



# ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

## GENERAL ORDER

**NUMBER:** 50.09

**TITLE:** Extended Range Impact Weapon

**SERIES NUMBER:** 50

**SERIES TITLE / SUBJECT:** Operations Support

**TOPICS/ REFERENCE:** Weapons, Projectiles

**APPENDICIES:** A

**ORIGINAL / EFFECTIVE ISSUE DATE:** November 4, 2013

**DATE OF LAST REVISION:**

**THIS ORDER REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL REVISED OR RESCINDED**

**CALEA STANDARDS:** 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.5, 1.3.6, 1.3.9, 1.3.11, 1.3.12

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### Policy:

It is the policy of the Rockford Police Department to authorize officers to carry and use Department approved Extended Range Impact Weapons (ERIW) in the performance of their duties.

### Purpose:

The purpose of this General Order is to establish Department policy, procedures and guidelines regarding Department approved extended range impact weapons issued to Rockford Police Department officers.

These guidelines are not meant to be all-inclusive, since each incident must be dealt with on an individual basis, but are intended as broad guidelines to assist the employees and supervisors involved.

This General Order is comprised of the following numbered sections.

- I. DEFINITIONS
- II. DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZED EXTENDED RANGE IMPACT WEAPONS
- III. RESPONSIBILITIES
- IV. EXTENDED RANGE IMPACT WEAPONS TRAINING AND PROFICIENCY TESTING
- V. REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF UNSAFE AND UNSERVICEABLE WEAPONS
- VI. EXTENDED RANGE IMPACT WEAPONS SPECIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR USE
- VII. EFFECTIVE DATE
- VIII. REVIEWS, REVISIONS AND CANCELLATIONS

- I. Definitions:
- A. Cover Officer: An officer armed with a conventional firearm that is ready and able to deliver deadly force to a subject if necessary.
  - B. Deadly Force: That force which can reasonably be expected to cause death or great bodily harm.
  - C. Less than Lethal Force: The use of force, which encourages compliance and overcomes resistance without deploying deadly force techniques or weapons. The potential for death or serious physical injury to the subject is thus reduced.
  - D. In-service training: Training provided to an employee after any initial, probationary or new-hire training (i.e., recruit / police academy training, new employee orientation) required before full employment status. In-service training may include, but is not limited to; periodic retraining or refresher training, roll-call training, specialized training, advanced training, promotional training and career development courses.
  - E. Subject: The person who is the focus and intended recipient of the extended range impact weapon.
  - F. Certified Course: A National or State accepted course of instruction having met a recognized standard or best practice.
  - G. Authorized Personnel: An officer or supervisor selected to deploy the Extended Range Impact Weapon, who has received the appropriate training outlined in this order.
  - H. Extended Range Impact Weapon: a weapon system designed to shoot a specialty impact munitions/projectile.
  - I. Specialty Impact Munitions: Intermediate or long range less-lethal force options which may be hand delivered or propelled from a specialized launching devices or firearms, which by design and application are intended to immobilize, incapacitate, or stun a human which is less likely to cause death or great bodily harm.
- II. Department Authorized Extended Range Impact Weapons and Projectiles: (CALEA – 1.3.9)
- A. Officers may only use extended range impact weapons authorized by the Department.
  - B. The Rockford Police Department authorizes the use of the following extended range impact weapons:
    - 1. Dedicated Less than Lethal Remington 870 Shotgun with orange stock
    - 2. SAGE SL-6
    - 3. Penn Arms 40mm Compact Single Launcher Folding/Collapsing Stock
  - C. Impact projectiles authorized include but are not limited to the following:
    - 1. Defense Technology Drag Stabilized 12 gauge round
    - 2. SAGE: K01, BP5OC, and KO8SST
  - D. Officers are prohibited from loading lethal ammunition into an ERIW.

