



**Las Cruces Police Department
GENERAL ORDERS
FIELD OPERATIONS VOLUME 2
GO-212 BATON
Revised 5/5/2008**

212 BATON

POLICY

The baton is intended to be used against an aggressive, unarmed subject when physical force has failed or has been determined by the officer to be inadequate or inadvisable. The baton shall be carried only by authorized Departmental personnel trained in its use.

PROCEDURE

- A. An officer is not obligated to use physical restraint on an unarmed, aggressive subject who is obviously a danger or stronger than the officer. Use of the baton is recommended.
- B. Officers on duty and in uniform who are trained in the use of a baton will carry a baton at all times when engaged in a police activity that may require a custodial action.
- C. The baton is capable of delivering strikes to stun or incapacitate an aggressive subject. It is capable of delivering lethal or permanently disabling strikes. Strikes above the shoulders must be avoided whenever possible.
- D. Batons will not be altered in any manner without authorization by the Chief of Police or his / her designee.