

Abstract Submitted
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Statistical test of a null hypothesis: Taser® shocks have *not* caused or contributed to subsequent in-custody deaths MARJORIE LUNDQUIST¹, Bioelectromagnetic Hygiene Institute — Since 1999 over 425 in-custody deaths have occurred in the USA after law enforcement officers (LEOs) used an M26 or X26 Taser®, causing Amnesty International and the ACLU to call for a moratorium on Taser use until its physiological effects on people have been better studied. A person's *Taser dose* is defined as the total duration (in seconds) of all Taser shocks received by that person during a given incident. Utilizing the concept of *Taser dose* for these deaths, TASER International's claim of Taser safety can be treated as a null hypothesis and its validity scientifically tested. Such a test using chi-square as the test statistic is presented. It shows that the null hypothesis should be **rejected**; *i.e.*, model M26 and X26 Tasers® are capable of producing lethal effects **non-electrically** and so **have** played a causal or contributory role in a great many of the in-custody deaths following their use. This implies that the Taser® is a **lethal** weapon, and that LEOs have **not** been adequately trained in its **safe** use!

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