- III. Responsibilities:
- A. The Training Section and/or certified ERIW instructor will review, inspect and approve all extended range impact weapons prior to the tool being issued to an officer.
  - B. The Training Section is responsible for maintaining records on the Department's Extended Range Impact Weapons and Projectiles and for ensuring they are safely and properly stored.
  - C. All maintenance of the 12 gauge shotgun or launcher systems beyond field maintenance will be conducted by an armorer certified to conduct such maintenance.
  - D. All extended range impact weapons will be maintenance annually.
- IV. Extended range impact weapon Training and Proficiency Testing: (CALEA – 1.3.10 and 1.3.11)
- A. Authorized personnel must receive Department approved training on the proper use and safe handling of any extended range impact weapon, demonstrate proficiency with that weapon, and pass a department qualification (Appendix B) before they are authorized to carry and use the tool in the performance of their duties. Initial training will include providing each officer with a copy of the (General Orders *1.09 – Response to Resistance*). (CALEA – 1.3.12)
  - B. All extended range impact weapons training and proficiency testing will be conducted by an instructor certified to teach on those weapon systems.
  - C. All extended range impact weapon training and proficiency testing will be documented. Records of the training and testing will be kept by the Supervisor of the Training Section.
  - D. Authorized personnel will receive periodic in-service / refresher training on the proper use of extended range impact weapons and must demonstrate proficiency in order to continue carrying and use the weapon in the performance of their duties.
    - 1. Authorized personnel shall receive eight hours of training biannually on the use of the less lethal Remington 870 Shotgun.
    - 2. S.W.A.T. officers shall receive eight hours of instruction on the less lethal Remington 870 Shotgun, the SAGE SL6 and the Penn Arms 40 mm launcher on a biannual basis.
  - F. Officers failing to attend mandatory training or unable to demonstrate proficiency with any extended range impact weapon shall be prohibited from using or carrying the tool until they attend the appropriate in-service training and successfully demonstrate ability to perform with the extended range impact weapon.
  - G. Officers who initially fail proficiency testing with an extended range impact weapon will be given additional opportunities, at the discretion of and with the advice and counsel of the instructor, until they demonstrate proficiency or be assigned to the Training Section and given remedial training per General Order *20.01 – Training*.
  - H. The SAGE SL-6 and Penn Arms 40mm Compact Single Launcher Folding/Collapsing Stock are Extended Range Impact Weapons specifically assigned to the Department's Special Weapons and Tactics Team and may be deployed only by trained S.W.A.T. operators.

- V. Removal and Replacement of Unsafe and Unserviceable Tools:
- A. Each officer is responsible for immediately removing any ERIW from service when they believe it has become unsafe, damaged, or otherwise unserviceable.
  - B. Officers with an unserviceable ERIW shall forward a Faulty Equipment Slip to the Supervisor of the Training Section.
- VI. Extended range impact weapon Specifications and Procedures for Use:
- A. Extended Range Impact Weapons and Projectiles.
    1. Extended Range Impact Weapons (ERIW) are designed to shoot an impact projectile. The impact of the projectile is intended to encourage compliance, overcome resistance, and/or incapacitate a subject with minimal potential for death or serious injury.
    2. Officers and supervisors must adhere to General Order *1.09 Response to Resistance* when deploying the ERIW.
    3. The ERIW is an alternative to other less-lethal weapons such as TASER. Deployment of the ERIW will be backed up by the availability of lethal force, i.e. Cover Officer.
    4. A warning of the ERIW's use shall be given to the subject unless exigent circumstances exist.
    5. The ERIW will not be used on females known to be pregnant, small children, and/or elderly persons unless all other reasonable means of subduing the subject have been exhausted.
    6. The ERIW shall not be deployed, unless deadly force is justified, when the subject is in a position where a fall may cause substantial injury or death.
    7. The use of impact projectiles is considered a use of deadly force if intentionally deployed to the areas indicated in Appendix A, section 3.
    8. All subjects who are struck by an ERIW projectile shall be transported by ambulance to a hospital emergency room for evaluation and/or treatment. (CALEA – 1.3.5)
    9. All instances of an ERIW deployment will be documented in an Incident Report and must articulate the totality of the circumstances necessitating the deployment. (CALEA – 1.3.6)
    10. Prior to the beginning a tour of duty, any supervisors/officers assigned a less lethal shotgun or operates a vehicle containing a less lethal shotgun shall inspect the shotgun ammunition to ensure it is department approved less lethal ammunition.
    11. All supervisors/officers shall inspect the ammunition to assure it is less-lethal ammunition prior to loading the shotgun for a less-lethal operation.
    12. Responsibilities of the on-scene commander or supervisor;
      - a. Assign cover officer/s in all cases involving armed and/or dangerous subjects, even if no firearms are involved.
      - b. Make reasonable effort to advise officers that the ERIW is being deployed.

