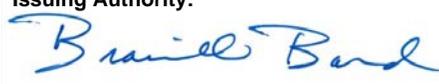


 <p>Cambridge Police Department</p>	POLICY & PROCEDURES		No. 405.1
	Subject/Title: SPECIALTY IMPACT WEAPON AND MUNITIONS SYSTEM (SIWAMS) “40 MM Less Lethal Launcher”		
	Issuing Authority: 		Review Date: February 24, 2020
	Dr. Branville G. Bard, Jr. Police Commissioner		Issue Date: April 3, 2020
		Effective Date: April 3, 2020	Rescinds:
References/ Attachments:		Accreditation Standards:	

I. PURPOSE:

The Department recognizes that police officers are occasionally required to use physical force in order to fully carry out their responsibilities. When confronted with these situations, officers are authorized to use various degrees of force to effectuate a lawful arrest, to ensure public safety, or to protect themselves or others from harm. When faced with these situations, officers must consider force options that are objectively reasonable to maintain or re-establish control of a situation. During some of these encounters, it may be reasonable for officers to deploy a Specialty Impact Weapon and Munition System (SIWAMS) as a force option. SIWAMS require special training and may be implemented in specific situations where officers are attempting to incapacitate or diminish the abilities of a subject, from a safe and extended distance, using a less than lethal force option. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines regarding the use, handling, and training of the SIWAMS. In addition to adhering to this policy, officers shall adhere to the Cambridge Police Department Policy 400.1 regarding Use of Force.

To implement this policy, the Department has developed a training regimen to assist officers in recognizing specific circumstances where a lethal threat has materialized, but other factors reasonably indicate a non-deadly response by officers may also be effective in stopping or diminishing the lethal threat, thus providing an opportunity for officers to successfully gain conclusive control of the subject without using deadly force.

II. POLICY:

It is the policy of the Department to provide requirements for officers regarding the use of force with less-lethal weapons when arresting and restraining individuals. This policy specifically addresses the training, storage, and use of the 40 MM Tactical Single Shot Less Lethal Launcher, Lewis, Machine & Tool Model. All rules, regulations, policies and procedures of the Department are incorporated by reference.

III. DEFINITIONS:

Lethal Cover Officer: A designated officer who is engaged in a lethal threat encounter and ready to deploy a force option that is designed to cause serious bodily harm or death should a less lethal option be ineffective. This may include the display or use of a firearm, patrol rifle, or any other approved tool that is likely to cause serious bodily harm or death to a subject if used by the officer.

“Team” Response Concept: When the Less Lethal Force Philosophy is considered by an officer as a reasonable response to a subject exhibiting lethal threat behavior(s), it is imperative that officers do not put themselves, or others, in unwinnable, dangerous situations. Officers shall be expected to take reasonable and prudent precautions designed to prevent the subject from causing serious bodily harm or death to the officer(s) utilizing less lethal tools, to other officers in the area, or to any other persons. An officer deploying a non-lethal tool while attempting to control a lethal threat subject shall confirm one or more officers are present and ready with an appropriate lethal force response before deploying and/or using any less lethal tool. This “team” response is a necessary precaution to protect the lives of officers and others on scene should the display/deployment of a less lethal tool be ineffective, circumstances within the encounter rapidly change and the threat of deadly force is needed, or immediate action is required to stop an imminent lethal encounter. Examples of an appropriate deadly force response by officers would include, but is not limited to, the display/deployment of an officer’s firearm and/or department patrol rifle. As a last resort, it may become necessary for an officer to deploy a SIWAMS as a deadly force option. This would occur only when the use of a firearm or other deadly force tool by a lethal cover officer malfunctions, would be impractical given the circumstances, or the lethal cover officer becomes incapacitated.

SIWAMS: Special Impact Weapon and Munitions System.

Specialty Impact Munitions: (SIM) are projectiles intended to incapacitate a subject with a reduced potential for causing death or serious physical injury, when compared to conventional projectiles. The SIM projectile for the 40 MM Tactical Single Shot Less Lethal Launcher is known as the "Exact Impact". The Exact Impact is a sponge round, lightweight, high-speed projectile consisting of a plastic body and sponge nose that spin stabilizes via the incorporated rifling collar and the 40 MM launcher’s rifled barrel.

