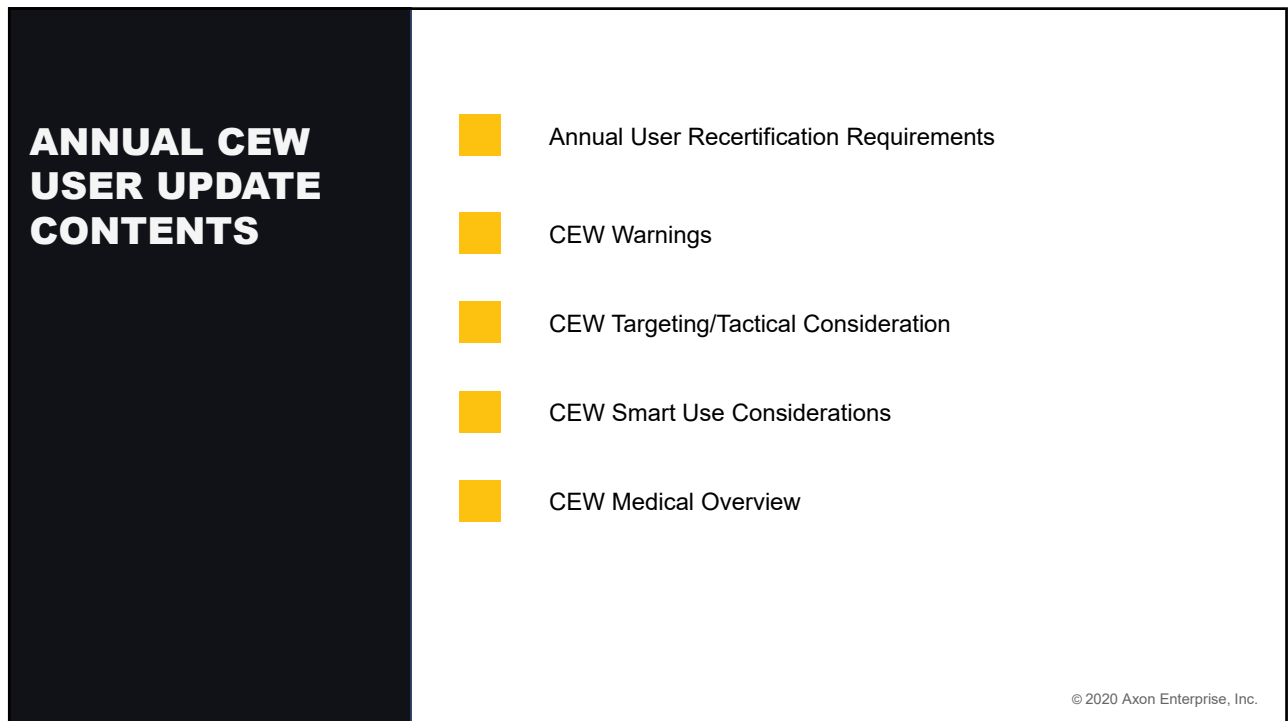







**TASER CEW  
ANNUAL CONDUCTED ENERGY  
WEAPON (CEW) USER UPDATE**

TASER Training  
Version 22 - Effective June 22, 2020

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.



**ANNUAL CEW  
USER UPDATE  
CONTENTS**

-  Annual User Recertification Requirements
-  CEW Warnings
-  CEW Targeting/Tactical Consideration
-  CEW Smart Use Considerations
-  CEW Medical Overview

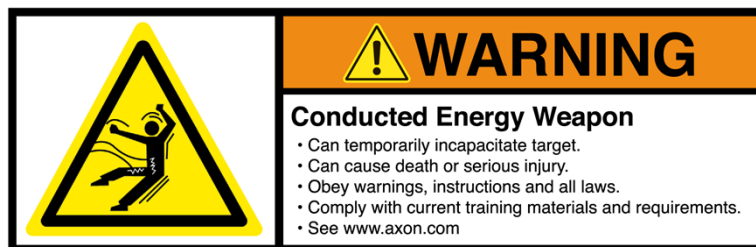
© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## ANNUAL RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Review this PowerPoint
- Receive and review the current version of;
  - TASER Law Enforcement Product Warnings
  - CEW Study Aid: Smart User Considerations
- Pass Functional Test
- Deploy a minimum of 2 live CEW cartridges in the preferred target zones

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## TASER CEWS ARE NOT RISK FREE



