Effective immediately, all CEW Officers shall conduct a spark test, prior to the start of their respective work shifts, on the X26 CEW that they will be carrying in the field.

A. One spark, for one second, is adequate.

B. The reasons for the spark test:

1. To check that the CEW is sparking.

2. To check the battery’s performance.

3. There are components in the high voltage section of the X26 CEWs that are more reliable when energized ("conditioned") on a regular basis.

C. When conducting a spark test:

1. Unholster the CEW, and REMOVE ALL CARTRIDGES FROM THE CEW. This includes any cartridge that may be loaded and ready to fire; any cartridge that may be secured to the Digital Power Magazine (DPM); etc. ENSURE THAT NO CARTRIDGES ARE ATTACHED TO THE CEW IN ANY WAY.

2. Ensure that any cartridges are AT LEAST SIX (6) INCHES AWAY FROM THE CEW prior to conducting the spark test; otherwise, the cartridge could be accidentally discharged.
3. POINT THE CEW IN A SAFE DIRECTION. Also, ensure that there are no electrical outlets or flammable materials in the immediate area.

4. Move the safety switch to the up (ARMED) position.

5. Verify that the CID (Central Information Display) is not downloading. If it is, this will be indicated by a “P”. If this happens, wait until the CEW has completed its download.

6. Pull the trigger for approximately one second.

7. Visually inspect the arc.

D. If the CEW functions properly:

1. Move the safety switch to the down (SAFE) position.

2. Reload the cartridge and holster the CEW.

E. If the CEW does not function properly:

1. DO NOT reload the cartridge and DO NOT take the CEW into the field. Instead, place the CEW in the weapons locker located in the Patrol Bureau office and notify the Weapons Bureau immediately.

F. Once your battery life indicates 20%, contact the Weapons Bureau for a replacement battery.

G. CEW Maintenance and Care.

1. Always store the X26 CEW with the Digital Power Magazine (DPM) inserted.

2. Secure the CEW in the approved holster when not in use. Do not store in pockets unholstered.

3. Avoid dropping. A CEW is a sensitive electronic device requiring care similar to that of a cell phone.

4. Avoid exposing the X26 CEW to excessive moisture.

5. If a CEW has been dropped or otherwise damaged; or if a CEW is exposed to moisture such as splashing, rain, or complete submersion; DO NOT move the safety switch to the up (ARMED) position, as the CEW could discharge. Instead, place the CEW in the weapons locker located in the Patrol Bureau office and notify the Weapons Bureau immediately.
NOTE: This order is for internal use only, and does not enlarge an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as the creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third-party claims. Violations of this directive, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this department, and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

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