DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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| **Policy Number:** | **107.013** |
| **Title:** | **Fugitive Apprehension Unit Use of 40MM Specialty Impact Weapon and Munition Systems** |
| **Effective Date:** | **9/1/26** |

**PURPOSE:** To provide guidelines and procedures for the Minnesota Department of Correction's Fugitive Apprehension Unit Members (FAUMs) use of the 40 MM Specialty Impact Weapon and Munitions System (SIWAMS).

**APPLICABILITY:** Office of Special Investigations (OSI) – Fugitive Apprehension Unit.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Desired Target Areas** - The optimal zone(s) to target with the SIWAMS are the large muscle groups of the buttocks, thighs, and knees.

**Fugitive Apprehension Unit Member (FAUM) -** a licensed peace officer at the Minnesota Department of Corrections (MN DOC), Office of Special Investigations (OSI)

**Lethal Cover Officer -** A designated FAUM or other licensed peace officer armed with and deploying a firearm, or other approved tool that is likely to cause serious bodily harm or death to a subject if used by the officer.

**Team Response** - A coordinated response involving two or more FAUMs or licensed peace officers. One officer is designated to deploy a less lethal tool while engaging a subject presenting a potential lethal threat. One or more additional officers are present and prepared to use lethal force if necessary. Use of a Team Response is intended to protect both the FAUM/officer deploying the less lethal tool and the subject, as the availability of a less lethal option reduces the likelihood that lethal force is the only response.

**Specialty Impact Munitions (SIM)** – Projectiles (ammunitions) intended to incapacitate and gain compliance of a subject with a reduced potential for causing death or serious physical injury when compared to conventional projectiles.

**Specialty Impact Weapon and Munitions Systems (SIWAMS)** – a less-lethal projectile system (launcher and ammunition) intended to incapacitate and gain compliance of a subject with a reduced potential for causing death or serious physical injury when compared to conventional projectiles.

**PROCEDURES:**

A. General Requirements

1. Only fugitive apprehension unit members (FAUM) who have completed required specialty impact weapon and munitions system (SIWAMS) training and certification courses on the use of department-issued SIWAMS, passed the requisite testing, and demonstrated proficiency in its use are authorized to carry and/or deploy the SIWAMS system.

2. The exact impact (blue tip) 40 MM round and direct impact (orange tip) OC crushable 40 MM round are the only rounds authorized to be used with the SIWAMS.

3. All non-deployed SIWAMS and specialty impact munitions (SIM) rounds will be stored in the DOC central office storage weapons safe. All SIWAMS will be stored unloaded in the closed chamber position.

4. All deployed SIWAMS will be stored by a FAUM certified in SIWAMS in a vehicle carrying configuration with an empty chamber. SIM rounds may be loaded in a deployment carrier for use on a mobile deployment.

5. FAUMs issued a SIWAMS are required to maintain the SIWAMS to ensure that the system is always clean and in good working order. SIWAMS instructors are responsible for assisting certified officers with any operational issues.

6. When deploying the SIWAMS, FAUMs must utilize a team response and ensure that an additional FAUM(s), or other licensed peace officer is on scene and able to deploy lethal force.

B. Training

1. FAUMs that complete all required training and obtain the necessary certification may deploy the SIWAMS when responding to both armed and unarmed subject encounters.

2. FAUM(s) certified in SIWAMS shall complete an annual recertification course to include live deployment of SIM and SIWAMS from an approved course of fire.

C. Deployment Considerations

1. When deciding to deploy the SIWAMS, FAUM(s) shall take into consideration:
   a) The subject's means, intent, and ability to resist FAUMs;
   b) The operational feasibility of using the SIWAMS such as distance, backdrop, etc.;
   c) Any other special circumstance surrounding the situation; and
   d) When choosing to deploy the SIWAMS, all FAUMs must adhere to this policy, policy 107.022 - Office of Special Investigations – Use of Force – Fugitive Apprehension, MN Statute 609.06 (1a), and all applicable training guidelines. The SIWAMS should

only be deployed in specific situations where FAUMs are attempting to incapacitate a subject, from a safe distance, using a less lethal force option.

2. As always, the deployment of this system should be considered based upon the totality of the circumstances and not a single specific criterion.

3. FAUMs deploying the SIWAMS are responsible for ensuring the proper munitions are loaded.

4. FAUMs will inspect each SIM round prior to loading it into the launcher to ensure munitions adhere to this policy.

D. Post Deployment

1. All subjects impacted with a SIM should be controlled and restrained as soon as tactically feasible.

2. After a subject has been conclusively controlled and the scene is rendered safe, officers shall provide medical aid until EMS personnel arrive. Injuries may not be visible to officers and a subject may not be aware of an injury. Therefore, EMS shall be called to respond to and examine any subject who has been impacted by a SIM. Emergency Medical Services shall clear or transport the subject to a medical facility for treatment prior to any detention procedure.

**STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY SECURITY AUDIT STANDARDS:** None

**INTERNAL CONTROLS:**

A. All training is documented and retained in the approved agency training system.

B. All incident and deployment reports are retained by office of special investigations records management system.

C. All inventory records are retained by the office of special investigations director or designee.

**REPLACES:** All facility policies, memos, or other communications whether verbal, written, or transmitted by electronic means regarding this topic.

**REFERENCES:** Minnesota. Stat. § 609.06
Policy 107.022, "Office of Special Investigations – Use of Force – Fugitive Apprehension"

**ATTACHMENTS:** None

**APPROVAL:**

Commissioner of Corrections