



**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Institutions**



Title:	OC Spray Projectors – General Population	DOC Policy: 40.1.10
Effective	1/1/14	Supersedes: 2/15/04
Applicability: Institutions		
Directives Cross-Reference: Rule: Use of Force – Div 013		
Attachment: Chemical Agent Deployment Form (CD 1435)		

I. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for carrying and utilizing Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray projectors by staff in correctional environment as an offensive and/or defensive chemical device. Any use of OC spray shall be in accordance with the department’s rule on **Use of Force** (OAR 291-013)

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Accidental Discharge: A condition where OC is discharged from the container through a faulty apparatus, or is otherwise unintentionally discharge.
- B. Direct exposure: A condition where OC is applied directly into the eyes, nose, and mouth (face) of another.
- C. Functional Unit Manager (FUM): Any person within the Department of Corrections who reports to the Director, an Assistant Director or administrator and has responsibility for delivery of program services or coordination of program operations.
- D. Institution Security Manager: The institution manager responsible for the overall institution security program.
- E. Line of Duty Discharge: The intentional application of OC spray to a person, or persons to achieve a legitimate correctional objective.
- F. Officer-in-Charge (OIC): That person designated by the functional unit manager to supervise and make overall operational decisions at the correctional facility in accordance with department rule, policy or procedure.
- G. Oleoresin Capsicum (OC): Oil and resin extracted from plants of the genus capsicum whose active ingredient is the capsaicin, which is derived and commonly referred to as hot peppers or pepper spray.
- H. Personal Decontamination: Steps taken to mitigate the effects of OC spray through the use of open air, wet towels, showers, change of clothing, and medical attention.
- I. Secondary Exposure: A condition where OC is deployed into the atmosphere, or a designated space, that is not a direct exposure, usually associated with training. A

secondary exposure may also occur in conjunction with a primary exposure as experienced during a use of force or separately.

III. POLICY

The Assistant Director of Operations will determine the need and distribution of authorized OC projectors for all correctional institutions and Transport Units, based on facility custody level, inmate classification(s) of those supervised, architecture/surroundings, potential exposure to others, and other available alternatives to accomplish correctional objectives where OC projectors are authorized for distribution:

- A. Prior to implementing, the functional unit manager will develop a procedure that includes the following:
 - 1. Tracking how OC spray is issued (i.e., key chits or staff equipment inventory form).
 - 2. Staff, work assignment, position, or location authorized to carry OC spray.
- B. Staff assigned to carry an OC projector will be required to successfully complete the current agency approved training certification program course. Use of the chemical agent will be done in accordance with the rule on **Use of Force** (OAR 291-013). Staff that have not completed this training are not authorized to carry or use an OC projector, and are obligated to notify the OIC for possible reassignment.
- C. The institution security manager will maintain a list of qualified staff that are available to the OIC.
- D. All OC projectors will be controlled and accounted for at all times.
 - 1. All OC projectors will be visually inspected, by the recipient, to ensure the nozzle is clear of any debris or condensation.
 - 2. Any discrepancies shall be immediately reported to the OIC.
 - 3. The projector will be holstered on the duty belt in accordance with training expectations.
 - 4. Each staff member assigned to carry OC spray is responsible for its accountability and proper use while acting within his or her official capacity.
- E. OC spray issued to staff shall meet the following standard: three to four ounce aerosol streamers containing up to a 10% non-flammable manufactures stated OC solution. Any deviation from this standard must be approved by the Assistant Director of Operations/designee.
- F. Discharge of an OC projector requires the assigned staff to report the following information utilizing the Chemical Agent Deployment form (CD 1435) to the OIC:
 - 1. Time and date of incident
 - 2. Person(s) OC spray was applied to
 - 3. Correctional objective/reason for use

4. Staff member who deployed the chemical agent
 5. Method of deployment
 6. Whether warning was/was not given
 7. Amount deployed
 8. Recorded results
 9. Disposition of canister
 10. Decontamination steps
 11. Inmate observation
 12. Medical assessment
 13. Names of any staff who receive a direct or secondary exposure and treatment provided.
- G. The OIC/designee will be responsible to ensure that the appropriate methods of disposal and inventory adjustments occur following the use of an OC spray projector.
- H. Accidental or Negligent Discharge: An employee who is involved in an accidental or negligent discharge will notify the OIC immediately and submit a detailed memo to the institution security manager or assistant superintendent of security regarding the accidental discharge.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

This policy will be adopted immediately without further modification.

Certified: signature on file
Birdie Worley, Rules Coordinator

Approved: signature on file
Mitch Morrow, Deputy Director