

Implementation of Electro-muscular Disruption Technology at the University of South Florida Police Department

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Electro-muscular disruption technology has gained widespread acceptance in law enforcement and is in use in many municipal and county law enforcement agencies around the state of Florida. The University of South Florida Police Department is currently exploring the feasibility of issuing electro-muscular disruption devices, also known as dart-firing stun guns, to its officers. This research paper will examine several questions that the University of South Florida Police Department will need to answer before they begin implementation of this technology. The major questions are, will there be community and administrative resistance to the use of dart-firing stun guns in a university setting and are community education programs necessary? This research paper attempts to answer these and other questions by utilizing results from surveys that were conducted of all the state university police departments in Florida. The results of these surveys indicate that the University of South Florida Police Department should not expect any community and administrative resistance to the issuing of dart-firing stun guns to its officers and that community education programs are not necessary prior to implementation.