


**State University Police Department**

	<b>Less Lethal Substances/Devices</b>		Effective Date: <b>June 1, 2016</b>
	SECTION: <b>20.6</b>	DCJS STANDARD(S) <b>20.6</b>	Revision Date: <b>February 21, 2019</b>
	APPROVAL: <b>Lawrence M. Zaccarese, Interim Chief of Police</b>		

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this written directive is to establish a policy regarding the proper use of less lethal substances and devices by Stony Brook University Police Department personnel. For the purposes of this written directive less lethal substances and devices include but are not limited to: chemical agents, physical force and batons.

**II. POLICY**

Members of the Stony Brook University Police Department are authorized to use necessary force when it is lawful and when the exercise of persuasion, advice, and/or warning is found to be insufficient in obtaining cooperation and control of an individual or situation. In the event that it has been deemed necessary to use physical force, including deadly physical force, the member shall be required to report all facts relative to the incident.

Upon issuance by the Stony Brook University Police Department, all officers shall carry Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray and a collapsible baton. All equipment shall remain the property of the Stony Brook University Police.


The use of OC Spray, physical force, or the collapsible baton constitutes the use of physical force against a person. Such use is authorized only in those instances and under such circumstances as authorized pursuant to Article 35 of the New York State Penal Law, Stony Brook University Police Policy, and Police Academy Training.

**III. PROCEDURE**

In the event that OC Spray is discharged or an officer uses physical force or the collapsible baton is utilized, the officer must adhere to the following steps:

- Notify their supervisor immediately
- Complete an incident report in IMPACT as well as a Use of Force Form (UPD 1035)
- If the use of the OC Spray, the physical force, or the collapsible baton result in injury follow the provisions outlined in the Stony Brook University Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual section 21.2 Review of Force Causing Injuries.

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**IV. TRAINING**

All sworn members of the Stony Brook University Police Department are required to complete initial training in the police academy in the use of OC Spray and collapsible baton. All officers will receive annual training in the use of OC Spray and collapsible baton. Members of the Stony Brook University Police Department are prohibited from carrying OC spray or a collapsible baton without receiving the required annual training. The Inspector of Training is responsible for ensuring all members are up to date on OC Spray and collapsible baton training.

**V. HEALTH CONSIDERATION IN THE USE OF OC SPRAY**

In the event that OC Spray is used officers are advised to reassure a subject that the effects of the OC Spray product are temporary and the discomfort will diminish in a short period of time.

Upon using OC Spray against a person or as soon as possible thereafter, officers should expose the subject to fresh air and if water is available, flush his/her eyes, face, and other affected areas with large amounts of cold water. After exposure a subject **MUST** be transported to the Stony Brook University Medical Center Emergency Room for evaluation by a physician regardless of a subject's condition.

All subjects sprayed with OC Spray should be asked if they are wearing contact lenses. If so, they will be advised to cleanse them as soon as possible. This information will be noted on the Use of Force form (UPD 1035). To prevent cross contamination, officers should avoid touching his/her eyes, nose, mouth, and other sensitive skin areas until he/she is able to wash any exposed areas.

During a prisoner transport following the discharge of OC Spray officers should monitor the subject's activity and watch for signs of breathing difficulty, unconsciousness, nausea and other signs of distress. If the subject is turned over to a detention facility officers should ensure that the custodians of that facility are informed of the fact that the subject has recently been exposed to OC Spray.

Officers are advised to **NEVER** leave an unattended individual who has recently been sprayed with OC Spray. Officers should monitor an exposed subject until the effects have **COMPLETELY** diminished and the subject indicates that he/she has fully recovered from such.