IV. PROCEDURE:

A. Authorized Equipment and Storage:

1. The SIM launching equipment consists of a 40 MM Less Lethal Launcher, Lewis, Machine & Tool Model, Tactical Single Shot Launcher, equipped with International Orange colored stocks and fore-ends. The words "Less-Lethal" are

stenciled on the stock of each shotgun to identify that the less-lethal shotgun is used strictly for exact impact rounds. The launchers shall be dedicated solely to the use of the 40 MM exact impact SIM/SIWAMS projectile.

2. The 40 MM Less Lethal Launcher is a tactical single shot launcher that features an adjustable Integrated Front Grip (IFG) with light rail. The ambidextrous Lateral Sling Mount (LSM) and QD mounting systems allow both a single- and two-point sling attachment. The 40 MM will fire standard 40 MM less lethal ammunition, up to 4.8 inches in cartridge length. The Picatinny Rail Mounting System will accept a wide array of enhanced optics/sighting system.
3. The "Exact Impact" 40 MM round is the only authorized round to be used with the SIWAMS.
4. Station Storage – All non-deployed SIWAMS and SIM will be stored in the department property vault. All SIWAMS will be stored unloaded, with “close chamber” position.
5. Cruiser Storage – All SIWAMS, when carried, will be stored by a SIWAMS qualified officer in a cruiser carrying configuration, which consists of an empty chamber. SIM rounds may be loaded on a tactical deployment vest. The SIWAMS, when not in use, will be secured in the cruiser’s locked container provided in the vehicle storage device (e.g. trunk vault, shotgun/rifle rack).

B. Deployment:

1. Officers that complete all prerequisite training and certification may deploy the SIWAMS when responding to both armed and unarmed subject encounters. When choosing to deploy the SIWAMS, all officers must adhere to this policy, the guidelines set forth in the *Use of Force Policy and Procedure # 400.1* and all applicable training. As a general rule, this system should only be deployed in specific situations where officers are attempting to incapacitate a subject, from a safe and extended distance, using a less than lethal force option.
2. Additional considerations when deciding to deploy the SIWAMS, include, but are not limited to the subject’s means, intent, and ability to resist officers, the operational feasibility of using the SIWAMS (distance, backdrop, etc.), and any other special circumstance surrounding the situation. As always, the deployment of this system should be considered based upon the totality of the circumstances and not a single specific criterion.
3. Officers deploying the SIWAMS are responsible for ensuring the proper munitions are loaded. Officers will inspect each SIM round prior to loading it into the launcher to ensure munitions adhere with this policy.

4. Any officer who deploys the SIWAMS shall notify their direct supervisor of the use as soon as practicable.

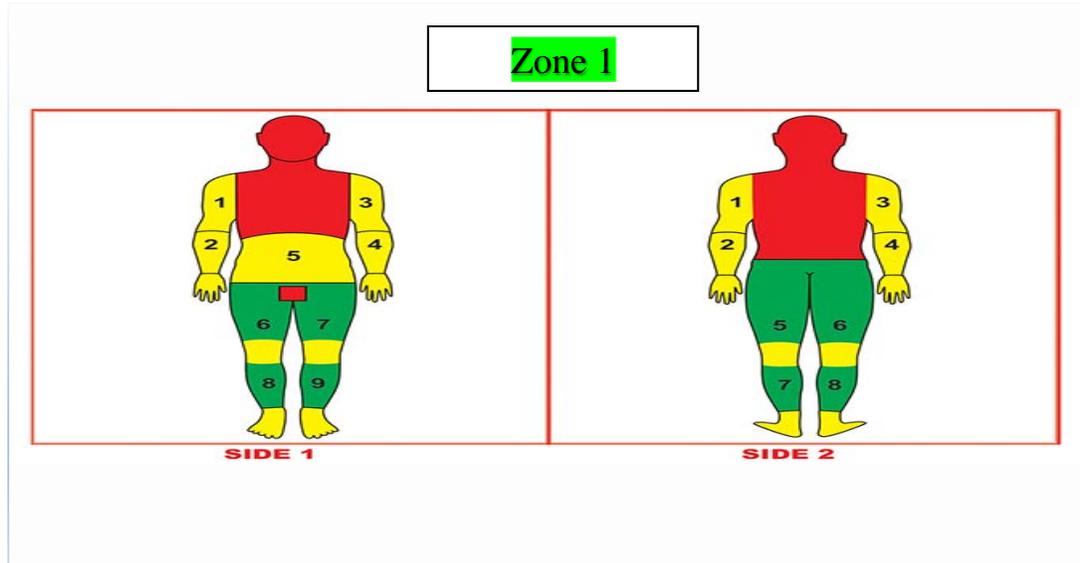
C. Range of SIWAMS:

