**OC Pepper Spray and Prone Control**

**1.5 Hours**

**COURSE GOAL: Review and teach proper use of OC Spray and Prone Control**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES: Review**

1. Proper use and effects of OC Spray
2. Decontamination procedures and medical issues
3. Proper prone control and reporting use of force

**EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE:**

I. SAFETY ORIENTATION AND WARM-UP

A. Review of Safety Policies and injury precautions

B. Students will participate in warm-up/stretching exercises before physical skills application of OC Pepper spray.

II. USE OF FORCE POLICIES AND LEGAL ISSUES

A. Review policy

B. Reporting use of force

lll. SUSPECT REACTION TO OC PEPPER SPRAY (What Does OC Affect)

A. **Eyes** – Painful burning sensation, Involuntary eye closure, profound tearing, and visual impairment. Eye closure = Best Tactical Advantage

B. **Respiratory System** – Inflammation of mucous membranes,, i.e. lips, nose, tongue, pronounced mucous secretion, coughing, shortness of breath, tightening of chest.

1. **Skin** - Intense burning sensation, possible inflammation, reddening of skin surface
2. **Psychological Effects** – Fear, anxiety, possible panic, hyperventilation

lV. WHAT AN EXPOSURE LOOKS LIKE

A. Level 1 – Direct contamination – sprayed into eyes and face

1. Level 2 – Indirect or secondary contamination – contact with a person who has

been exposed to Level 1.

1. Level 3 – Environmental – In the atmosphere

V. OC PEPPER SPRAY FROM POSITION OF INTERVIEW AND PROPER STANCE

1. Footwork Review: Practice movement exercises and then Spray OC as part of

Physical skills

1. Special considerations for deployment of OC

1. Persons in an elevated position
2. Persons in charge of a vehicle while itr is running
3. Females that are known to be pregnant
4. People that are elderly of infirmed
5. Crowded areas

VI. OC SPRAY PATTERNS

A. **Stream Delivery (Physical Skills)**

1. Spray from ear to ear across the eyes (Very Important)

a. At five feet, the stream delivery has a diameter of six (6) inches

b. If subject wears glasses, spray just above the glasses

c. Stream delivery reduces cross contamination, reduces wind blowback

d. Stream deliver has range of up to 15 – 20 feet

2. a. Review taking proper prone control and handcuffing subject

b. Recovery position and monitoring subject

VII. POST APPLICATION PROCEDURES

1. **Post Application Decontamination**
   1. Reassure subject
      1. Decontaminate (Wet and dry paper towels if applicable, copious amounts of cool water into open eyes)
      2. If significant relief not achieved after 45 minutes contact EMS
      3. If medical condition exists or loses consciousness contact EMS
      4. Should be monitored for two hours
      5. Don’t rub eyes, do not remove subjects contacts, no commercial eyewash, skin crèmes or salves
      6. When using fan or air con to cool face, do not open eyes
2. **Officer Contaminations**
   1. Create safe separation
      1. Slow rythmatic breathing (stay calm)
      2. Ensure backup is on the way if necessary
      3. Notify supervisor
      4. Decontaminate ASAP

**C. Reporting Use of Force for OC Pepper Spray**

1. Topics to include in report
   1. How many at scene, verbal dialogue before and after
   2. Subjects response (or lack of) to commands
   3. Why encounter began and why it couldn’t be avoided
   4. De escalation techniques used before and after if applicable
   5. Document Decontamination process
   6. Details of transportation
   7. BWC and other videos

Vlll. **TESTING/REMEDIATION**

***Testing: Any student scoring below standard on any exercise, as***

***established by the presenter, will be remediated, tested until***

***standard is achieve***