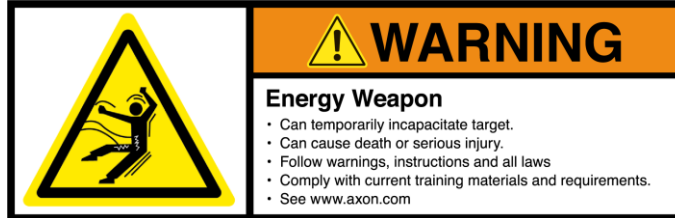




TASER Energy Weapon Warnings, Instructions, and Information: Citizen



IMPORTANT SAFETY AND HEALTH INFORMATION



This document presents important safety warnings, instructions, and information intended to minimize hazards associated with the use of Axon Enterprise, Inc. (Axon) TASER Energy Weapons. These instructions and warnings are for your protection as well as the safety of others. **Read the entire document before using an energy weapon.**

The TASER energy weapon is to be used only for lawful self-defense or in the defense of others. A TASER energy weapon is not a substitute for caution, common sense, or other preventive self-protection actions such as ensuring doors are locked, parking in well-lighted areas, avoiding suspicious individuals, or calling 911.

When used as directed in probe-deployment mode, energy weapons are designed to temporarily incapacitate a person from a safer distance than some other force options, while reducing the likelihood of death or serious injury. However, any use of force, including the use of an energy weapon, involves risks that a person may get hurt or die due to the effects of the energy weapon, physical incapacitation, physical exertion, unforeseen circumstances, or individual susceptibilities. Following the instructions and warnings in this document will reduce the likelihood that energy weapon use will cause death or serious injury.

These warnings and instructions are effective **December 12, 2022**, and supersede all prior revisions. The most current warnings are also available online at www.axon.com.

- 1. Read and follow.** Read, understand and follow all current instructions, warnings and relevant TASER training materials before handling or using a TASER energy weapons. Failure to do so could increase the risk of death or serious injury to the user or others.
- 2. Obey applicable laws.** Use of energy weapons must be legally justified and comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Always follow all current instructions, warnings, and TASER training materials to minimize energy weapon risks.

This document uses a signal word panel to mark specific warnings:



This signal word panel indicates a **potentially hazardous situation which if not avoided could result in death or serious injury**.

Warnings may be followed by instructions and information to help reduce risks, avoid the hazard, and improve energy weapon safety.

SAFETY INFORMATION: ENERGY WEAPON RISKS AND RISK AVOIDANCE



Secondary Injury. The loss of control resulting from an energy weapon exposure may result in injuries due to a fall or other uncontrolled movement. When practicable, avoid using an energy weapon when secondary injuries are likely unless the situation justifies an increased risk.

Loss of control associated with energy weapon use can have several causes:

- Seizure.** Repetitive stimuli (e.g., flashing light or electrical stimuli) can induce seizure in some people, which may result in death or serious injury. This risk may be increased in a person with epilepsy or seizure history, or if electrical stimuli pass through the head. Emotional stress and physical exertion, both likely in incidents involving energy weapon and other uses of force, are reported as seizure-precipitating factors.



TASER Energy Weapon Warnings, Instructions, and Information: Citizen



- **Fainting.** A person may experience an exaggerated response to an energy weapon exposure, or threatened exposure, which may result in fainting or falling.
- **Muscle contraction, incapacitation, or startle response.** Energy weapon use may cause loss of control from muscle contraction, incapacitation, or startle response.

To reduce these risks, consider the person's location before using an energy weapon.

When practicable, avoid using an energy weapon on a person in the following circumstances unless the situation justifies an increased risk:

- is on an elevated or unstable surface (e.g., tree, roof, ladder, ledge, balcony, porch, bridge, or stair);
- could fall on a sharp object or hard surface (e.g., holding a knife, falling on glass);
- is less able to catch or protect self in a fall;
- is running;
- is operating or riding any mode of transportation (e.g., vehicle, bus, bicycle, motorcycle, or train), conveyance (e.g., escalator, moving walkway, elevator, skateboard, roller skates), or machinery; or
- is located in water, mud, or marsh environment if the ability to move is restricted.

WARNING **Fire and Explosion Hazard.** Energy weapon use can result in a fire or explosion when flammable gases, fumes, vapors, liquids, or materials are present. Use of an energy weapon in presence of fire or explosion hazard could increase the risk of death or serious injury. When practicable, avoid using an energy weapon in known flammable hazard conditions without justification.