**REVIEW AND UNDERSTAND TASER CURRENT PRODUCT WARNINGS**

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## CEW ADVANTAGES

Most studied and most  
effective minimal force  
option

- Reduces risk of injury to officers and suspects alike
- Saves lives and de-escalates use of deadly force
- Allows incapacitation from a distance
- In probe mode does not rely on pain compliance
- Displaying LASER dot or arcing the current often achieves compliance without deployment

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## Tactical Considerations

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## TARGETING

Avoid sensitive areas

Avoid intentionally targeting the CEW on sensitive areas of the body such as the head, throat, breast/chest or area of the heart, genitals, or known pre-existing injury areas without legal justification

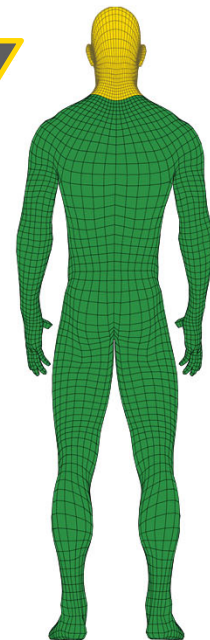
© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## Use Preferred Target Zones: Rear (when practicable)

### Below neck (green zone)

- Large muscles
- Avoid head and neck

*The back is the most preferred target area when reasonably practicable because it contains larger muscle groups and reduces risk of hitting sensitive body areas*

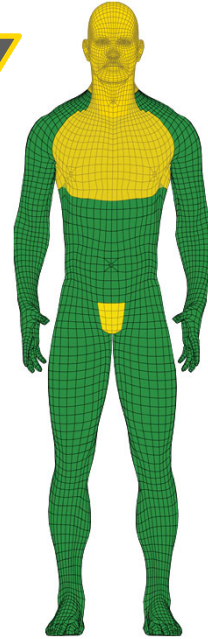


© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## Use Preferred Target Zones: Front (when practicable)

### Lower torso (green zone below chest)

- More effective than hitting the chest
  - Larger muscles (legs)
  - Split the beltline
- Reduces risk of hitting sensitive body areas (see product warnings)
- Increases dart-to-heart safety margin distances
- Do not intentionally target head, eyes, throat, chest or genitals



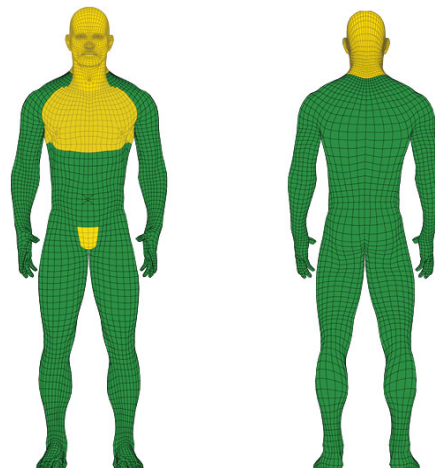
© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## Use Preferred Target Zones (when practicable)

**CEW cardiac risks are low,  
but not zero**

**To reduce cardiac risks  
(when practicable):**

- Target the back
- Avoid targeting the chest
- Avoid heart region
- Avoid repeated or continuous exposures



© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## NEURO-MUSCULAR INCAPACITATION (NMI)

CEWs may not always achieve NMI

- NMI levels range from limited area effects to significant body lockup
- The greater the probe spread, the higher the likelihood of NMI
- Subject may maintain muscle control, particularly in arms and legs
- Be prepared with other force options, including a drive (or touch) stun follow up away from the probes to expand NMI area
- Drive (or touch) stuns alone cause localized pain, not NMI

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## PROBE SPREAD

Greater probe spreads generally increase effectiveness

- NMI levels range from limited area effects to significant body lockup
- A 12 inch spread between the probes is optimal
- Probe spreads under 4" typically create pain effect only
  - Exception is close probe spreads where one probe is above the waist and one is below the waist causing loss of balance and loss of ability to stand
- Consider deploying a second cartridge or using a 3-point drive stun if the spread is insufficient to cause NMI

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## SPLIT THE BELTLINE

For close-range deployments:

- Target the waist area to “split the belt line”
  - Affects core muscles needed for balance
  - Increases officer and cardiac safety
- Avoid the genitals when practicable



© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## LIMITED CEW EFFECTIVENESS

Some causes...

