



John W. Mays, Executive Director
National Animal Control Association
P.O. Box 480851
Kansas City, MO 64148
Phone: 913-768-1319
Fax: 913-768-1378
naca@nacanet.org

Personnel Training and Safety – Use of Electro Muscular Disruption Device (EMDD) on Animals

Approved: 6/04/05

Revised: 5/17/06; 10/15/09

Guideline Statement

The use of any EMDD (more commonly known by the trade name "Taser") is not recommended by NACA for use on animals for routine capture or restraint. NACA acknowledges that departments may issue EMDDs as a defensive tool to provide Animal Control Officers with non-lethal force in response to aggressive humans or dogs in accordance with agency training, policies and procedures. EMDD's should never be used on domestic cats or other small animals.

Basis for Guideline

NACA recognizes the use of certain weapons originally designed for human restraint may cause serious injury or death to animals in situations of normal use. There is no current data to support the use of any EMDD on animals for routine capture or restraint. NACA does not support the use of these instruments in normal animal control activities. The use of such equipment may lead to serious liability.

Guideline Recommendations

NACA does not recommend the use of any EMDD for the routine capture or restraint of animals. NACA recommends that no Animal Control Officer be permitted to carry or use an EMDD without species-specific training. NACA further recommends that any agency approving the use of this device for animals must have a written policy which includes a deployment protocol, humane veterinary care treatment provisions and a prohibition on use against domestic cats or other small animals.

The foregoing Guideline has been affirmed as duly adopted by the NACA Board of Directors.

John W. Mays

John W. Mays
Executive Director
National Animal Control Association