1. The optimal range of the **SIWAMS round** is approximately 10 feet to 90 feet. Since police operations can be fluid at times, it is not always possible to deploy a SIM within this optimal range.
2. Caution should be used when deploying the SIWAMS from 5 to 10 feet. In situations where deployments are within this range, the officer must consider whether the increased potential for injury to the individual caused using the SIWAMS would be less than the injury the individual is causing themselves or others (i.e. suicidal subject actively harming themselves).
3. **Extreme caution should be used when deploying a SIWAMS round at distances of less than 5 feet. Whenever possible, deployment of a SIWAMS rounds at distances less than 5 feet should be avoided due to the potential for more serious injury.**
4. In recognizing that many factors may prohibit the desired optimal range (10-90 feet), SIWAMS rounds should be deployed only when absolutely necessary for the safety of those affected at the scene. Long-range engagements may erode accuracy or allow a subject to change positions prior to impact. Additionally, energy will decrease over distance and a sufficient amount of energy may not be available to incapacitate the subject.
5. Engagements at distances **less than 45 feet** may deliver extreme energy that may increase the likelihood of incapacitation, but equally increase the risk of penetration or excessive trauma. A high degree of caution should be used in the event the SIWAMS is deployed at an individual who is mobile, particularly if they are relocating quickly (i.e. running, walking fast). This may cause the highly mobile subject to be impacted in an area of extreme risk, such as the head, neck, and spine.
6. Immediately prior to firing the SIWAMS at an individual, officers should, when reasonably practical, verbally and loudly announce, "Less Lethal, Less Lethal, Less Lethal BEING DEPLOYED!" This verbal command is intended to safeguard against possible sympathetic weapons fire by cover officers. When feasible, it is recommended that a cover officer be present on scene and in a position to effectively protect the officer deploying the SIWAMS or others with an appropriate force option for the situation. However, the absence of a cover officer does not prohibit the deployment of the SIWAMS.

EXCEPTION: A verbal warning is not required if giving the warning would compromise the safety of the officer or others. The deploying officer shall document why no announcement was given.

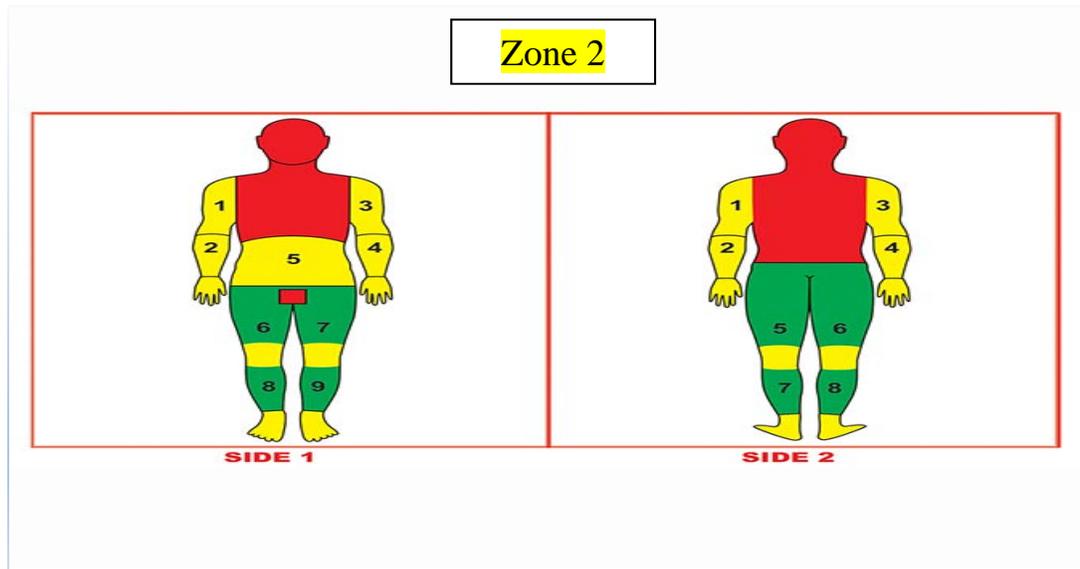
D. Target Areas:

1. Specialty Impact Munitions (SIM) will be delivered to a suspect's particular target area based on the totality of the circumstances at the scene of deployment, the established safety priorities, and the level of reasonable force needed to establish and/or maintain control of the situation.