- Miss or single dart hit
- Incomplete, broken or intermittent circuit
- Loose or thick clothing
- Low nerve or muscle mass hit
- Obese subject
- Limited probe spread
- Wires break
- Operator error

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## ARCING SOUNDS

If you *hear* a loud arcing noise and *see* no change in subject behavior, *think* bad connection

- Reload (X26/X26P) and target different area or 3-point drive stun follow-up with cartridge still attached
- For X2 and TASER 7 deploy second cartridge
- Consider using other force options

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Avoid TASER CEW over-dependence

- Have reasonable and appropriate force options available
- Consider cover and distance tactics

*When practicable:*

- Have at least one back-up officer present to control/cuff under power
- Optimize choice of landing zone
- Deploy to back (rather than front)

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.



## CONTROL/CUFF UNDER POWER

Each 5 second CEW cycle is a window of opportunity

- Use each 5 second cycle to establish control/cuff under power
- You can go hands on with the subject during the 5 second cycle without being effected
  - Do not place hands on or between the probes
  - Do not touch the wires

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Contingencies

- No weapon system will operate or be effective all the time
  - A CEW may have limited or no effect
  - A CEW or cartridge may not fire
  - Do not attempt to reuse a “dud” cartridge and carry a spare cartridge if possible, per department policy
- Be prepared to;*
- Transition to other force options

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## BE CAREFUL OF DISTRACTIONS

Maintain situational awareness

- Officers have been accused of using excessive CEW exposures due to stress or distractions, including nearby family members, bystanders, and incident witnesses
- Distractions or situational stress may result in an electrical discharge of an unintended duration if the officer inadvertently holds the trigger down
- Be alert to, and avoid potential distractions that may result in, extended exposures or unintentional additional applications

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS





Know your cartridges

- Be aware of the maximum range of your cartridges
- Keep sufficient slack in the wires
- Move with the subject if they start to roll
- Failure to do so may result in wire breakage or probe disconnect causing loss of CEW contact with the subject

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

# SMART USE CONSIDERATIONS

## Hand out CEW Study Aid

 <p><b>TASER CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON (CEW) USE</b></p> <p><b>GUIDELINES</b></p> <p>This is a study guide only and is a supplement to, but not a substitute for, TASER warnings and training. Be trained and read full warnings (available online at www.axon.com/legal). CEWs have risks and CEW use and physical incapacitation, alone or in combination with physical exertion, stress, unforeseen circumstances, or individual susceptibilities, may <b>↑</b> risk of causing serious injury or death.</p>		 <p><b>WARNING</b></p> <p>Conducted Energy Weapon</p> <p>• Can temporarily incapacitate target • Can cause death or serious injury • Use according to manufacturer's instructions • Comply with current training, policies and regulations. • Read manual before use.</p>	
<p><b>TASER CEW USE GUIDELINES</b></p> <p><b>(THESE GUIDELINES MAY BE MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN CONSTITUTIONAL STANDARDS AND DO NOT CREATE OR ELEVATE A STANDARD OF CARE)</b></p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If no exigency or immediate safety risk exists, slow down and consider alternative force options/solutions including negotiation, commands, or physical skills.</li> <li>Physical resistance alone does not equal an immediate safety risk.</li> <li>Emotionally disturbed person (EDP) or mentally ill, by itself, does not indicate an immediate threat.</li> <li>Choose a force option reasonably likely to cure the immediate safety risk.</li> <li>CEWs do not replace deadly-force options.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Incident Basics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete training first, recertify annually</li> <li>Review latest TASER CEW warnings</li> <li>Follow all laws, regulations, policies.</li> <li>If CEW is not achieving intended goal, transition to different force option</li> <li>Monitor subject post-CEW; if unresponsive, initiate EMS/CPR protocols</li> </ul>		 <p><b>Subjects with Increased Risks (requiring ↑ justification):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Higher risk populations (children, pregnant, elderly, thin)</li> <li>Known medical conditions (pregnancy, heart disease, pacemaker, seizure history)</li> <li>Uncontrolled falls, subjects in elevated positions or running on hard surfaces</li> <li>Consider if tacking or intentional grounding is objectively reasonable</li> <li>Operating machinery or transportation (car, motorcycle, bicycle, skateboard)</li> <li>Presence of explosive, flammable substance, or vapor</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Probe Targeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Back shots ↑ safety and effectiveness</li> <li>Avoid intentionally targeting sensitive areas (eyes, head, throat, chest/heart, genitals, known pre-existing injury areas)</li> <li>Use preferred target areas (green areas on target figures)</li> <li>Avoid chest (↓ cardiac risks, particularly in thin subjects)</li> <li>Close-range deployment - split belt line, maximize probe spread</li> </ul>		 <p><b>Minimize Number and Duration of CEW Exposures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each CEW trigger pull or 5-seconds of discharge must be objectively reasonable</li> <li>Control and restrain subject immediately, if safe and practicable</li> <li>Use 5-second "window of opportunity" to restrain and "cuff under power"</li> <li>Do not use multiple CEWs or multiple circuits without justification</li> <li>Avoid repeated, extended, or continuous exposures beyond 15 seconds absent reasonably perceived immediate threat and ↑ justification</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Probe Spread:</b> Wider probe spread ↑ effectiveness. 12" (30.5 cm) probe spread is recommended for ↑ effectiveness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If too close to achieve good probe spread, attempt to ↑ distance. If unable to ↑ distance, targeting leg may allow tactical advantage.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>CEW Use:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use objectively reasonable force under totality of circumstances</li> <li>Use the minimum force necessary to accomplish lawful objectives</li> <li>Give a verbal warning before using force, if practicable</li> <li>Give subject reasonable opportunity to comply before force is used or repeated</li> <li>Cease force once subject is under control</li> </ul>		<p><b>If person is NOT immediate threat or flight risk, Avoid CEW Use:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Without first attempting verbal de-escalation, commands, or physical skills</li> <li>On person known or perceived to be emotionally disturbed or mentally ill</li> <li>On elevated risk populations</li> <li>For pain compliance if pain foreseeable ineffective due to ↑ tolerance from drugs, alcohol, or psychosis</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Drive (Touch/contact)-Stun Use:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid using CEW drive (touch/contact)-stun except                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 or 4-point contact to complete circuit or 1 probe spread</li> <li>"break-contact" or distraction tactic when assaulted or tied up with subject</li> <li>brief application to attempt pain-compliance, must give reasonable time and opportunity to comply</li> </ul> </li> <li>Avoid repeated drive-stuns if compliance is not achieved, particularly with EDPs</li> </ul>		<p><b>Documentation (always document force/CEW justification):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Document immediate safety risks, danger, resistance, force used from officer POV</li> <li>Body worn cameras and CEWs provide best objective documentation of events</li> <li>Fully document (identify, collect, maintain evidence)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subject's threats, behaviors, and actions</li> <li>Each application of force, and each injury or alleged injury</li> <li>Each CEW trigger pull or 5-second discharge</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

