

## 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.
- Area denial electroshock devices, microwave weapons, water cannons, long-range acoustic devices (LRADs), acoustic hailing devices, and sound cannons.
- Kinetic energy weapons and munitions.
- Any other equipment as determined by a governing body or a state agency to require additional oversight.

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#### **706.2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Paso Robles Police Department that members of this department comply with the provisions of Government Code § 7070 through 7075 with respect to the approval for, acquisition, funding, and use of, and reporting regarding military equipment.

#### **706.3 MILITARY EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR**

The Administrative Commander shall designate a member of this department to act as the military equipment coordinator. The responsibilities of the military equipment coordinator include but are not limited to:

- (a) Acting as liaison to City Council 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 City Council.
- (c) Conducting an inventory of all military equipment at least annually.
- (d) Collaborating with any allied agency that may use military equipment within the jurisdiction of Paso Robles 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:

See attachment: MILITARY EQUIPMENT LIST PRPD.pdf

#### **706.5 APPROVAL**

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall obtain approval from City Council 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 City Council 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 City Council prior to engaging in any of the following (Government Code § 7071):

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- (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 City Council.
- (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**

This policy recognizes the need for agencies to provide assistance to each other, whether in ongoing combined or regional operations, occasional planned operations, or in exigent circumstances. Military equipment used by other agencies that are providing mutual aid to the City of Paso Robles, or otherwise engaged in law enforcement operations, shall comply with their respective military equipment use policies in rendering mutual aid or carrying out a law enforcement function to related to a criminal matter under their investigation.

#### **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.

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:

- (a) A summary of how the military equipment was used and the purpose of its use.
- (b) A summary of any complaints or concerns received concerning the military equipment.
- (c) The quantity possessed for each type of military equipment.
- (d) If the department intends to acquire additional military equipment in the next year, the quantity sought for each type of military equipment.

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##### **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 (Government Code §7072).

##### **706.9 EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES**

This policy also recognizes that there may be very limited or extreme instances where incidents of extraordinary nature could demand the need for incident commanders to authorize Department personnel to use equipment not specified in this policy. This decision must be influenced by the totality of the circumstances, including the due regard for the public's safety, officer safety, respecting civil rights, seriousness of the situation, and other information available at that time. Should such extreme instances occur that call for members of this Department to use equipment not specified in this policy, the incident commander shall, if practical, notify the Chief of Police via the chain of command prior to deploying such equipment. Should such circumstances occur, the Chief of Police or his/her designee, shall notify the City Council as soon as practical, and indicate any such uses in the required annual report.

##### **706.10 COMPLAINT PROCESS**

Members of the public may register complaints or concerns or submit questions about the use of each specific type of military equipment in this policy by following the Department complaint process.