



TOWN OF SENECA FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER



GENERAL ORDER #: 332	RESCINDS: New
SUBJECT: BOLAWRAP REMOTE RESTRAINT DEVICE	NYS ACCREDITATION: 20.1, 20.6, 32.4, 33.4
EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/24/2021	
BY ORDER OF: Stuart W. Peenstra, Chief of Police	

- I. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this order is to provide guidelines for the issuance and use of Bolawrap 100 device in order to facilitate a safe and effective response to minimize injury to suspects, subjects, and police officers.
- II. **POLICY:** It is the policy of the Seneca Falls Police Department for members to use only that level of force which is objectively reasonably necessary based on the totality of the circumstances to control or otherwise subdue a violent or potentially violent person(s). The Bolawrap 100 device is a less lethal handheld remote restraint device intended to immobilize and control resistive and non-compliant persons. The Bolawrap 100 device discharges an eight-foot bola style Kevlar tether to temporarily restrain an individual at a range of 10-25 feet.
 - A. Officers are allowed to use and deploy the Bolawrap 100 device as approved by the Seneca Falls Police Department and subject to the provisions of NYS PL Article 35 and Seneca Falls Police Department General Orders
 - B. The use of the Bolawrap 100 device will be limited to the degree of force which is reasonably necessary to provide protection for the Officer, the subject, a third party, and/or to effect a legal arrest.
 - C. All applications of the Bolawrap 100 device should only be applied to a subject(s) who is non-compliant and passively or actively resistant. The device can be applied on a subject who is violent, assaultive or armed. Lastly, this device can be applied on a subject that has demonstrated, by words or action, an intention to be violent or to physically resist, and reasonably appears to present the potential to harm officers, him/herself or others.
 - D. Due to the low-level of force being used, the Bolawrap 100 device may be used on the same subject multiple times. If the first application of the device appears to be ineffective in gaining control of the individual, the officer should consider certain factors before administering an additional application. The officer should consider if the application has made proper contact or is there any other option/tactic that may be more effective to mitigate the situation.

III. **DEFINITIONS:**

- A. **Bolawrap 100 device-** A less lethal Hand-held remote restraint device that discharges an eight-foot bola style Kevlar tether to temporarily restrain an individual at a range of 10-25 feet.
- B. **Bolawrap Instructor/Coordinator-** Members qualified by Bolawrap to train, instruct and certify users of the device and its contents. Responsible for the accountability of equipment, certifications and training. This position shall be appointed by the Chief of Police
- C. **Bolawrap Operator-** Members who have successfully completed the training prescribed by Bolawrap and the Seneca Falls Police Department.
- D. **Actively Pointing-** The intentional targeting of a person with a temporary restraint device, impact weapon, impact projectile or chemical agent.
- E. **Physical Injury-** Impairment of physical condition or substantial pain.
- F. **Pre-shift Inspection-** Should be performed at the beginning of each shift and if the device is dropped. The purpose of the pre-shift inspection is to ensure that all components of the device are functioning properly.
- G. **Patrol Ready-** The mode that the device should be carried on. The device will have a cartridge loaded with the safety engaged and the charging handle will not be charged until the device is ready to be deployed.

IV. **PROCEDURE:**

A. **AUTHORIZED USERS:**

- a. Only a department-approved Bolawrap 100 device that has been issued by the Department shall be utilized by an officer.
- b. Only members authorized and approved by the Chief of Police may carry the Bolawrap device and;
- c. Only those Officers who have satisfactorily completed an approved Bolawrap basic training course will be authorized to carry the device.
- d. Bolawrap Operators will annually complete re-certification training with the Bolawrap device.
- e. Civilian members are prohibited from carrying or deploying the Bolawrap device.

B. **WEAPON READINESS:**

- a. The Bolawrap 100 device and cartridges will be stored inside of the approved case at all times unless the device is being deployed into the field for real time use. The officer(s) may transfer the Bolawrap 100 device to their person when necessary prior to deployment.
- b. At the beginning of each shift, the Bolawrap 100 device will be assigned to a member of the road patrol division by a supervisor or the designated officer in charge. At the end of each shift the device and approved case will be brought into Rm 112 File/Supply Room where it will be stored in the

designated less lethal locker #1 until it is issued back out for duty use. The Bolawrap 100 Device tracking log will be kept in locker #1 and will be used to track the chain of custody for the device. (Ex. 806 turning device over to 818 at the start of shift.)

- c. Officers shall be responsible for ensuring that the issued Bolawrap 100 device is properly maintained and in good working order at the beginning of each shift by conducting a pre-shift inspection of the device and cartridge(s).
- d. To prevent the accidental discharge of a firearm, officers **WILL NOT** aim both a firearm and the Bolawrap 100 device at an individual at the same time.