# SMART USE CONSIDERATIONS

When objectively reasonable and as practicable

## Use CEW within:

- The law
- Department policy and training

## Do not use CEW for:

- Verbal defiance
- Belligerence
- Punishment
- Horse play

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## SMART USE CONSIDERATIONS

When objectively reasonable  
and as practicable

- If no exigency or immediate safety risk exists, slow down and consider alternative force options/solutions including negotiation, commands, or physical skills
- Do not immediately resort to CEW
- Physical resistance or mental illness alone does not indicate immediate threat

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## SMART USE CONSIDERATIONS

When objectively reasonable  
and as practicable

- Choose a force option reasonably likely to cure the immediate safety risk
- Use the minimum force necessary to accomplish lawful objectives
- Give a verbal warning before the use of force
- Give subjects a reasonable opportunity to comply before force is used or repeated
- Immediately cease any force once a subject is under control

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## SMART USE CONSIDERATIONS

When objectively reasonable  
and as practicable

- Be able to justify every CEW trigger pull or 5-seconds of discharge under the specific circumstances presented
- Avoid repeated or continuous CEW exposures unless necessary to counter immediate threat
- Avoid using CEW on vulnerable or higher risk populations (e.g. small children, elderly, pregnant) unless necessary to counter immediate threat
- Monitor subject post-CEW use. As with any use of force, if subject is unresponsive, initiate EMS/CPR protocols

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## SMART USE CONSIDERATIONS

When objectively reasonable  
and as practicable

- **Avoid using CEW drive stuns except:**
  - 3 or 4-point contact to complete circuit or increase probe spread
  - “break-contact” or distraction tactic to create reactionary distance
  - brief application to attempt pain compliance
- Do not repeat drive stuns if compliance not achieved
- Do not use drive stuns if pain is unlikely to gain compliance due to mind-body disconnect (psychotic episode) or increased pain tolerance (drugs/alcohol)

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## USE OF FORCE STANDARDS

Different Federal standards may apply

- Use of force by law enforcement officers attempting to effect an arrest are governed by the 4<sup>th</sup> amendment
- Different federal standards apply to uses of force on pretrial detainees and convicted prisoners
- Additionally, the laws of your state may be more restrictive than federal standards
- It is important to research and know all use of force standards applicable to your given jurisdiction and position
- This training version does not cover applicable standards under international law. If you are outside the United States, please research those standards in your country.