- c. Request ambulance after ERIW is deployed and projectiles struck the subject.
- d. Request ID officers photograph the impact area of the ERIW projectile.
- e. Supervisors must adhere to General Order 30.06 *Reporting and Investigating Response to Resistance* after the tactical deployment of an impact projectile.
- f. Ensure that used ERIW projectiles are collected and tagged as evidence, including the casings. The ID officers will make a diagram of the scene showing the location of each recovered projectile.

VII. Effective Date:

- A. The Department's policy on extended range impact weapons became effective on July 24, 2013.

VIII. Reviews, Revisions And Cancellation:

- A. This General Order will be reviewed annually by the Training and Personnel Unit Supervisor and, when necessary, revised or cancelled in accordance with the procedures for reviewing written directives established in General Order 10.01 – *Written Directives*.
- B. Any employee with suggestions for revisions and/or improvements to this order are encouraged to submit their ideas to the Deputy Chief of the Administrative Services Bureau.

BY ORDER OF

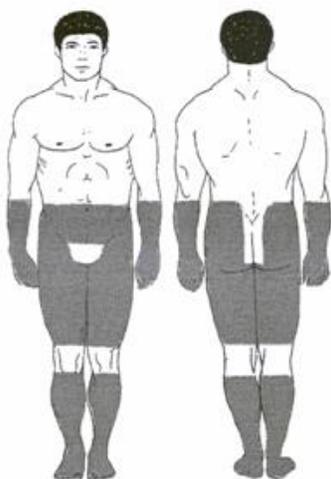
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Chet Epperson  
Chief of Police

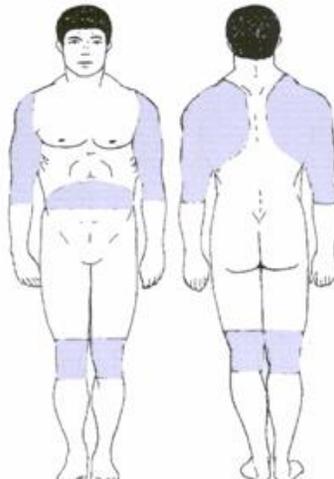
## APPENDIX A

### EXTENDED RANGE IMPACT TOOLS (ERIW)

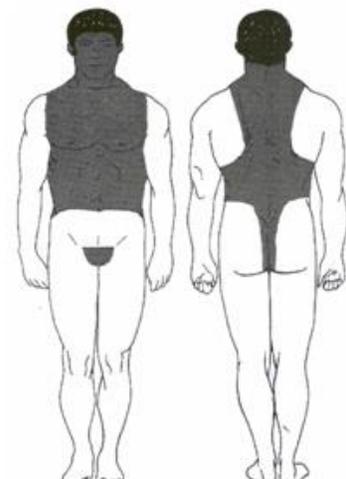
1. Level One – ERIW projectile primary target areas are listed below. See diagram labeled Level One attached to this appendix. These are areas where the resulting trauma, in most cases, will be minimal. If an injury does occur, it tends to be temporary rather than permanent.
  - a. arms below elbows including hands
  - b. lower abdomen and below excluding kidneys, spine, groin, knees, and back of knees.
2. Level Two – These areas listed below and on diagram labeled Level Two attached to this appendix, will be considered when an escalation of force above Level One is necessary and appropriate. There is an increase in the potential for death or serious injury at Level Two.
  - a. upper arms
  - b. elbow joint
  - c. rear shoulder area and shoulder blades
  - d. upper abdomen
  - e. knee joint
3. Level Three – Danger areas are listed below and on diagram labeled Level Three attached to this appendix. Intentional impacts to these areas will be avoided unless the use of deadly force is justified.
  - a. head
  - b. neck
  - c. chest area
  - d. spine
  - e. groin
  - f. kidneys



**LEVEL**



**LEVEL**



**LEVEL**