

# Military Equipment

## 706.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the approval, acquisition, and reporting requirements of military equipment (Government Code § 7070; Government Code § 7071; Government Code § 7072).

### 706.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (Government Code § 7070):

**Governing body** – The elected or appointed body that oversees the Department.

**Military equipment** – Includes but is not limited to the following:

- Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial or ground vehicles.
- Mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicles or armored personnel carriers.
- High mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles (HMMWV), two-and-one-half-ton trucks, five-ton trucks, or wheeled vehicles that have a breaching or entry apparatus attached.
- Tracked armored vehicles that provide ballistic protection to their occupants.
- Command and control vehicles that are either built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units.
- Weaponized aircraft, vessels, or vehicles of any kind.
- Battering rams, slugs, and breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature. This does not include a handheld, one-person ram.
- Firearms and ammunition of .50 caliber or greater, excluding standard-issue shotguns and standard-issue shotgun ammunition.
- Specialized firearms and ammunition of less than .50 caliber, including firearms and accessories identified as assault weapons in Penal Code § 30510 and Penal Code § 30515, with the exception of standard-issue firearms.
- Any firearm or firearm accessory that is designed to launch explosive projectiles.
- Noise-flash diversionary devices and explosive breaching tools.
- Munitions containing tear gas or OC, excluding standard, service-issued handheld pepper spray.
- TASER® Shockwave, microwave weapons, water cannons, and long-range acoustic devices (LRADs).
- Kinetic energy weapons and munitions.
- Any other equipment as determined by a governing body or a state agency to require additional oversight.

# Sonora Police Department

Sonora PD Policy Manual

## *Military Equipment*

---

### **706.2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Sonora Police Department that members of this department comply with the provisions of Government Code § 7071 with respect to military equipment.

### **706.3 MILITARY EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR**

The Operations Lieutenant will act as the military equipment coordinator. The responsibilities of the military equipment coordinator include but are not limited to:

- (a) Acting as liaison to the governing body for matters related to the requirements of this policy.
- (b) Identifying department equipment that qualifies as military equipment in the current possession of the Department, or the equipment the Department intends to acquire that requires approval by the governing body.
- (c) Overseeing an inventory of all military equipment at least annually.
- (d) Collaborating with any allied agency that may use military equipment within the jurisdiction of Sonora Police Department (Government Code § 7071).
- (e) Preparing for, scheduling, and coordinating the annual community engagement meeting to include:
  1. Publicizing the details of the meeting.
  2. Preparing for public questions regarding the department's funding, acquisition, and use of equipment.
- (f) Preparing the annual military equipment report for submission to the Chief of Police and ensuring that the report is made available on the department website (Government Code § 7072).
- (g) Establishing the procedure for a person to register a complaint or concern, or how that person may submit a question about the use of a type of military equipment, and how the Department will respond in a timely manner.

### **706.4 MILITARY EQUIPMENT INVENTORY**

The following constitutes a list of qualifying equipment for the Department:

- (a) **Rifles:** Firearms that are fired from shoulder level, having a long spirally grooved barrel intended to make bullets spin and thereby have greater accuracy over a long distance.
  1. Description, quantity, capabilities, and purchase cost
    - (a) Colt M16A1 RIFLE, received from Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program at no cost; quantity: 14. The M16 rifle, officially designated Rifle, Caliber.223/5.56MM.
    - (b) FEDERAL.223/5.56mm 55GR RIFLE ROUND, cost: \$198 per case of 500, quantity: 32 cases. Federal 223/5.56 MM Remington ammo features a lead core 55 Grain Full Metal Jacket bullet that is nonmagnetic, non-corrosive boxer primer and brass casing. The Federal ammo has a muzzle velocity of 3240 feet per second and muzzle energy of 1282 ft-lbs.

