

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY AND PLANNING DIVISION



December 1, 2015

Dear Connecticut Law Enforcement Agencies,

As many of you are already aware, during the 2014 legislative session the CT General Assembly passed and Governor Malloy signed Public Act 14-149, "An Act Concerning the Use of Electronic Defense Weapons by Police Officers." Under this new law my office is required to collect data gathered on the use of electronic defense weapons by police officers. A full report will be issued summarizing the information collected no later than March 1, 2016.

In particular, Public Act 14-149 requires "each law enforcement agency that authorizes a police officer employed by such agency to use an electronic defense weapon shall: (A) Not later than January 31, 2015 adopt and maintain a written policy that meets or exceeds the model policy developed by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council regarding the use of an electronic defense weapon"; (B) "require police officers to document any use of an electronic defense weapon in use-of-force reports"; (C) "not later than January fifteenth following each calendar year in which an electronic defense weapon is used, prepare an annual report using the form developed and promulgated by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council."

Since the law went into effect, my office has been working with the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy (IMRP) at Central Connecticut State University to collect and maintain the records required under PA 14-149. Recently I asked the IMRP for an update on the collection of the records. Here is the information they have to date:

- 1. The following law enforcement agencies have <u>not</u> submitted a written policy regarding the use of electronic defense weapons: Bethel, Hartford, New Milford, Stamford, Thomaston, and Weston.
- 2. Below is a list of the 28 departments that have submitted the required electronic defense weapon reports. Please note that an electronic defense weapon report must be submitted for each incident, including if an electronic defense weapon is upholstered and only the laser is used. If your agency is not on this list it is because no reports have been submitted.

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Department Name	Number of EDW	Department Name	Number of EDW
	Reports Submitted		Reports Submitted
Ansonia	1	Middletown	8
Berlin	5	Milford	10
Branford	16	Naugatuck	10
Coventry	4	Plainville	2
Danbury	20	Redding	2
East Hartford	34	Ridgefield	2
East Haven	5	Shelton	4
Farmington	5	Torrington	16
Glastonbury	2	Vernon	16
Greenwich	1	Wallingford	1
Groton City	2	West Hartford	6
Hamden	5	Westport	4
Mashantucket	6	Willimantic	3
Meriden	13	Windsor Locks	1

As the end of the year approaches I ask that you submit any outstanding use-of-force reports for electronic defense weapons. Each incident requires a separate form to be completed. For your convenience, an electronic form was developed by the IMRP and a link will be shared with all departments. A PDF form can also be completed and returned to Ken Barone, Policy and Research Specialist at Central Connecticut State University. His contact information is listed below. Public Act 14-149 requires all electronic defense weapon reports for 2015 be submitted no later than **January 15, 2016**.

Ken Barone

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Thank you for your continued efforts throughout this process.

Sincerely,

Mike Lawlor Under Secretary

Office of Policy and Management

Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division