



OFFICE OF POLICE OVERSIGHT

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May 29, 2024

Robin Henderson, Interim Chief of Police
Austin Police Department
715 E. 8th Street
Austin, TX 78701

RE: OPO Policy Recommendations for Improvement to Austin Police Department's
General Order 208: Taser Device Guidelines

Dear Chief Henderson:

On April 29, 2024, the Office of Police Oversight (OPO) received notification of approved changes to the Austin Police Department (APD) General Orders policies. OPO has reviewed the approved changes, and attached to this memorandum, you will find OPO feedback and recommendations.

The specific policies reviewed in this memorandum are as follows:

- 208.2 (c) Policy
- 208.4.6 (b) Report of Use
- 208.6 Training

We look forward to addressing the items identified and improving these policies for the benefit of the community and APD's sworn personnel.

Sincerely,

Gail McCant, Director
Office of Police Oversight



208 Taser Device Guidelines

Recommendation #1:

OPO recommends that APD remove any reference to TASER X26 from the General Orders.

The department no longer uses the TASER X26; therefore, it should be removed from the General Orders.

Recommendation #2:

OPO recommends that APD specify that additional training is required anytime an officer upgrades from a TASER 7 to a TASER 10.

Due to differences in device functionality from previous models, officers require additional training on the TASER 10 before it can be issued.

