

# Guidelines for Use of **TERMINATOR**

## Student Lesson Plan

To be completed after viewing the Terminator User Training Video

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### *Student Lesson:*

Before reading these guidelines, WATCH the Terminator User Training Video and READ your agency's Pursuit Policy.

### **⚠WARNING**

You or others can be killed or seriously injured if you don't follow safety messages.

Your safety and the safety of others is very important. We have provided many safety messages in this lesson plan. A safety message alerts you to potential hazards and instructs you on how to avoid or reduce the hazard. Each safety message is preceded by a safety alert symbol ⚠. Please carefully read and follow these important messages.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Terminator is one of a series of law enforcement tools that have been developed by StopTech, Ltd., to assist law enforcement agencies in stopping and preventing vehicle pursuits. In the course of this lesson, you will be instructed on methods of deployment for Terminator.

## II. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this training, each participant should be able to:

1. Describe the basic construction of Terminator.
2. State, orally or in writing, the recommended surface for successful deployment of Terminator.
3. State, orally or in writing, the safety and tactical considerations when deciding to deploy Terminator.
4. State, orally or in writing, the type of vehicles Terminator should **NOT** be deployed against.
5. State, orally or in writing, the MAXIMUM speed at which Terminator may be deployed against a four (4) wheel passenger style vehicle.



**Terminator**

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6. State, orally or in writing, the various methods of deployment.
7. Demonstrate the proper method for reloading Terminator.

### **III. OVERVIEW AND NOMENCLATURE**

Terminator is 2 feet (61cm) in length and weighs 2 pounds (.91kg) Terminator is comprised of the following components and sub-assemblies:

1. Seven (7) black polypropylene SHROUDS, to allow easy handling and camouflage to the surface.
2. Seven (7) Teflon® coated hardened steel QUILLS; 3/8 inch (.95cm) in diameter and 2 inches (5.08cm) in length.
3. Seven (7) glass polypropylene CARTRIDGES, keyed for fail proof installation.
4. Twenty-four (24) inch (61cm) ABS plastic BASE.
5. Two (2) rollover END CAPS, facilitate proper deployment.
6. One (1) LOOP connector for attaching to cord reel or lanyard.
7. Two (2) Fastening SCREWS.
8. Accessories:
  - a. Reusable nylon SLEEVE.
  - b. CORD REEL with 80 feet (24m) of 150 pound (68kg) test, woven polyester line.
  - c. LANYARD with 5 foot (1.5m) cord.
9. Two WARNING LABELS appear on each Terminator. Be sure to READ AND FOLLOW all safety messages on-product and in this lesson! If you haven't seen these warnings before, turn to the last page of this lesson plan to read these important messages.

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#### **IV. DEPLOYMENT OF TERMINATOR**

**⚠** ALWAYS follow the policies and procedures of your Agency when deploying Terminator.

Terminator training materials are intended to supplement the formal Pursuit Policy of your agency. StopTech, Ltd. recommends that these “Guidelines For Use” be incorporated into your agency’s written Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). However, the training, policies, and procedures of your agency – including when and how to deploy Terminator – supersede any written or verbal instructions from StopTech, Ltd.

##### **A. Before Deploying Terminator**

Before deciding to deploy Terminator, many factors must be considered. The following are some important safety and tactical issues to think about.

##### **Safety Considerations:**

The circumstances of each pursuit are very different, but safety is always the most important factor. Suspects can abruptly swerve, stop, or otherwise maneuver their vehicle in an unexpected manner while attempting to avoid Terminator.

ALWAYS avoid deploying Terminator in locations or situations that limit the ability of the fleeing suspect to safely maneuver their vehicle. These situations can endanger you, other officers, the public, and the suspect.

The following warnings appear on every Terminator and should ALWAYS be kept in mind when using Terminator:

**⚠ WARNING**

Deflating tires increases the risk a driver may lose control of the vehicle resulting in **SERIOUS** or **FATAL INJURIES**

- **DO NOT** use this device without proper **TRAINING**
- **NEVER** use tire deflation devices on **MOTORCYCLES**

Visit [www.stopstict.com](http://www.stopstict.com) or call 1-800-537-0102 for more information.

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**▲ CAUTION**

This device contains **SHARP SPIKES!**

- **NEVER** bend this device or push spikes through housing
- **READ** and **FOLLOW** the "Reload Instructions" when replacing spent cartridges
- **DO NOT** attempt to repair or disassemble spike cartridges

Visit [www.stoptech.com](http://www.stoptech.com) or call 1-800-537-0102 for more information.

DO NOT use on standard passenger vehicles traveling at a speed in excess of 25 mph (40 Km/h). **RAPID DEFLATION WILL OCCUR. Under some circumstances tire deflation can increase the possibility that a driver may lose control of the vehicle and crash, resulting in SERIOUS or FATAL INJURIES.**

NEVER deploy Terminator if you believe the location or circumstances of your pursuit make it unsafe to do so!

In addition to the product label warnings, ALWAYS keep the following important safety considerations in mind when using Terminator:

- ▲** LIMIT TRAFFIC on the roadway. Heavy or congested traffic increases the chance of an accident, resulting in injury or property damage. Whenever possible, limit or isolate traffic from the pursuit or location where Terminator is being deployed.
- ▲** RESTRICT PEDESTRIANS. Bystanders, observers and other pedestrians in the surrounding area are especially vulnerable to injury if they are struck by a vehicle. NEVER deploy Terminator with pedestrians in the immediate vicinity.
- ▲** NEVER use Terminator on vehicles with fewer than four wheels. Vehicles such as motorcycles and 3-wheeled ATVs are less stable and persons driving these vehicles are more likely to lose control when their tires deflate.
- ▲** To reduce the risk of serious or fatal injuries resulting from a vehicle crash  
Use EXTREME CAUTION when:
  - Pursuits reach **EXCESSIVE SPEEDS**; suspects have an increased risk of losing control of the vehicle if tires are deflated while driving at above normal highway speeds.
  - Fleeing suspects appear to be under the influence of **DRUGS** or **ALCOHOL** or similar impairments which may increase the risk of losing control of the vehicle.

