



MONTANA MUNICIPAL INTERLOCAL AUTHORITY
PO Box 6669
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RISK MANAGEMENT BULLETIN

Please distribute to all appropriate personnel and post in a conspicuous place.

TO: Municipal Police Departments

RM Bulletin #2-10

DATE: October 27, 2009

FROM: Alan Hulse, CEO

RE: TASER Training Bulletin 15.0 – Preferred Target Zone

In response to recent recommendations by TASER International, MMIA suggests considering the new preferred target zone in policy and training (Best Practice Recommendations from TASER International).

On Oct. 12, 2009 TASER International published Training Bulletin 15.0 titled “Medical Research Update and Revised Warnings.” The Training Bulletin outlines a new TASER Targeting Guide that will apply for the new XREP impact munitions as well as ECDs such as the X26, M26 and X3. TASER has lowered the recommended point of aim from center of mass to lower-center of mass for front shots. TASER lists 3 reasons for the change;

- a) Simplify targeting for all TASER systems to one easy to remember map, avoiding chest shots when possible and the risk of a head/eye shot in a dynamic situation, as is standard for impact munitions.
- b) When possible, avoiding chest shots with ECDs avoids the controversy about whether ECDs do or do not affect the human heart.
- c) Close-spread ECD discharges to the front of the body are more effective when at least one probe is in the major muscles of the pelvic triangle or thigh region.

MMIA recommends that each Administrator and Training Supervisor read the complete Bulletin issued by TASER. We also recommend you review your Agency Policy and Training protocols, and implement changes to include the new Targeting Guide and best practices recommendations.

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There is no need to overreact in your policy and training procedure changes. TASER maintains that its product remains a “less than lethal force option” whether the target is center mass or lower-center mass. The best practices target zone is a few inches lower than previously and does not prohibit chest shots. Back shots remain the preferred area when practical.

If you would like more information please contact Rick Smith, TASER CEO at rick@taser.com. To view the complete Training Bulletin 15.0 Version 2.0 go to <http://taser.com/legal/Documents/Training%20Memo%20with%20Training%20Bulletin%20and%20Warnings.pdf>

Also, MMIA is available at 1-800-635-3089 for any other questions.

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