- An energy weapon can ignite explosive or flammable materials, liquids, fumes, gases, or vapors (e.g., gasoline, vapor or gas found in sewer lines or methamphetamine labs, butane-type lighters, flammable hair gels, some self-defense sprays, and alcohol-based hand sanitizer). Do not knowingly use an energy weapon in the presence of any explosive or flammable substance unless the situation justifies the increased risk.

WARNING **Muscle Contraction or Strain-Related Injury.** Energy weapons in probe-deployment mode can cause muscle contractions that may result in injury, including bone fractures.

WARNING **Higher Risk Populations.** Energy weapon use on a pregnant, infirm, elderly, low body-mass index person or small child could increase the risk of death or serious injury. As with any force option, energy weapon use has not been scientifically tested on these populations. Use an energy weapon on such persons **only** if the situation justifies an increased risk.

- Energy weapons in probe-deployment mode can cause muscle contractions resulting in injuries similar to those from physical exertion, athletics, or sports. Such injuries may include hernia rupture, dislocation, tear, or other injury to soft tissue, organ, muscle, tendon, ligament, cartilage, disc, nerve, bone, or joint. Fractures to bone, including compression fracture to vertebrae, may occur.
- These injuries may be more serious and more likely to occur in people with pre-existing injuries, orthopedic hardware, conditions or special susceptibilities, including pregnancy, low bone density, spinal injury, or previous muscle, disc, ligament, joint, bone, or tendon damage or surgery. Such injuries may also occur in drive-stun applications or when a person reacts to the energy weapon deployment by making a rapid or unexpected movement.

WARNING **Physiologic and Metabolic Effects.** Energy weapon exposure can cause physiologic and metabolic changes, stress, and pain. For some particularly susceptible individuals, the risk of death or serious injury may increase with one or more energy weapon exposures. When practicable, minimize repeated, continuous, or simultaneous exposures.

Physiologic and Metabolic Changes. Energy weapon use can cause physiologic or metabolic changes that may increase the risk of death or serious injury for some particularly susceptible individuals. These include



TASER Energy Weapon Warnings, Instructions, and Information: Citizen



changes in blood chemistry, blood pressure, respiration, heart rate and rhythm, and adrenaline and stress hormones, among others.

Stress and Pain. Energy weapon use, anticipation of use, or response to use can cause startle, panic, fear, anger, rage, temporary discomfort, pain, or stress, which may increase the risk of death or serious injury for some particularly susceptible individuals.

Particularly Susceptible Individuals. Include those who are already physiologically or metabolically compromised due to heart disease, asthma or other pulmonary conditions, and people suffering from excited delirium, profound agitation, severe exhaustion, drug intoxication or chronic drug abuse, or over-exertion from physical struggle.

In human studies of electrical discharge from a single completed circuit of up to 15 seconds, the physiologic, metabolic, and stress hormone changes were comparable to or less than changes expected from physical exertion similar to struggling, resistance, fighting, fleeing, or from the application of some other force tools or techniques.

To reduce the risk from energy weapon exposure:

- 1. Minimize the number and duration of energy weapon exposures.** Use the shortest duration of energy weapon exposure reasonable for self-defense. If an energy weapon deployment is ineffective in incapacitating an attacker or achieving compliance, consider escaping from the situation or alternative force options.
- 2. Avoid simultaneous energy weapon exposures.** Do not use multiple energy weapons or multiple completed circuits at the same time without justification.
- 3. Avoid touching probes/wires during energy weapon discharge.** Touching a person during energy weapon exposure may put the energy weapon user and those assisting at risk of accidental or unintended shock. Avoid touching the probes and wires and the areas between the probes during the electrical discharge.

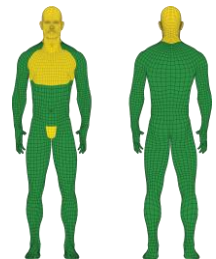


Cardiac Capture. Energy weapon exposure very near the heart has a low probability of inducing extra heart beats (cardiac capture). In rare circumstances, cardiac capture could lead to cardiac arrest. When practicable, avoid targeting the frontal chest area near the heart to reduce the risk of potential serious injury or death.

