



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Institutions



Title:	OC Spray Projectors – General Population	DOC Policy: 40.1.10
Supersedes:	N/A	
Applicability:	Institutions	
Directives Cross-Reference:	Rule: Use of Force – Div 013	

I. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for carrying and utilizing Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray Projectors by staff in the inmate general population as an offensive and/or defensive chemical device. Any use of OC spray shall be in accordance with the department's rule on **Use of Force**

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Accidental Discharge: A condition where OC is discharged from the container through a faulty apparatus, or is otherwise unintentionally discharge.
- B. Direct exposure: A condition where OC is applied directly into the eyes, nose, and mouth (face) of another.
- C. First Responder: Persons designated to provide initial/immediate response as intervention to emergency incidents that arise during the shift.
- D. Functional Unit Manager (FUM): Any person within the Department of Corrections who reports to the Director, an Assistant Director or administrator and has responsibility for delivery of program services or coordination of program operations.
- E. Institution Security Manager: The institution manager responsible for the overall institution security program.
- F. Line of Duty Discharge: The intentional application of OC spray to a person, or persons to achieve a legitimate correctional objective.
- G. Officer-in-Charge (OIC): That person designated by the functional unit manager to supervise and make overall operational decisions at the correctional facility in accordance with department rule, policy or procedure.
- H. Oleoresin Capsicum (OC): A product whose active ingredient is the capsaicin, which is derived from plants of the genus capsicum and commonly referred to as hot peppers or pepper spray.
- I. Personal Decontamination: Steps taken to mitigate the effects of OC spray through the use of open air, wet towels, showers, change of clothing, and medical attention.
- J. Secondary Exposure: A condition where OC is deployed into the atmosphere, or a designated space, that is not a direct exposure, usually associated with training. A

secondary exposure may also occur in conjunction with a primary exposure as experienced during a use of force or separately.

III. POLICY

The functional unit manager will determine the need and distribution of authorized OC projectors based on potential risk factors such as facility history, inmate classification(s) of those supervised, architecture/surroundings, potential exposure to others, and other available alternatives to accomplish correctional objectives where OC projectors are authorized for distribution:

1. Prior to implementing, the functional unit manager will designate in writing the type of formalized response for the institution to the Chief of Security Operations. The functional unit manager will include where OC is authorized to be carried/used by designating:
 - a. First responders; and/or
 - b. Work assignment; and/or
 - c. Location.
2. Staff assigned to carry an OC projector will be required to successfully complete the Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Aerosol Projectors Officer Certification Program and/or First Responders Training Course prior to carrying/using it. Use of the chemical agent will be done in accordance with the rule on **Use of Force** (Division 13). Staff who has not completed this training are not authorized to carry or use an OC projector as a first responder, and are obligated to notify the OIC for possible reassignment.
3. The institution security manager will maintain a list of qualified staff that are available to the OIC.
4. All OC projectors will be controlled and accounted for at all times.
 - a. Each OC projector will be secured within a holster by a numbered and breakable seal to assure strict identification and accountability.
 - b. At the beginning and end of the shift, qualified staff assigned to carry and use an OC projector in general population will report to the Control Center and exchange a key chit for an OC projector and holster.
 - c. All OC projectors will be visually inspected by the recipient to ensure the nozzle is clear of any debris or condensation and that the safety seal is intact.
 - d. All OC projectors will be logged out using the OC Spray Checkout Log (CD 1436) at the time of check out and check in at the Control Center. This process will document the name of the officer to whom each projector is assigned as well as the seal number. Any discrepancies shall be immediately reported to the OIC.
 - e. The projector will be holstered on the duty belt in accordance with training expectations.
 - f. Each staff member assigned to carry OC spray is responsible for its proper use while acting within his or her official capacity.

5. OC spray projectors issued for application in general population shall meet the following standard: three to four ounce aerosol streamers containing a 5% solution to two-million scoville heat units. Any deviation from this standard must be reviewed by the Chief of Security and approved by the Assistant Director of Operations/designee.
6. Discharge of an OC projector will require the assigned staff report the following information utilizing the Chemical Agent Deployment form (CD 1435) to the OIC:
 - a. Time and date of incident
 - b. Person(s) OC spray was applied to
 - c. Correctional objective/reason for use
 - d. Staff member who deployed the chemical agent
 - e. Method of deployment
 - f. Whether warning was/was not given
 - g. Amount deployed
 - h. Recorded results
 - i. Disposition of canister
 - j. Decontamination steps
 - k. Inmate observation
 - l. Medical assessment
 - m. Names of any staff who receive a direct or secondary exposure and treatment provided
7. The OIC/designee will be responsible to ensure that the appropriate methods of disposal and inventory adjustments occur following the use of an OC spray projector.
8. Accidental Discharge: An employee who is involved in an accidental discharge will notify the OIC immediately and submit a detailed memo to the institution security manager or assistant superintendent of security regarding the accidental discharge.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

This policy will be adopted immediately without further modification.



I.
II. CHEMICAL AGENT DEPLOYMENT FORM

Date: _____

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Type of Chemical: _____

Person(s) Used On: _____ SID #: _____

Correctional Objective: _____

Staff applying chemical: _____

Method deployed: _____

Warning given: Yes No

Amount deployed: _____

Recorded results: _____

Disposition of canister: _____ Empty Partial
(Hot Trash) (Training)

Inventory Adjusted: Yes No

Decontamination Steps: _____

Inmate observed first 10 minutes and every 10 minutes for the first 30 minutes:

1st Observation by: _____

2nd Check by: _____

3rd Check by: _____

Medical assessment by: _____

Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Inmate allowed to wash: Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Inmate afforded clean clothes: Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Decontaminated housing: Time: _____ a.m. p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Reviewing authority (OIC): _____