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## USE OF FORCE STANDARDS

4<sup>th</sup> Amendment

- When effecting an arrest, all officers must comply with the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment when using TASER CEWs
- It is up to your agency to set its own policies for the use of TASER CEWs, which may be more restrictive than the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment standard
- TASER provides smart use considerations for the use of TASER CEWs, but does not set the standard

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## USE OF FORCE STANDARDS

4<sup>th</sup> Amendment

*Graham v. Connor,*

490 U.S. 386 (1989)

- Officer's force must be objectively reasonable under the totality of the circumstances as reasonably perceived by the officers at the moment the force is used

*3 main factors include:*

- The severity of the crime at issue
- Whether the suspect poses and immediate threat to the safety of the officers or others
- Whether the subject is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## USE OF FORCE STANDARDS

Pretrial detainees

(detained but not convicted)

- Analyzed under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment Due Process Clause

- Kingsley v. Hendrickson*, 576 U.S. \_\_\_, 135 S.Ct. 2466 (2015):**

- the use of force must be objectively reasonable, while considering legitimate interest to manage detention facility and maintain order, discipline and institutional security

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## USE OF FORCE ON PRETRIAL DETAINEES

(DETAINED BUT NOT CONVICTED)

Factors to consider

- Relationship between the need for use of force and the amount of force used
- Extent of plaintiff's injury
- Effort made to temper or limit amount of force
- Severity of the security problem at issue
- Threat reasonably perceived by the officer
- Whether plaintiff was actively resisting

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## USE OF FORCE STANDARDS

Convicted Prisoners

- Analyzed under the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment
- **Whitley v. Albers, 475 U. S. 312 (1986)**
  - A use of force is unlawful if it amounts to an unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain – “whether force was applied in a good faith effort to maintain or restore discipline, or maliciously and sadistically for the very purpose of causing harm.”

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.



## USE OF FORCE STANDARDS

Convicted Prisoners

### *Factors to consider:*

- Relationship between the need for the use of force and the amount of force used
- Extent of plaintiff's injuries
- Extent of threat to safety of staff and inmates, as reasonably perceived by officials
- Effort made to temper or limit amount of force

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## CEW/Medical Risks Overview

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## Injuries From Falls

Consider the environment

- CEWs frequently cause the subject to fall
- Falls are often uncontrolled
- Falls, even from ground level, can cause serious injuries or death (especially on hard surfaces)
- Consider if you would be justified in tackling or intentionally grounding

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## HIGHER RISK POLULATIONS

- Pregnant women
- Mentally ill
- Elderly
- Small children
- Low body-mass (very thin) persons

**CEW use on these individuals could increase the risk of death or serious injury**

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## INCREASED INJURY RISK

### Examples

- Elevated position
- In water, mud/muck (drowning risk)
- Operating machinery/vehicle
- Running or in motion (bike/skateboard)
- Sensitive target areas (head/eyes/groin)
- Probes in heart or chest area
- Repeated or continuous CEW discharges

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## FLAMMABILITY

- TASER CEWs can ignite explosive materials, liquids, fumes, gases, vapors, and gels
- Some personal defense sprays use flammable carriers such as alcohol and can be dangerous if used in immediate conjunction with CEWs

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## CARDIAC RISKS

Experts have identified the following key factors related to CEW cardiac risks:

- Dart-to-heart distance
- Duration of delivered electrical charge

**The further the CEW dart is away from the heart and the fewer CEW cycles applied, the lower the risk of the CEW affecting the heart**

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## CARDIAC RISKS

CEW cardiac risks are low, but not zero

To reduce cardiac risks (when practicable):

- Target the back
- Avoid targeting the chest
- Avoid prolonged or continuous exposures

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## AVOID REPEATED OR EXTENDED CEW DURATIONS

Minimize the number and duration of CEW exposures

- CEW exposure is a physically and psychologically stressful event
- Use the shortest duration of CEW exposure objectively reasonable to accomplish lawful objectives
- Avoid repeated or continuous exposures beyond 15 seconds absent reasonably perceived immediate threat and increased justification
- Reassess the subject's behavior before repeating or continuing the exposure, and provide time for compliance

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.

## PHYSIOLOGIC/METABOLIC RISKS

CEWs may produce effects that could increase the risk of sudden death, including changes in:

- Blood chemistry
- Blood pressure
- Respiration
- Heart rate and rhythm
- Adrenaline and stress hormones

**The longer the CEW exposure, the greater the potential effects**

© 2020 Axon Enterprise, Inc.