Cardiac capture may be more likely in children and thin adults because the heart is usually closer to the skin surface, and closer to the energy weapon probes if deployed near the heart (the dart-to-heart distance). Serious complications could also arise in those with impaired heart function or implanted cardiac pacemaker or defibrillator.

To reduce the risk of injury:

- 1. Use preferred target areas.** The preferred target areas (green) are below the neck area for back shots and the lower center mass (below chest) for front shots. The preferred target areas increase dart-to-heart distance and reduce cardiac risks. Back shots are preferable to front shots when practicable.
- 2. Avoid sensitive areas.** When practicable, avoid intentionally targeting the energy weapon on sensitive areas of the body such as the face, eyes, head, throat, chest area (area of the heart), breast, groin, genitals, or known pre-existing injury areas.



SAFETY INFORMATION: ENERGY WEAPON EFFECTIVENESS

An energy weapon, like any weapon or force option, does not always function as intended and is not effective on every person. As with any use of force, if a particular option is not effective, consider using other force options or escaping from the situation. **Always have a back-up plan.**



TASER Energy Weapon Warnings, Instructions, and Information: Citizen



⚠️ WARNING **Subject Not Incapacitated.** An ineffective energy weapon application could increase the risk of death or serious injury to the user or others. If an energy weapon does not operate as intended or if an attacker is not incapacitated, redeploy the energy weapon, use other force options, or escape the situation.

An energy weapon's effects may be limited by many factors, including absence of delivered electrical charge due to misses, clothing disconnect, intermittent connection, or wire breakage; probe locations or spread; attacker's muscle mass; or movement. Some of the factors that may limit the effectiveness of energy weapon include:

- **Attacker may not be fully incapacitated.** Even though an attacker may be affected by an energy weapon in one part of his body, the attacker may maintain full muscle control of other portions of his body, particularly the hands and arms. Be prepared in case the attacker is not fully incapacitated.
- **Attacker may recover immediately.** An attacker receiving an energy weapon discharge may immediately regain physical or cognitive abilities upon cessation of the delivered energy weapon discharge. Be prepared in case the attacker immediately recovers.
- **Drive-stun mode is for pain compliance only.** The use of a handheld energy weapon in drive-stun mode is painful, but generally does not cause incapacitation. Drive-stun use may not be effective on emotionally disturbed persons, those under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or others who may not respond to pain due to a mind-body disconnect. Avoid using repeated drive-stuns on such individuals if compliance is not achieved.
- **Probes may deviate.** Energy weapons are not precision-aimed weapons. Probe discharge, flight trajectory, and impact location can be affected by numerous factors, including cartridge or probe accuracy; failure of cartridge to properly deploy; strong air movements; user and attacker movements; or probe striking attacker, clothing, or object with insufficient force or trajectory to penetrate or adhere to the attacker. Deviations can result in limited or lack of effectiveness.
- **Energy weapon or cartridge may fail to fire or operate.** No weapon system, force option, or energy weapon is always operational or effective. If an energy weapon, cartridge, or accessory is inoperable or fails to function, consider reloading and redeploying, using other force options, or escaping the situation.

SAFETY INFORMATION: INJURY OR INFECTION

A energy weapon may cause injury as a result of the probe or electrical discharge. The nature and severity of these effects depends on numerous factors including the area of exposure, method of application, individual susceptibility, and other circumstances surrounding energy weapon use, exposure, and after care. Medical care may be required.

⚠️ WARNING **Eye Injury Hazard.** A TASER probe, electrode, or electrical discharge that contacts or comes close to an eye can result in serious injury, including permanent vision loss. **DO NOT** intentionally aim an energy weapon, including the LASER, at the eye of a person or animal without justification.

⚠️ LASER Light Hazard. Some energy weapons may use a LASER targeting aid. LASERS can cause serious eye injury, including permanent vision loss. **NEVER** aim a LASER at an aircraft or the operator of an aircraft or moving vehicle.

⚠️ WARNING **Probe or Electrode Injury, Puncture, Scarring, or Infection Hazard.** Energy weapon use may cause a permanent mark, burn, scar, puncture, or other skin or tissue damage. Infection could result in death or serious injury. Scarring risk may be increased when using an energy weapon in drive-stun mode. Increased skin irritation, abrasion, mark, burning, or scarring may occur with an energy weapon with multiple cartridge bays when used in drive-stun or 3-point deployment modes.

