

7-05/010.00 Aerosol Chemical Agents

The following aerosol chemical agents are classified as special weapons:

- Mark 46 (OC) aerosol canister;
- Orthochlorobenzalmalononitrile (CS) + (OC) blend canisters larger than 4 ounces.

The deployment and use of these chemical agents are subject to the provisions of the Custody Division Manual, section 7-08/000.00 "Deployment of Special Weapons."

The use of some of these aerosol chemical agents have the potential to affect those deploying them. For this reason, all personnel should be aware of the possibility of being exposed to the agent. Personnel deploying, OC and OC/CS blend agents classified as "Special Weapons" shall wear Department approved particulate masks during the application of the agent.

The following aerosol chemical agents are not classified as special weapons and may be carried by all personnel:

- Two to four ounce (OC) spray canisters;
- Two to four ounce (OC) foam canisters;
- Two to four ounce OC/CS blend canisters;
- Mark 9 Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) aerosol canister.

Aerosol chemical agents are defensive weapons designed to incapacitate aggressive individuals with no permanent after effects. These weapons allow a subject to be controlled with a minimum of contact on the part of the user.

When dealing with a hostile/violent individual, deputies may use (Personal Carry) aerosol chemical agents without prior authorization, and must notify their immediate supervisor and the watch commander immediately after such use. All incidents involving the use of aerosol chemical agents shall be recorded on the facility log and reported to the unit commander through the watch commander.

All inmates exposed to chemical agents shall be given medical assistance as soon as possible after exposure.

The use of aerosol chemical agents constitutes the use of force. Department policy regarding the use of force shall be complied with, in addition to the other requirements of this section. All members utilizing aerosol chemical agents must do so only when fully justified, and in conformance with:

- Department Manual of Policy and Procedures use of force policies,
- Department Manual of Policy and Procedures, section 5-06/040.45, "Use of Chemical Agents,"
- Custody Division Manual, section 7-08/000.00 "Deployment of Special Weapons."

Members will be considered qualified to use aerosol chemical agents only after successful completion of the Academy course of instruction or upon successful completion of the course of instruction presented under the direction of the Custody Training and Standards Bureau (CTSB). No Department member shall use a chemical agent or variation of a chemical agent in which they have not been certified in its use.