C. CARE AND MAINTENANCE:

- a. The Bolawrap device shall always be pointed in a safe direction, in accordance with departmental and Bolawrap training.
- b. Prior to operational deployment, members shall ensure the proper functioning of the unit to include visual inspection of the device and cartridge(s). The pre-shift inspection and patrol-ready mode will be conducted outside of general public view in the men's or women's locker room where the spark test is done for the Taser.
- c. The designated test zone for the Seneca Falls Police Department will be the men & women's locker room. The Bolawrap 100 device will be pointed toward the sheetrock for the test and the member will be standing 10 feet away from the sheetrock wall.
- d. Bolawrap CR 1/3 N batteries are **NOT** rechargeable. During the pre-shift inspection the member will verify proper function of the green line laser. If the battery is low/dead, the green line laser will begin to blink. Certified operators of the device may change the batteries in accordance with the training provided. Spare batteries for the device will be stored in designated less lethal locker #1.
- e. Members should avoid prolonged exposure to or submersion into a significant amount of water. If a water exposure should happen then the cartridge will be removed and transitioned into a training set. The battery cover and batteries will be removed so that the safety can be disengaged and the device can be cocked. The device shall be removed from service until inspected and returned to service by the Bolawrap Coordinator.
- f. Members will immediately report to a supervisor, any malfunctions or defects. This shall be done in person, followed up by the completion of a "Equipment Repair/Replacement Form" located in PlanIt.
- g. No alterations or modifications shall be made to the Bolawrap 100 device and all major repairs will be conducted by an authorized vendor.
- h. Any discharge, either intentionally or unintentionally shall be reported immediately to a supervisor. The reporting process will be consistent with Seneca Falls Police Department Policy & Procedure.

- i. Bolawrap Instructors/Coordinators are responsible for the care and maintenance of all Bolawrap 100 device(s). They are further responsible for the replacement of cartridges and tracking the issuances of the device(s) and cartridges on the Seneca Falls Police Department Weapon Inventory list (All devices and cartridges will be entered into Spillman under equipment). All extra cartridges can be located in designated less lethal locker #1.

A. DEPLOYMENT OF BOLAWRAP 100 DEVICE:

- a. Officers are not authorized to draw or display the Bolawrap 100 device other than when the officer determines, based on the totality of the circumstances, to be a justified use of force or for an authorized training purpose.
- b. In preparation for firing, the Bolawrap 100 device will be first pointed at the ground, the safety then taken off and the green line laser used as the primary aiming device.
- c. Officers will target primary or secondary areas of the body consistent with Bolawrap training and Seneca Falls Police Department training guidelines.
- d. When possible, attempts should be made to avoid hitting the subject in sensitive tissue areas such as the head, face, neck, groin, or female breast area. Bolawrap 100 device users should attempt to target the mid-thigh area and below to achieve maximum immobility. If the situation presents itself, it is also permitted to target the wrist to elbow area when the subject's hands and arms are down at their sides.
- e. A verbal warning of "Bola, Bola, Bola" should precede a Bolawrap 100 device application, unless it would otherwise endanger the safety of officers or when it is otherwise not practical due to the totality of the circumstances. The purpose of the warning is to provide the individual with a reasonable opportunity to voluntarily comply as well as provide other officers and individuals with a warning that the Bolawrap 100 device may be deployed.
- f. The fact that a verbal or visual warning was given, or the reasons it was not, shall be documented by the officer deploying the Bolawrap 100 device in the appropriate report.
- g. The Bolawrap 100 device, like the TASER (CEW), baton, OC spray and empty hand techniques may not be effective in every situation. Officers must assess the effectiveness in each application and determine whether further applications are warranted or a different tactic should be deployed.
- h. The subject should be secured as soon as practical while immobilized by the Bolawrap 100 device to minimize the need for additional deployment cycles.