⚠️ WARNING **Penetration Injury.** The TASER probe has a small dart point which may cause a penetration injury to a blood vessel or internal organ, including lung, bone, or nerve. The probe or dart point



TASER Energy Weapon Warnings, Instructions, and Information: Citizen



(which may detach or break) can puncture or become embedded into a bone, organ, or tissue, which may require immediate medical care, surgical removal, or may result in scarring, infection, or other serious injury.

To reduce the risk of serious or permanent injury:

1. **Medical care may be needed.** Injury due to penetration of a probe or dart point into a blood vessel, organ, nerve, or bone may require medical care. A probe, dart point, or barb embedded in a sensitive area such as the eye, genitals, breast, neck, throat, or vascular structure may cause serious injury and require medical care. As with any injury of this type, infection or tetanus and resulting complications may occur.
2. **Probe Removal.** Probe removal may cause injury. Leaving a probe in the body may result in pain or injury. In the case of embedment, organ or bone penetration, or probe, dart point, or barb detachment, immediate medical care and possible surgical removal may be required.
3. **Biohazards.** Use appropriate biohazard protocols and protective equipment (e.g., gloves, masks, and washing of hands and exposed areas as necessary).

SAFETY INFORMATION: ENERGY WEAPON DEPLOYMENT AND USE



Energy weapons and cartridges are weapons and as with any weapon follow safe weapon-handling practices and secure storage. Follow practices herein. Failure to follow these warnings may result in death or serious injury to the user or others.



Confusing Handgun with Energy Weapon. Confusing a handgun with an energy weapon could result in death or serious injury. Learn the differences in the physical feel and holstering characteristics between your energy weapon and handguns to help avoid confusion.



Trigger Hold-Back Continuous Discharge. If the trigger is held back, most energy weapons will continue to discharge until the trigger is released or the power source is expended. Know the pre-programmed cycle for your model energy weapon and how it works.

1. **Use properly.** Use an energy weapon only for its intended purpose, in legally justifiable situations for lawful self-defense or in the defense of others. Do not use for torture. Misuse can result in criminal prosecution or civil litigation.
2. **Store in a secure location.** Store energy weapons, cartridges, and accessories in secure locations inaccessible to children and other unauthorized persons to prevent inappropriate access or use. Energy weapons and cartridges are weapons, not toys.
3. **Use the safety switch.** Place the energy weapon safety switch in the SAFE position when the energy weapon is not in use. Remember to place the energy weapon safety switch in the ARMED position when you intend to use the energy weapon.
4. **Assume energy weapon is loaded.** Always assume that an energy weapon is loaded and capable of discharging. To help avoid unexpected discharge, ensure that no live cartridge is in the energy weapon when inserting a battery pack, TASER CAM or TASER CAM HD recorder, or while performing spark tests (except when function testing multi-shot energy weapons), maintenance, data downloading, or battery charging.
5. **Be aware of energy weapon trigger.** Keep your finger off the trigger until it is legally justifiable to use the energy weapon and you are ready to deploy.
6. **Know how the energy weapon works.** Significant differences exist between different TASER energy weapon models. Before handling or using any energy weapon, including a multi-shot energy weapon, understand the functioning and effects of that model.
7. **Be aware of multi-shot energy weapon's deployment mode.** Be aware of which deployment mode (manual or semi-automatic) is set on the multi-shot energy weapon before use.



TASER Energy Weapon Warnings, Instructions, and Information: Citizen



8. **Use simulation (training) cartridges ONLY for training or practice. DO NOT** use an energy weapon loaded with a simulation training cartridge for self-defense. Simulation cartridges are intended for practice only and will have no incapacitating effect on an attacker. Simulation cartridges use non-conductive wires and will not transmit electrical pulses to the probes.
9. **Do not use Bolt, Bolt 2, C2, Pulse, or Pulse+ simulation cartridges with a simulation suit.** Bolt, C2, Pulse, and Pulse+ simulation cartridges have extended probes that may penetrate a TASER simulation suit and cause injury to the person wearing the suit.

SAFETY INFORMATION: OTHER HAZARDS



Probe Recoil or Ricochet. If your practice target or attacker is farther away than the length of the probe wire, or if one or more probes miss, the probe can recoil and bounce back to strike the user or a bystander, causing injury. Probe recoil is more likely with simulation cartridges because of the nylon probe wire used.

