



Department of Police

Robert J. Ziarnik  
Chief of Police

October 4, 1988

John Cornish  
IRS - CID  
Post Office Box 1767  
Denver, Colorado 80201

Dear Mr. Cornish:

Per our telephone conversation October 4, 1988, I am forwarding to you information you requested regarding the issuance of the ASP baton to members to our Department.

Our Department became interested in the ASP baton the early part of 1987. We procured from the manufacturer 50 ASP 716 batons which we used in a 6-month field test period. As it was our intention, if we decided to purchase these batons, to issue them only to plain clothes detectives. We trained and issued 50 of these batons to detectives from all three shifts. At the completion of the 6-month test period, each detective was given a preprinted evaluation report asking for their opinions of the batons in which they tested. They were also required to enter on the evaluation report, any situations in which they actually used the baton. Without exception, all of the evaluation reports were returned with positive remarks. Numerous situations were recorded where the detectives were required to use the baton. They recorded numerous instances where the baton was drawn in front of a potential unruly crowd, where the crowd apparently impressed by the ejection of the baton, backed off and caused no further problems. They also reported the use of the batons in striking situations with positive results. During the 6-month test period with the 50 test batons, we did experience the batons bending when used and referred this defect to the production company. The company in turn used a different metal heating process which strengthened the metal. We have not experienced any further problems with the metal.

With this positive information, our Department decided to issue the expandable batons to all plain clothes detectives, all police officers with plain clothes assignments, uniform motorcycle officers, as well as 10 batons to the Tactical Squad. They were issued these batons after being trained in their use in March of 1988.

Police Administration Building. 749 West State Street, Post Office Box 531, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201.

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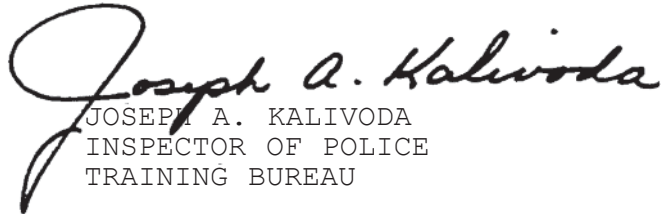
In order for our Department to train those members who would be issued these batons, the training staff, who are certified self-defense instructors, had to also be certified to train anyone in the use of the ASP.

All of the batons issued were the Model 716 except the 10 issued to the Tactical Squad Assault Unit who were issued the longer expandable baton, Model 926.

I hope this information is of help to you, and if my office can help you in the future, please feel free to contact me.

Cordially yours,

ROBERT J. ZIARNIK  
CHIEF OF POLICE

  
JOSEPH A. KALIVODA  
INSPECTOR OF POLICE  
TRAINING BUREAU

RJZ:JAK:PAS