WEST NORRITON TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Subject: Rendering Aid After Use of Force		Policy # 1.3.5
Accreditation 1.3.5		
Effective Date: February 8, 2008	Revised Date:	
By Authority Of: Chief A. Dale Mabry	Signature: ADMabry	

1.3.5 RENDERING AID AFTER USE OF LETHAL OR LESS LETHAL WEAPONS

A. It is the duty of all officers to render aid to any person who is injured, is suspected to be injured or alleges to be injured as a result of an officer using lethal or less lethal weapons. Such aid is to be rendered to the injured party until such time as medical assistance arrives on the scene. Officers should keep their own safety in mind while rendering such aid and may restrain the suspect as needed to preserve officer safety. Such aid may be simple observation of the person until assistance arrives or rendering first aid or CPR depending on the injury.

B. If a firearm or other lethal weapon is used and injury occurs officers shall use whatever means possible to control or stop any bleeding until medical assistance arrives. Officers shall also do whatever they can to keep the injured person calm and still until medical assistance arrives.

C. If a less lethal weapon is used and an injury occurs officers shall use whatever means possible to control or stop any bleeding until medical assistance arrives. Officers shall also do whatever they can to keep the injured person calm and still until medical assistance arrives.

D. If OC Sprays are used officers shall use the following procedure;

1. Subjects who are sprayed with OC Sprays should be monitored and verbally assured that they are safe and that they will be all right. The subject should be told to calm down (relax) and try to breath normally.

2. Subjects who are sprayed with OC Sprays should be removed to uncontaminated air and faced into the wind when possible. They may be allowed to use cool water to rinse the OC Spray from their face. Open their eyes and flush with cool water. If burning persists, place an ice pack on the eyes and affected areas to reduce inflammation. DO NOT RUB. Cool water will allow even quicker recovery from the effects. Keep subject upright, sitting, or lying down. Do not allow them to curl up. This could cause difficulty in breathing.

3. If any subject sprayed with OC Sprays is wearing contact lens, they should remove them. Cleaning affected skin areas with soap and water will expedite recovery since the resin that sticks to the skin will be removed. The subject, if wet from the OC Spray, should dry before transporting. This will only take a

few minutes and will probably be accomplished before the subject can get into a vehicle. If the subject is still wet with the OC Spray the transporting officer could become slightly contaminated.

4. All symptoms should disappear within 15 to 45 minutes with no after effects. If symptoms persist beyond the normal 45 minutes full recovery rate period without any relief to eyes, skin and respiratory system, GET MEDICAL ATTENTION PROMPTLY.

E. Area Decontamination

1. OC Spray is not a particulate; it is biodegradable and does not require any special decontamination. Normal ventilation will remove OC Spray from the environment within 45 minutes. Machine wash all affected clothing.

2. OC Spray's active agent drifts with the air and will disappear as soon as the enclosed area is ventilated by opening windows and doors. This is in sharp contrast to other chemical agents which can linger for weeks or months.