



# Minneapolis Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual

Number:  
5-300

## Volume Five – Code of Conduct and Use of Force

### Use of Force

#### 5-314 Control Option- Flash Sound Diversionary Devices

(10/16/02) (08/16/07) (xx/xx/24)

##### I. Purpose

This policy is intended to recognize and respect the sanctity of life and value of all human life, and to expand on the requirements of other force policies, specifically related to flash sound diversionary devices.

##### II. Definitions

**Flash Sound Diversionary Device (FSDD):** A flash sound diversionary device, also called a “flash-bang” device, produces a loud bang with a brilliant light that intended to cause confusion and distraction to provide a tactical team with a few seconds of advantage.

##### Terms defined in P&P 5-302:

- Carry
- Use

##### III. Policy

###### A. Civil Disturbances and Assemblies

In accordance with P&P 7-805, FSDDs shall not be used for crowd control, crowd containment, or crowd dispersal.

###### B. Conditions for Use

1. Objectively reasonable, necessary and proportional

FSDDs may only used when objectively reasonable, necessary and proportional, in order to provide for the safety of an officer or a third person, stop an attack, make an arrest, bring a person or situation safely under control, or prevent escape (as described in P&P 5-301). Officers are reminded that they shall use the lowest degree of force necessary (P&P 5-301).

When using FSDDs, officers must continually assess the situation and modulate their use of force accordingly as the level of resistance changes.

2. Authorization and supervision

- a. FSDDs shall only be distributed by and used under the authority of the SWAT Commander or designee, who will make a decision about the use of such a device on a case-by-case basis.
- b. The SWAT Commander or their designee shall distribute and supervise the use of the devices.

**C. Extinguisher Available**

When the device is used, one member of the entry team shall carry a dry chemical extinguisher for use in the event of a fire.

**D. Treatment and Medical Aid**

Officers shall provide any necessary medical treatment in accordance with P&P 5-301 and P&P 7-350.

**E. Documentation**

Officers shall document use of FSDDs as a use of force in accordance with the policy on reporting force (P&P 5-302).

**F. Training Required**

1. Only personnel trained in the use of these devices shall deploy them.
2. Department approved training shall include the nomenclature, mechanical operation, and tactical deployment of FSDDs.
3. All members of SWAT shall also be trained by the Minneapolis Fire Department in the use of dry chemical fire extinguishers. Emphasis will be placed upon safety considerations and measures to be utilized when using these tools.

**G. Specifications for FSDDs**

MPD officers are only authorized to use FSDDs that are issued by the department.