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CHAPTER 25

IMPACT WEAPONS

1. POLICY. During the course of enforcement duties, all officers and sergeants shall carry the approved expandable baton. Exceptions to this policy include attendance at funerals and instances where good judgment would dictate its exclusion. Employees shall not carry or use an expandable baton unless they have been trained and certified in its use by departmentally trained Officer Safety Training (OST) instructors.

2. RAPID CONTAINMENT BATON IMPACT WEAPON.

a. Training.

(1) Rapid Containment Baton. All uniformed personnel shall have four hours of initial training/certification and biennial recertification training from departmental OST instructor(s). The Academy will provide initial training, instructor certification, and annual instructor recertification to Division OST instructors. Division OST instructors will then be available to provide initial training, certification, and recertification to all personnel authorized to carry the Rapid Containment Baton (RCB).

b. Approved Equipment.

(1) The RCB is the only authorized impact weapon for on-duty use by all uniformed personnel. The only exceptions are alternate impact weapons utilized by specifically trained Special Response Team (SRT) personnel.

(2) Rapid Containment Baton.

(a) Electroless Nickle Expandable Baton, 26-inch.

(3) Rapid Containment Baton Holsters.

(a) Peacekeeper–Basketweave Secure-Lock Rotational Holster.

(b) Peacekeeper–Basketweave Holster, with Tek-Lok belt clip.

(4) Rapid Containment Baton Holster for Special Response Team.

(a) Peacekeeper–Textured Holster, with Tek-Lok belt clip.

c. Equipment Use.

(1) All departmental policies and procedures regarding the use of force and prohibited striking locations remain in effect when utilizing the RCB. Specifically, the use of the RCB shall be in accordance with policy currently contained in Chapter 1, Use of Force, of this manual.

d. Maintenance. The RCB requires regular maintenance. It is recommended the RCB be disassembled and inspected every 30 days, or after each exposure to adverse conditions (e.g., dirt, sand, water, ice).

e. Acquisition. The RCB shall be part of the initial issue of equipment while at the Academy. Each command is authorized to have two additional batons, holsters, and spare parts. Requests for supplemental batons, holsters, and spare parts shall be routed through the Office of Primary Interest, the Academy, Physical Training Unit (PTU).

f. Repairs. For all RCB repair and replacement requests, the command will forward a memorandum explaining how the baton was damaged. This memorandum shall be sent to the Academy, PTU, with the damaged baton. (Refer to Annex A.) The PTU will evaluate the damage and determine whether the RCB will be repaired or replaced. Upon completion of repairs and/or replacement, the RCB will be returned to the requesting command.

g. Nomenclature. This RCB terminology will provide a uniform description of the key parts of the RCB.

(5) The support hand should stay in a position to protect the officer's face and head.

i. Method of Carrying the Rapid Containment Baton.

(1) Uniformed employees shall carry the RCB in the approved holster on their duty belt. Uniformed employees assigned to undercover or plain clothes assignments who elect to carry the RCB must carry the RCB in the approved holster on their trouser belt. The RCB shall not be carried in a pocket or shoulder holster-type device. No modifications to the RCB or holster are permitted.

(2) The RCB shall always be carried in a location on the duty belt that will not interfere with the retrieval of the departmental firearm or other personal protective equipment.

3. CONSIDERATIONS.

j. Deterring Effect. The wearing of the RCB may have a deterring effect on a potentially hostile subject during an enforcement stop.

k. Effect of Proper Use. The RCB, when properly used, can frustrate attacks on the officer and aid in overcoming a hostile arrest situation.

l. Potentially Lethal Strikes. In accordance with departmental policy regarding the use of deadly force, potentially lethal strikes shall be avoided unless the officer is subjected to a life-threatening situation. Potentially lethal striking areas include the head, neck, throat, spine, sternum, and groin.

4. RAPID CONTAINMENT BATON TECHNIQUES.

5. Use of Impact Weapons During Civil Disturbances.

- a. The carrying of the RCB during civil disturbances is approved and shall be the primary impact weapon used during these events. The only exceptions are alternate impact weapons utilized by specifically trained SRT personnel.

ANNEX A

RAPID CONTAINMENT BATON EVALUATION MEMORANDUM

State of California

Transportation Agency

Memorandum

Date:

To: Academy
Attention: Physical Training Unit

From: **DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL**
(Command)

File No.:

Subject: RAPID CONTAINMENT BATON EVALUATION

On (Date), (Rank) (First Initial) (Last Name), (ID), was carrying a departmentally issued Rapid Containment Baton (RCB) as part of their assigned duty equipment. (Provide a brief summary explaining how the RCB was damaged and a description of the damage [e.g., Officer J. Smith was involved in a use of force altercation and the mid-shaft was bent]).

The damaged RCB is included with this memorandum for evaluation by the Academy, Physical Training Unit. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact (Rank) (First Name) (Last Name), at (Telephone Number).

(Signature Block)

(Title)

Attachment

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