- i. If possible, prior to the use of the Bolawrap 100 device, an announcement on the radio should be made. Dispatch will acknowledge this broadcast and repeat the announcement. This is to alert other officers that the Bolawrap 100 device is being deployed or has already been deployed and that it is not mistaken as a gunshot.
- j. Due to the very minor risk of injury, EMS may not even be necessary however it is up to the deploying officer or supervisor on scene to make the determination for the presence of EMS post deployment.
- k. Backup officers should accompany the Bolawrap 100 device operator and will be designated as contact and cover. When practical, at least one back-up officer present should be designated to control/handcuff under power.
- l. The Bolawrap 100 device is not a replacement for the firearm. Consider having lethal cover or other reasonable and appropriate force options available when practical for officers or third parties involved in the incident.
- m. The optimal effective range of the Bolawrap 100 device is 10-20 feet. The minimum effective range is 10 feet and this is due to the Kevlar cord needing at least 10 feet to fully deploy. The maximum effective range is 25 feet. There is only one cartridge specially designed for this device and these ranges. Deploying officers should ensure that there is 3-4-foot radius of unobstructed space around the subject before deploying the device.
- n. Each deployment of the Bolawrap 100 device should be used as a “window of opportunity” to attempt to establish control or handcuff the subject while the subject is immobilized by the Bolawrap 100 device cycle.
- o. The need for multiple deployments may be avoided, if contact officers are available, by controlling and handcuffing the subject while under restraint.
- p. As with any application of force, each wrap or deployment must be legally justified.
- q. As in all uses of force, certain individuals may be more susceptible to injury. Officers should be aware of the greater potential for injury when the Bolawrap 100 device is deployed against children, the elderly, persons with small stature irrespective of age, or those who the member has reason to believe are pregnant, or in obvious ill health.
- r. The use of the Bolawrap 100 device on the individuals listed below should generally be avoided, unless an officer reasonably believes under the totality of the circumstances that other options would be ineffective or would present a greater danger to the officer, the subject, or others:
 - i. Individuals who are known to be pregnant.
 - ii. Elderly individuals or obvious juveniles.
 - iii. Individuals who are handcuffed or otherwise restrained.

- iv. Individuals detained in a police vehicle.
 - v. Individuals in danger of falling or becoming entangled in machinery or heavy equipment, which could result in death or serious bodily injury.
 - vi. Individuals near any body of water that may present a drowning risk.
 - vii. Individuals whose position or activity may result in collateral injury (e.g., falls from height, operating vehicles)
 - viii. The Bolawrap 100 device is not to be used punitively or for purpose of coercion.
 - ix. The aiming laser should never be intentionally directed into the eyes of another as it may permanently impair his/her vision.
 - x. Under exigent circumstances, nothing in this policy prohibits an officer from deploying the Bolawrap 100 at a subject without requesting or having the presence of additional officers.
- s. Factors that may be considered when considering use of the Bolawrap 100 device in deadly physical force situations with lethal cover include, but are not limited to:
- i. The amount of time the officer has to react to a threat.
 - ii. The officer's relative proximity to the person posing the threat.
 - iii. The officer's ability to isolate the person posing the threat.
 - iv. The limitations of the Bolawrap 100 device, and the manner in which it is being deployed.
 - v. The belief that the application is likely to be successful.
 - vi. Simultaneous applications of the Bolawrap 100 on a single individual by multiple devices is allowed in authorized target areas.

V. POST DEPLOYMENT AND AFTERCARE:

- a. The Bolawrap 100 Device anchors must be removed from the subject by a certified, trained Bolawrap user or instructor employed by the Town of Seneca Falls Police Department. Such removal must be done in accordance with mandated training set forth by Bolawrap. The user/instructor will cut the Kevlar cord utilizing a pair of trauma shears or similar approved instrument such as the cutting pliers located in the rear of every patrol vehicle. Given the totality of the circumstances, the anchors may also be simply removed from the subject and the cord can be easily unwrapped.
- b. This will be done only after the subject has been restrained using procedures outlined during training. Universal precautions will be followed to protect the officer from the transfer of bodily fluids. In the event that one of

the anchors penetrates a sensitive tissue area (i.e. groin, spinal column, eye, female breast, genitalia; male or female face, or neck) or part of the anchor is still in the subject after removal is attempted, the subject will be taken to an emergency care facility for removal of the anchor(s).

- c. The same applies to cases where the deploying officer or their supervisor determines that it is otherwise necessary. The officer will not transport the subject via police vehicle. The subject will be transported to a medical facility for treatment via ambulance.
- d. Photographs of the affected area(s) must be taken before and after the anchor(s) have been removed. Any secondary injuries as a result of the deployment will be photographed as well.
- e. If a subject is to be secured at a detention facility, the detention booking staff will be notified that the subject had a Bolawrap 100 device deployed on them. The detention facility staff will be advised of the method of deployment, any injuries suffered and the location of any anchor contact. The detention facility staff will also be advised of the medical treatment rendered to the subject and by whom.
- f. The officer that deployed the Bolawrap 100 device (or his/her designee) will collect the cartridge, Kevlar cord and anchors, as evidence. The anchors and Kevlar cord shall be secured in the empty cartridge and clearly marked as a biohazard. Treat anchors that have penetrated the body as contaminated needles (wear gloves when in contact with deployed anchors). The anchors and cord that fail to contact the subject's body will be collected by a Bolawrap 100 device user or supervisor and entered into evidence.
- g. Officers will notify a supervisor regarding all Bolawrap 100 device deployments. The reporting process will be consistent with a verbal discussion of the incident as well as the reporting process consistent with Seneca Falls Police Department Policy and Procedure.
- h. Following an operational deployment, the supervisor will ensure proper procedures are followed.
- i. The shift supervisor, or officer in his/her absence, will notify the Lieutenant of all Bolawrap 100 device deployments.

