

USE OF <u>PEPPER</u> SPRAY	Document Number	GO 805
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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the guidelines for the responsibility and use of issued Pepper Spray.

2. PERSONS AFFECTED

All sworn personnel.

3. POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Hawai'i Police Department that Pepper Spray shall be used and applied by authorized and properly trained personnel in a lawful and reasonable manner and in the performance of official duties.

4. DEFINITIONS

Pepper Spray – A department approved and issued handheld chemical agent that emits a chemical solution composed of capsaicinoids (a natural product of pepper) and a non-flammable carrier agent, which is designed to temporarily incapacitate an aggressive or resistant subject.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. Commanding Officers – Commanders shall ensure strict adherence to this directive by their subordinates. Any misapplication or misuse of Pepper Spray may result in disciplinary action to be initiated by the commanding officer or immediate supervisor.

5.2. Members

5.2.1. When Pepper Spray is used in the course of an arrest, the circumstances of the use of the spray, including the reason for the use and post-use treatment, shall be included in the offense or arrest report.

5.2.2. In all other cases in which Pepper Spray is used, the officer utilizing the Pepper Spray shall describe the circumstances of its use, including the name of the person it was used on, reason for the use, post-use treatment and final disposition, in a memorandum submitted to the Police Chief.

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5.2.3. Members shall ensure that the issued canister is not expired and the contents are at a sufficient level for a regular tour of duty.

6. PROCEDURES

6.1. Use of Pepper Spray

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6.2. Deployment of Pepper Spray

6.2.1. The official Pepper Spray shall be of the type and specifications described in *Appendix A*.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

6.3. Restrictions on Use

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6.4. Post-Use Decontamination and Treatment

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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- 6.4.2. Subjects should be asked if they suffer from any respiratory diseases or problems, such as asthma, bronchitis, or emphysema. If a subject displays respiratory problems, medical attention should be sought immediately.
- 6.4.3. Subjects should be assured that the effects of Pepper Spray are temporary.
- 6.4.4. While transporting a subject to a police or medical facility, the subject's condition should be monitored for signs of breathing difficulty, nausea, or other physical discomfort. A subject should never be left unattended until the effects of the Pepper Spray have completely diminished or the individual indicates that they have fully recovered from the effects of the spray.
- 6.4.5. Under normal circumstances, all symptoms should disappear within thirty to forty-five minutes. If the symptoms persist beyond forty-five minutes, medical attention should be sought immediately.
- 6.4.6. If there is any doubt as to whether or not an individual has been injured by use of Pepper Spray, the affected area(s) shall be flushed with water and the subject shall be immediately transported to the nearest hospital for treatment.
- 6.4.7. Forty-five minutes after use of Pepper Spray, subjects shall be inspected to determine whether or not additional decontamination or first aid measures are required.
- 6.4.8. Detention facility personnel shall be informed when a subject has been sprayed with Pepper Spray.
- 6.4.9. Officers at the scene of a spraying should not touch their eyes, nose, mouth, or other sensitive areas of the body until they are able to wash their hands.

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- 6.4.10. Buildings, vehicles or any enclosed area which has been exposed to Pepper Spray should be ventilated for at least forty-five minutes by opening windows/doors.