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19-020
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Sabre Red OC (Re-issue DB 17-029)

The purpose of this bulletin is to reinforce the training points related to the use of department issued Sabre Red OC.

Sabre Red OC (Oleoresin Capsicum), is the liquid chemical agent currently being issued to SFPD sworn members.

Sabre Red Specifications:

- Each canister contains ten (10) one second bursts of OC.
- The **maximum** distance of the stream is 12-15 feet.
- To avoid back splash and eye damage to the suspect, the **minimum** distance is 3 - 6 feet.
- The canister can be deployed at any angle and does not need to be shaken prior to deployment.
- The color of the Sabre Red OC is red.
- Sabre Red has 1.33% Major Capsaicinoids Content and is seven (7) times hotter than the previously issued OC (.18%).
- There is an ultraviolet marking dye that is detectable on skin and clothing up to 48 hours after deployment.

Incident Report:

There are two numbers on the bottom of each canister, to the right of the expiration date. The **top number** is the **batch number** and the **bottom number** is the **serial number**. **Members shall include both the batch and serial numbers in the incident report when deploying Sabre Red OC.** If the numbers become illegible, members shall respond to the Property Control Unit to obtain a new OC Canister. Members should memorialize these numbers for future reference. Sabre Red is unable to defend the department or its members during a civil suit if these numbers are not documented.


The use of a liquid chemical agent is an intermediate use of force, and members should clearly explain the suspect's resistance to arrest or detention. Members need to describe the threat posed by the suspect to the officer and/or public. Additionally, in instances where members deploy Sabre Red OC outside of the above listed recommendations, members shall clearly articulate in the narrative section of the incident report all reasons for doing so. For example, "Because the suspect was running towards me at full speed with clenched fists, I deployed OC at the suspect inside the recommended minimum distance of 3 - 6 feet."

Use of force at scene:

- If a member deploys Sabre Red OC on or near someone, it is a reportable use of force.
- After handcuffing and sitting the suspect in an upright position, members shall decontaminate the suspect by flushing his/her eyes out with water and ventilate with fresh air.
- Members shall request an ambulance for medical assessment to determine if medical evaluation is necessary.
- Members shall notify supervisor.
- Members shall document the use of force in the incident report, booking card, and use of force log.

Members are reminded to review D.G.O. 5.01, Use of Force. Members with questions about the information contained in this Department Bulletin should contact the PT/DT staff at the Police Academy, (415) 401-4600.

Officers assigned to the Airport Bureau shall complete a Uniform and Equipment Replacement memo requesting a replacement Sabre Red OC when the batch number or serial number is illegible.


WILLIAM SCOTT
Chief of Police

Per DB 17-080, sworn members are required to electronically acknowledge receipt and review of this Department Bulletin in HRMS.