# Sonora Police Department

## Sonora PD Policy Manual

### *Military Equipment*

---

2. Purpose - To be used as precision weapons to address a threat with more precision and/or greater distances than a handgun, if present and feasible.
3. Authorized Use - Only members that are POST certified are authorized to use a rifle.
4. Lifespan
  - (a) Colt M16A1 rifle - no expiration.
  - (b) Federal.223/5.56mm 55GR ammunition - no expiration.
5. Fiscal Impact - Annual maintenance is approximately \$10 for each rifle.
6. Training - Prior to using a rifle, officers must be certified by POST instructors in the operation of the rifle. Additionally, all members that operate any rifle are required to pass a range qualification two times a year.

#### **706.5 APPROVAL**

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall obtain approval from the governing body by way of an ordinance adopting the military equipment policy. As part of the approval process, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall ensure the proposed military equipment policy is submitted to the governing body and is available on the department website at least 30 days prior to any public hearing concerning the military equipment at issue (Government Code § 7071). The military equipment policy must be approved by the governing body prior to engaging in any of the following (Government Code § 7071):

- (a) Requesting military equipment made available pursuant to 10 USC § 2576a.
- (b) Seeking funds for military equipment, including but not limited to applying for a grant, soliciting or accepting private, local, state, or federal funds, in-kind donations, or other donations or transfers.
- (c) Acquiring military equipment either permanently or temporarily, including by borrowing or leasing.
- (d) Collaborating with another law enforcement agency in the deployment or other use of military equipment within the jurisdiction of this department.
- (e) Using any new or existing military equipment for a purpose, in a manner, or by a person not previously approved by the governing body.
- (f) Soliciting or responding to a proposal for, or entering into an agreement with, any other person or entity to seek funds for, apply to receive, acquire, use, or collaborate in the use of military equipment.
- (g) Acquiring military equipment through any means not provided above.

#### **706.6 COORDINATION WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS**

# Sonora Police Department

## Sonora PD Policy Manual

### *Military Equipment*

---

Military equipment used by any member of this jurisdiction shall be approved for use and in accordance with this Department policy. Military equipment used by other jurisdictions that are providing mutual aid to this jurisdiction shall comply with their respective military equipment use policies in rendering mutual aid.

#### **706.7 ANNUAL REPORT**

Upon approval of a military equipment policy, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee should submit a military equipment report to the governing body for each type of military equipment approved within one year of approval, and annually thereafter for as long as the military equipment is available for use (Government Code § 7072).

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee should also make each annual military equipment report publicly available on the department website for as long as the military equipment is available for use. The report shall include all information required by Government Code § 7072 for the preceding calendar year for each type of military equipment in department inventory.

- (a) The annual military equipment report shall, at a minimum, include the following information for the immediately preceding calendar year for each type of military equipment:
  1. A summary of how the military equipment was used and the purpose of its use.
  2. A summary of any complaints or concerns received concerning the military equipment.
  3. The results of any internal audits, any information about violations of the military equipment use policy, and any actions taken in response.
  4. The total annual cost for each type of military equipment, including acquisition, personnel, training, transportation, maintenance, storage, upgrade, and other ongoing costs, and from what source funds will be provided for the military equipment in the calendar year following submission of the annual military equipment report.
  5. The quantity possessed for each type of military equipment.
  6. If the Sonora Police Department intends to acquire additional military equipment in the following year, the quantity sought for each type of military equipment.

#### **706.8 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Within 30 days of submitting and publicly releasing the annual report, the Department shall hold at least one well-publicized and conveniently located community engagement meeting, at which the Department should discuss the report and respond to public questions regarding the funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment.

#### **706.9 MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE CONSIDERATIONS**

The military equipment acquired and authorized by the Department is:

- (a) Necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.

# Sonora Police Department

## Sonora PD Policy Manual

### *Military Equipment*

---

- (b) Reasonably cost-effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
- (c) Military equipment shall only be used by a Department employee only after applicable training, including any course required by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, has been completed unless exigent circumstances arise.