, avoiding the head, neck, and chest. Monitor the subject's condition if these areas are struck.
2. The laser array should not be directed into the eyes.
3. Assemble sufficient officers to assist with custody and have a plan for using restraints before using the BolaWrap.
4. Consider factors before additional applications of the BolaWrap, such as the effectiveness of the first application, the opportunity for compliance, and other options.

ACTIONS FOLLOWING DEPLOYMENTS:

1. Request a supervisor to the scene after deployment.
2. Ensure restrained subjects receive appropriate medical care.
3. Only medical personnel may remove hooks embedded in skin; officers may remove hooks from clothing.
4. Cut the Kevlar® cord prior to transportation with Department Issued medical shears or a hook style seatbelt cutter.
5. Photograph visible injuries or complaints of pain, including uninjured areas, and retain these photographs in the incident report.

REPORTING THE USE OF THE BOLAWRAP:

1. Deployment of the BolaWrap without injury or a complaint of pain is considered non-compliance by a subject.
2. Complete an applicable report, including the cassette serial number, reason for BolaWrap application, and description of any injuries.

SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Supervisors must review and approve reports connected to a BolaWrap deployment.
2. Supervisors should respond to calls likely to involve BolaWrap use and all incidents where the device was deployed.

TRAINING:

1. Only officers who have completed department-approved training may use BolaWrap. Training must be refreshed annually, and officers must be recertified if they have not used BolaWrap for 12 months or more.
2. Training includes policy review, use of force guidelines, target area considerations, scenario-based training, de-escalation techniques, and proper tactics for multiple applications.

A/c TROY DUNLAP

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