VI. REPORTING:

- a. A Seneca Falls Police Department "Subject Resistance Report" (SRR) will be completed in the LEFTA System following any Bolawrap 100 device deployment. Included on this report will be the deploying member's point of aim, the point of contact made by the device and/or its anchor(s) upon the subject, whether penetration of the skin was made, and any medical attention that was provided.
- b. The deploying officer will complete the appropriate reports as described in Seneca Falls Police Department Policy & Procedure G.O. 335 "Use of

Force.”

- c. In addition to completing the above mentioned reports, a copy of the subject resistance report will be forwarded to the Lead Bolawrap Instructor/Coordinator so that he/she can submit a field usage report to Wrap Industries for product feedback and the gathering of field use data.

VII. DOCUMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS:

a. The unintentional discharge, pointing the device at a person and laser activation will also be documented as a use of force.

b. The following will be documented on the field usage report and subject resistance report:

- i. The Bolawrap 100 device and cartridge serial numbers when the device is discharged.
- ii. Date, time and location of the incident.
- iii. Whether any display or laser deterred a subject and gained compliance.
- iv. The number of Bolawrap 100 device activations and the duration between activations.
- v. The range at which the device was utilized.
- vi. Location of impact for any or each deployment.
- vii. Description of where a missed deployment impacted or traveled.
- viii. Whether medical care was administered to the subject.
- ix. Whether the subject sustained any injuries.
- x. Observations of the subject’s physical and physiological actions.
- xi. Whether any officers sustained any injuries.
- xii. Any known or suspected substance abuse to include medical problems.

VIII. TRAINING:

- a. Officer authorized to carry the Bolawrap 100 device must have satisfactorily completed this agency’s basic training course and/or the manufacturer’s certification course, as well as use of force training.
 - i. Officers will use the only Bolawrap 100 device issued by the Seneca Falls Police department only after they have demonstrated proficiency.
 - ii. Officers that are unable to demonstrate proficiency and qualify with the authorized device, must attend and successfully complete remedial training prior to being allowed to inspect, carry, or deploy the unit or remove the anchors.

- iii. When practical, the Bolawrap instructor shall immediately conduct remedial training in an effort to correct any observed deficiencies.
- iv. If a deficiency is not able to be corrected by the officers next tour of duty the instructor shall notify the officers immediate supervisor regarding duty status. Remedial training shall be rescheduled as soon as practical. The supervisor shall keep the Lieutenant advised on the officer's training status.
- v. All remedial training will be documented.
- vi. A failure to demonstrate proficiency after reasonable remedial training has been provided may serve as the basis for disciplinary action.

IX. MANUFACTURERS RECOMMENDATIONS AND WARNINGS:

- a. Avoid dropping the Bolawrap 100 device or cartridge. If the device or cartridge is dropped or damaged it may unintentionally discharge, become inoperable or fail to function as designed rendering it unsafe to use.
- b. Store in safe mode and when not in use remove cartridge and make sure the device is not in firing mode (device is not cocked).
- c. Always deploy the Bolawrap 100 device within the recommended range which is 10 to 25 feet. DO NOT DEPLOY AT LESS THAN 10 FEET.
- d. Always aim at the recommended target zones which are mid-thigh area and below to restrain feet and legs or between elbows and waist to restrain arms. Deploying the device at a zone not recommended by Bolawrap is in violation of policy and may not serve as an effective temporary restraint.
- e. In the event of skin penetration, verify all pieces of the anchor+ are removed by observing the removed anchor and ensuring it is complete.
- f. Avoid direct eye exposure and never aim a laser at a subject's eyes. Never aim the laser at an aircraft or the operator of an aircraft or moving vehicle.
- g. Unprotected, repeated exposure to the Bolawrap 100 device deployment can cause hearing damage. Wear ear protection in a practice or training environment to guard against such damage.
- h. The target may not always be effectively restrained due to several factors in any given situation where the device may be deployed. Always be prepared to transition to other agency approved control tactics or to refresh the device and redeploy. This goes for the possibility of an equipment malfunction as well.
- i. In the event of a missed target or detached anchor, the tether and anchors can travel a significant distance (up to approximately 100 feet) causing injury. Always be sure the target is within range and consider the possibility of injury to bystanders in or beyond the line of deployment. It is also a possibility that an anchor may become untethered and likewise travel a significant distance causing injury.
- j. Do not use a cartridge with a missing cover or with no blank cartridge. Repair or modification by an unauthorized person may cause misfire or malfunction and will

void the warranty.

- k.** For proper function and to avoid voiding the warranty only use Wrap Technology approved cartridges and accessories.
- l.** Keep the cartridge bay clean and free of debris. The Bolawrap 100 device is intended for the rapid refresh and redeployment of cartridges. Keeping this area clean and free of loose debris will ensure that the device doesn't misfire.