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-  CONSIDER that the driver may attempt to continue operating the target vehicle after deployment of Terminator. Vehicles with one or more deflated tires may still be operated. In this event, the driver may lose control of the vehicle while attempting to operate it with one or more deflated tires, potentially endangering you, pedestrians and other motorists.
-  ALWAYS move to a SAFE LOCATION after deploying Terminator. The cord reel has 80 ft. (24m) of cord to allow you to move as far as possible from the road so that you can avoid fleeing or pursuing vehicles.
-  NEVER wrap the cord around your hand or any portion of your body.
-  NEVER rush a deployment. Allow enough time to correctly deploy sleeved Terminator and retreat to a safe location. Rushed deployments can be dangerous and may fail to deflate the suspect's tires.
-  ALWAYS use caution when removing Terminator from the road. DO NOT enter the roadway if target and pursuing vehicles have not passed. Handle carefully, Terminator may break open exposing sharp spikes after being struck by a vehicle.
-  ONLY deploy Terminator when you have a safe location to observe the target vehicle. You could be struck if suspects unexpectedly swerve, stop, or lose control of their vehicle. You must be able to safely observe the target vehicle and other traffic.

### **Tactical Considerations:**

Before deploying Terminator, you should consider the following:

1. Terminator may be deployed on paved surfaces, soft ground, gravel or sand surfaces.
2. Regardless of the method of deployment, consider deploying Terminator so that a suspect has limited ability to avoid striking the device.
  - Is it possible to deploy in the middle of a bridge?
  - What types of natural barriers or man-made obstacles would prevent suspects from avoiding Terminator?

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3. If deploying near an intersection, deploy Terminator just before entering the intersection on the road the target vehicle is traveling. Deploy before reaching any driveways or parking lots near the intersection. Deploying just after an intersection, driveway or parking lot allows the target vehicle to turn and avoid Terminator.

4. ONLY deploy Terminator after you have identified a SAFE LOCATION to observe the pursuit.

- What makes a good escape route or safe location?
- What are some safe locations to deploy Terminator on your current patrol?

 ALWAYS move to a SAFE LOCATION after deploying Terminator. The cord reel has 80 ft. (24m) of cord to allow you to move as far as possible from the road so that you can avoid fleeing or pursuing vehicles.

### **B. Deploying Terminator**

 ALWAYS advise pursuing units when and where Terminator is being deployed.

Provide fellow officers with ample warning to avoid striking the device. Terminator is an equal opportunity tire deflator, it can not distinguish police tires from suspect tires.

There are two (2) suggested methods to deploy **Terminator: Stationary Placement and Tactical Tossing.**

**Stationary Placement** - When a target vehicle is stationary, place Terminator at any of the following locations:

1. Place between the front and rear tires of the stationary target vehicle.
2. Place ahead of front tire or behind rear tire.

Tactical considerations for deploying multiple Terminators should be considered when the target vehicle may attempt to flee by forward or in reverse.

- In most circumstances the best tactical placement of the Terminator will be between the front and rear tires.
- Utilization of the lanyard allows the officer to retrieve the device without taking his/her eyes off the occupants of the vehicle.

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Position yourself in a safe location, away from the point of contact between the target vehicle and the deployed Terminator.

**Tactical Tossing** – The Tactical Tossing method is used when the target vehicle cannot be safely approached.

1. Attach cord reel to loop connector on Terminator.
2. Unlock cord reel.
3. Toss Terminator into position between front and rear tires.
4. Lock cord reel.
  - a. If Terminator has been thrown past the vehicle tire, pull the Terminator into the correct position.
  - b. If Terminator lands short of target vehicle, retrieve and redeploy it.
5. **DO NOT** use the cord reel to “reel- in” Terminator. This action could cause the line to bind inside the cord reel, which could prevent the line from being properly dispensed.

Position yourself in a safe location, away from the point of contact between the target vehicle and the deployed Terminator.

-  **ALWAYS** move to a **SAFE LOCATION** after deploying Terminator. The cord reel has 80 ft. (24m) of cord to allow you to move as far as possible from the road so that you can avoid fleeing or pursuing vehicles.

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#### **C. After Deploying Terminator**

If Terminator **was struck** by any vehicle:

- refer to reload instructions included with each Terminator.
- contact StopTech, Ltd. at 513 202 5500 to order a Terminator Hit Kit if no replacement cartridges are available.

If Terminator **was not struck** by any vehicle:

- inspect Terminator for damage.
- return Terminator to your selected storage area for the next deployment situation.

#### **V. CARE AND MAINTENANCE**

With reasonable care, your Terminator will be ready to aid you in prevention or terminating a pursuit that creates a hazard to you and the public.

Follow these simple guidelines to ensure your Terminator is ready for use:

- Keep Terminator separate from other equipment to prevent inadvertent contact that could damage Terminator or other equipment.
- Store Terminator in a location that is easily accessible for rapid deployment.

#### **VI. CONCLUSION**

Terminator provides a viable alternative to extended vehicle pursuits that endanger you, the public, and the fleeing suspect.



**Terminator Reload**