

Pennsylvania Certified Constables ECD Fact Sheet

This fact sheet was produced by the Center for Community and Public Safety at Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus, in cooperation with the PCCD as an informational tool for Pennsylvania constables. Detailed information is provided on this topic in researching the possible addition of TASER training to the Act 44 courses.

The TASER® ECD is not a stun gun. It is an electronic control device (ECD) which uses Neuro Muscular Incapacitation (NMI) to inhibit the subject from being able to perform coordinated movement. ECDs use propelled probes or direct contact to conduct energy to affect the sensory and motor functions of the nervous system. The purpose behind TASER electronic control devices is to protect life by reducing injuries and deaths to both officers and suspects. Over 14,000 law enforcement agencies in over 40 countries now use Electronic Control Devices.



TASER® X26

The average current from a TASER ECD is less than 0.004 amperes, a fraction of the more than 15 amperes that can be generated by a standard wall outlet.



Target Zones

Recent guidelines from TASER International (dated 30 September, 2009) have redefined the targeting areas as to avoid the head and neck and if possible the chest. As such, the areas located below in blue are the preferred target areas while the back is the optimal preferred area when practical. Maximum clothing penetration is 2 inches total or 1 inch per probe.



Preferred Target Areas

Optimum Deployment Range

The optimum range of the 21 and 25 foot cartridges is 7 to 15 feet. This range provides a balance between officer safety, probe spread, and accuracy.

Guidelines on ECD Use

If a Law Enforcement Officer is justified in using force and the person is an immediate threat or the person is trying to flee, then reasonably limited ECD use is almost always legally justified. The risk of a TASER ECD exposure should be balanced between several factors; threat to the officer, threat to the subject and the public, as well as the availability of other force options and the likely outcome of their use.

Elevated ECD Application Risk Factors

- Presence of flammable liquids/fumes or explosive environments
- Elevated positions
- Person operating moving vehicle or machinery
- Person running (fleeing)
- Pregnant female, child, frail or infirm individual (fall risk)
- Swimming pool or other body of water
- Intentional ECD application to sensitive areas
- Perceived Risk of repeated ECD applications

Training

TASER International does not certify end users. This is left to the individual agencies. However, TASER International does provide all certified instructors with end user lesson plans and has established minimum standards that TASER International feels are necessary to be certified as a TASER ECD user. These include 6 hours of initial instruction following the provided lesson plan that includes firing at least two cartridges, passing a written test with a minimum score of 80%, and annual recertification including firing two more cartridges.

TASER International does NOT require officers to be exposed to a TASER ECD to be certified as a User.

2009 TASER International Inc. X26 Quotation

X26E Black/black grip plates w/holster	\$814.95
XDPM battery with one year extended warranty	\$ 89.95
X26 Maintenance and Cleaning Kit	\$ 59.95
Air Cartridge: 35ft. XP (Extra Penetration)	\$ 29.95

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