



USE OF EXPANDABLE BATON

Enforcement Division
Policy Number: 4.02.00

Effective Date: 2/1/08

POLICY

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) authorizes certified peace officers (CPOs) to use an expandable baton to protect himself, herself, or others when a lesser degree of force is impracticable. CPOs will not use expandable batons to intimidate, harass, or punish subjects.

Only CPOs who have been certified through agency-approved expandable baton training will be able to carry and use an expandable Baton. A CPO certified to carry and use an expandable baton may choose an agency-issued 21-inch model or may purchase, at his or her own expense, a 26-inch model.

PROCEDURES

a. Expandable Baton Training.

1. Before carrying an expandable baton, CPOs will receive expandable baton training and certification arranged by the training coordinator.
2. CPOs must maintain their certification by participating at least every two years in recertification training arranged by the training coordinator.
3. The training coordinator will maintain records of the expandable baton certifications of all CPOs.

b. Using an Expandable Baton.

1. CPOs will only use an expandable baton when a lesser degree of force is impracticable.
2. CPOs will only use an expandable baton as necessary to subdue a subject.
3. CPOs will use the expandable baton as instructed during training, unless deadly force is justified.
4. A CPO will only use an expandable baton on a handcuffed subject if the CPO determines that other options are not available or are insufficient to control the subject.
5. If a subject complains of medical problems, CPOs will seek immediate medical assistance for the subject.

- c. **Documentation of Expandable Baton Use.** A CPO who uses an expandable baton on a subject must complete a *Use of Force Report* before the end of his or her shift. Refer to *Use of Force*, § 4.00.00 of this manual.

FORMS AND EXHIBITS

Use of Force Report, Form 4-410