



January 16, 2024

Director Gino Betts, Jr.
Office of Police Accountability
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Director Betts,

Please see the below Management Recommendation response

Case Numbers: 2023OPA-0047 / 2023COMP-0004

Topic: Taser Use

Summary of the Management Action: A named employee told OPA that he inadvertently discharged a Taser X2 while attempting an ARC warning, causing a prong to penetrate a subject's shoulder.

Original Recommendation:

- Since the Taser 10's rollout will take time, SPD should address potential mishaps stemming from the Taser X2's design by reinforcing the need to test the ARC button before each shift per SPD policy 8.300-POL2-13 and stabilizing it with their non-dominant hand before a deployment like pictured in the device's manual. Those practices will help reduce accidental discharges by building muscle memory and encouraging familiarity with the device.
- SPD should also consider more frequent than annual Taser Training.

Action Taken:

- SPD is in the final stages of replacing the current taser with a new model that does not have an ARC warning button. Additionally, the training for the new model will include a virtual reality component that will be available at each of the precincts. This will allow officers more flexibility in reviewing the training, and the ability to use the technology to address skill development or remedial training.
- Additionally, all taser deployments are reviewed by the Force Review Board. In their evaluation if the Board feels that the officer's use of the taser was substandard they typically make a training referral for that officer to meet with a taser instructor for additional training.

SPD Considers this Management Action: Partially Implemented

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "ADZ", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Adrian Z. Diaz
Chief of Police