Always be sure your practice target or attacker is within range. Wear protective eyewear when deploying any energy weapon in training or for practice. Be sure practice targets have a firm backing that will allow the probes to stick and not bounce off and strike an unintended person, animal, or object, or continue through the backing and strike objects behind the target.



Untethered Discharged Probe. A discharged probe that does not impact a practice target or attacker may become untethered from the wire and travel a significant distance causing serious injury. Always be sure your practice target or attacker is within range.

SAFETY INFORMATION: GENERAL PRECAUTIONS



Unintentional Energy Weapon Deployment or Discharge Hazard. Unintentional energy weapon activation or deployment could increase the risk of death or serious injury to the user or others.

To reduce the risk of unintentional deployment or discharge:

1. **Avoid static electricity.** Keep cartridge away from sources of static electricity. Static electricity can cause an energy weapon to discharge unexpectedly, possibly resulting in serious injury. Carry the energy weapon in an approved holster to minimize static electricity and an unintentional discharge.
2. **Keep body parts away from front of energy weapon or cartridge.** Always keep your hands and body parts away from the front of the energy weapon and cartridge. If the energy weapon discharges unexpectedly, you could be injured.
3. **Avoid electronic equipment interference.** Electronic transmission equipment close to an energy weapon could interfere with the proper energy weapon operation and cause the energy weapon to deploy or discharge. Keep the energy weapon at least several inches away from other electronic equipment. Place the energy weapon safety switch in the SAFE position whenever it is near electronic equipment, including transmitting radios and cell phones. Remember to place the energy weapon safety switch in the ARMED position before use.
4. **Avoid dropping energy weapon or cartridge.** If an energy weapon or cartridge is dropped or damaged it may unintentionally deploy or discharge, become inoperable, or fail to function, making it unsafe for continued use. If an energy weapon or cartridge has been dropped or damaged, refer to the manufacturer's instructions.

SAFETY INFORMATION: MAINTENANCE



Failure to maintain an energy weapon as instructed may cause the energy weapon to malfunction or fail to function optimally, which may increase the risk of death or serious injury. Follow recommended maintenance procedures.



TASER Energy Weapon Warnings, Instructions, and Information: Citizen



To reduce these risks:

1. **Safely perform spark (function) test.** Testing helps verify that the energy weapon is functioning properly. See manufacturer's instructions for further information on testing.
2. **Avoid using a damaged energy weapon or cartridge.** Do not use a cartridge with a missing blast door unless facing an immediate threat. Energy weapon repair or modification by an unauthorized person may cause the energy weapon to fire or malfunction, will void the warranty, and may put the user or others at risk of death or serious injury.
3. **Update energy weapon software.** Some energy weapons have updateable software. Current energy weapon software may be obtained by contacting Axon's Customer Service Department.
4. **Use only Axon-approved components, batteries, accessories, and cartridges.** The energy weapon is a sophisticated electronic system. For proper function, use only Axon-approved components, batteries, accessories, and cartridges with your energy weapon. Use of anything other than Axon-approved components, batteries, accessories, and cartridges will void the warranty, may cause malfunction, and may put the user or other person at risk of death or serious injury.
5. **Avoid exposure to wet conditions.** Energy weapons are not designed to withstand exposure to water or other liquid. If the energy weapon is exposed to water or other liquid, **DO NOT** use or attempt to use the energy weapon until completing the procedure recommended by the manufacturer. Using an energy weapon that has been exposed to water or other liquid may cause the energy weapon to fire or malfunction, and may put the user or others at risk of death or serious injury.
6. **Keep Smart Cartridge and TASER 7 Cartridge contacts clean.** If the contacts on the cartridge or inside cartridge bay of the multi-shot energy weapon are not kept clean the energy weapon may fail to deploy the cartridge.
7. **Know energy weapon and cartridge expected useful life.** Under normal storage, handling, and operating conditions, an energy weapon and cartridges have a 5-year expected useful life. Use or attempted use of an energy weapon or cartridge after its expected useful life may result in malfunctions and lack of effectiveness. Failure to properly care for and maintain an energy weapon or cartridge may substantially reduce or eliminate the expected useful life of the product.

SAFETY INFORMATION: DISASSEMBLY AND DISPOSAL



Do not disassemble. Refer to local laws for proper handling and disposal.