


<b>PBP FORM 290</b>  <b>PITTSBURGH BUREAU OF POLICE</b> <i>"...accountability, integrity and respect."</i>		<b>SUBJECT:</b> <b>"BATONS/NIGHTSTICKS"</b>		<b>ORDER NUMBER:</b> <b>12-14</b>	
		<b>PLEAC STANDARD:</b> <b>1.3.4</b>		<b>PAGE 1 OF 2</b>	
<b>ISSUE DATE:</b> <b>5/19/2015</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> <b>5/19/2015</b>	<b>ANNUAL REVIEW DATE:</b> <b>May</b>	<b>RESCINDS:</b> <b>N/A</b>	<b>AMENDS:</b> <b>N/A</b>	

**1.0 POLICY OR PURPOSE**

1.1 The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the use of the baton/nightstick by members of the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police.

**2.0 APPROVED DEVICES**

2.1 The following devices are approved for carry by sworn members of the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police.

2.1.1 [REDACTED]

2.1.2 [REDACTED]

2.1.2.1 [REDACTED]  
2.1.2.2 [REDACTED]  
2.1.2.3 [REDACTED]

2.1.3 [REDACTED]

2.1.3.1 [REDACTED]  
2.1.3.2 [REDACTED]

2.1.4 [REDACTED]

2.2 The Hindi Baton Cap, which fits the [REDACTED], is approved.

**3.0 AUTHORIZATION**

3.1 Only officers that have completed the prescribed course of instruction at the Pittsburgh Police Training Academy or other approved Municipal Police Officers' Education Training Commission Academy are authorized to carry an approved baton/nightstick.

3.2 Uniformed officers shall carry only a departmentally approved baton/nightstick and baton holder in the prescribed manner of carry on their duty belt.

**4.0 CARRY**

4.1 Batons are to be carried in the appropriate holder on either side of the gun or trouser belt.

4.2 Members are advised not to carry behind their firearms, unless it is spaced with a belt keeper.

4.3 Members should refer to General Order 31-2, "*Individual Items of Uniforms and Equipment*" for the general regulations governing the possession of and carrying of the above listed batons/nightsticks.

**5.0 USAGE CRITERIA**

5.1 The use of the baton/nightstick constitutes physical force under the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, section 508 (Use of Force in Law Enforcement). The use of the baton/nightstick is authorized when used in accordance with the Rules and

Regulations of the Bureau of Police, in particular, policies on use of force and use of batons/nightsticks and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States, in particular the Constitution of the United States.

- 5.2 Under no circumstances shall an officer resort to the use of the baton/nightstick where such a use of force is in violation of General Order #12-6, "Use of Force" policy. Nothing in this policy is intended to conflict with/ or replace the provisions of the "Use of Force" policy.
- 5.3 It is also the policy of this Bureau that personnel will not necessarily or unreasonably endanger themselves in applying these guidelines. Furthermore, it is the policy of this Bureau that the baton/nightstick is not intended to be used as a substitute when the officer is justified in the use of deadly force in accordance with the policy outlined in the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Manual of Procedural Orders, General Order #12-6.

#### **6.0 REPORTING USAGE OF THE BATON**

- 6.1 All uses of the baton/nightstick that results in any physical contact with any individual, regardless of whether injury results to the individual, shall be reported on the PBP Form 10.1 "Subject Resistance Report Form" and submitted to the officer's supervisor for review. A copy of the PBP Form 3.0 "Offence/ Incident Report" and PBP Form 6.1 "Arrest Report" will also be completed.

#### **7.0 PROHIBITED USAGE OF THE BATON**

- 7.1 Once a person has been subdued and there is no further resistance, there is no further justification to continue the use of the baton/nightstick on the subject.

#### **8.0 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SHIFT SUPERVISOR**

- 8.1 Shift Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that:

8.1.1 All incidents involving any use of force with a baton/nightstick is appropriately documented and proper procedure is followed.

8.1.2 All reports of incidents involving the use of the baton/nightstick are forwarded through the Chain of Command.

#### **9.0 EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE**

- 9.1 All batons/nightsticks shall be maintained in an operational state by assigned personnel. Replacement for damaged, inoperable, stolen, or lost batons/nightsticks is the responsibility of the individual officer who will complete a PBP Form #81, "Lost/ Stolen or Damaged Uniform Claim" report form and forward through the chain of command.

Approved By:

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Cameron McLay  
Chief of Police