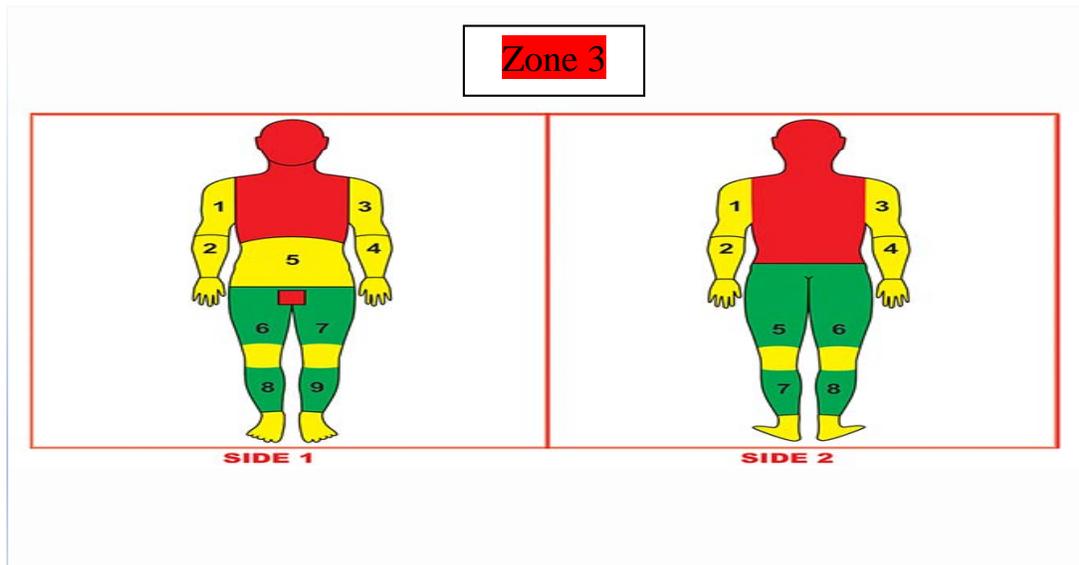
2. Zone 1 (Primary Targeting Area)

- a) Zone 1 is the area that has the greatest amount of muscle mass and least number of vital organs. When the threat level is appropriate and this zone is viable, it should be considered first due to its lower potential for injury and the ability to still cause painful stimuli. Zone I include the buttocks, thigh, and calf.



3. Zone 2 (Secondary Targeting Area)

- a) Zone 2 has a greater potential for injury when struck by a SIM, which is due to the area's lack of muscle density. Zone 2 should purposefully targeted only if Zone 1 is unavailable due to the dynamics of the encounter, previous impact(s) to Zone 1 are ineffective, or the officer reasonably believes the subject would not be affected by an impact to Zone 1. Zone 2 is the abdominal area and groin area.



4. Zone 3 (Third Area for Targeting — SBI/Lethal Threat)

- a) Zone 3 carries the greatest potential for a serious bodily injury or death to the subject. This zone should only be targeted when the officer deploying

the SIM reasonably believes the subject poses an imminent lethal threat and the lethal cover officer(s) are unable or prevented from engaging the subject. Zone 3 may also be targeted in very limited circumstances where impacts to Zone 1 and 2 were ineffective and the subject’s continued actions pose significant risk to the officers or others. Zone 3 includes the chest (center mass), spine, head, neck, and kidney area.

5. Additional Potential Target Areas

- a) The shoulders and arms lack muscle density due to the fact that these areas are constructed primarily of the skeletal system. Due to their lack of muscle density, the shoulders and arms have a limited ability to absorb kinetic energy from a SIM round and transfer that energy appropriately to the body. There may be situations where the shoulders/arms are the only viable areas presenting themselves as targets in an encounter, but because of their mobility, careful consideration should be given before aiming at them.

E. Handling Suspects After Deployment of SIWAMS:

- 1. All subjects impacted with a SIM round should be controlled and restrained by officers as soon as tactically feasible. After the subject is conclusively controlled and the scene is rendered safe, the subject shall be provided appropriate medical treatment by officers on the scene until EMS personnel arrive. Injuries sustained from a SIM round impact may not be visible to officers, nor may a subject always be aware they have been injured. Therefore, EMS shall be requested for all subjects impacted by a SIM and shall be medically cleared by EMS personnel or transported to medical facility for treatment before they are brought to CPD.

F. Less Lethal Training and Authorization to Carry and Deploy “SIWAMS”

- 1. Only officers who have completed the prescribed course of instruction on the use of department issued SIWAMS, passed requisite testing, and have demonstrated proficiency in its use are authorized to carry and/or deploy the SIWAMS system. Such instruction shall contain a review of the Cambridge Police Department's Use of Force policies and the MPTC’s Use of Force curriculum.
- 2. SIWAMS operators are required to receive annual refresher training and pass the requisite testing in the use and deployment of the SIWAM system. Operators are required to demonstrate proficiency in the use of SIWAMS in order to re-certify. The training will also review the Department's Use of Force Policies and MPTC Use of Force curriculum.

3. Department personnel authorized to deploy with SIWAMS shall be required to maintain departmental and MPTC proficiency standards.
4. SIWAMS proficiency and safety testing shall normally be held once a year during firearms proficiency testing.
5. Any member failing to meet departmental SIWAMS proficiency and safety standards shall be scheduled to attend remedial SIWAMS training session, during which he/she will be given additional attempts to meet departmental SIWAMS proficiency and safety standards.
6. The required impact weapon qualification course and departmental shotgun proficiency standards shall be developed by the Department Firearms Training in conjunction with any standards set by the MPTC.

G. Reporting Procedures:

1. Deployment of the SIWAMS against an individual or individuals shall be documented with both a departmental "Use of Force" report and QED incident report as soon as practicable and in accordance with the Department's Use of Force reporting policies and procedures.¹ The same reporting procedure shall also be conducted following any other discharges of SIWAMS, except during testing and/or training. Any unintentional discharge of the SIWAMS shall also be communicated immediately to the officer's direct supervisor and a written report submitted as soon as practicable.
2. When a member of the Department discharges the SIWAMS, except during testing and/or training, the incident will be reviewed in accordance with the Department's Use of Force reporting policies and procedures. A copy of the incident report shall also be directed to the Firearms Training Section and Armorer forthwith by the SIWAMS operator's direct supervisor.

¹ See *Policy & Procedure #400.1 – Use of Force V.B.2.: Pointing of a Firearm at Another Individual(s)*: “The mere production of a weapon or the pointing of a firearm, even if coupled with a threat to cause death or serious bodily harm, does not constitute the use of deadly force so long as its purpose is limited to creating an apprehension of harm, rather than actual harm. Although these actions are not specifically defined as an actual use of force, any officer who points a firearm at another individual shall be required to fully document the incident in a Use of Force Report, using reporting guidelines and review process set forth in Section IV of Policy #401– *Use of Force Reporting*.”

H. SIWAMS Replacement and Maintenance Policies:

1. The Armorer shall be responsible for all maintenance of the SIWAMS. All SIWAMS deployments shall be reported directly by the SIWAMS operator’s direct supervisor to the Armorer as soon as practicable so that replacement rounds can be provided, and maintenance performed.
2. SIWAMS operators who become aware of any and all problems with the SIWAMS **should directly report such problems to the Armorer as soon as practicable.**
3. The Armorer shall inspect all SIWAMS systems every ninety (90) days.

E. Evidence Procedures:

1. All primary components of the expended 40mm round, to include the sponge nose cone with the rifling ring, and the casing shall be collected and submitted into evidence. This should be collected after scene is secure
2. Any impact munition rounds that have blood and/or body-fluid on them should be treated as if they are contaminated with an infectious disease and processed and handled according to evidence collection guidelines.
3. If the SIWAMS is discharged for a non-testing or training purpose, the 40mm Launcher shall be removed from service and immediately submitted to the Crime Scene Services Section and then the Armorer for appropriate inspections.
4. Any body impact areas, except for the groin area, associated with an impact munition deployment shall be photographed when practicable.

V. CONCLUSION

SIWAMS operators must adhere to all legal standards, training protocols and Departmental policies and procedures when utilizing force, including deployment of the SIWAMS. In the event the reader needs clarification on any subject matter contained herein, they shall request said clarification from a superior officer, forthwith.