

**Merced College Police Department  
Assembly Bill 481-Military Equipment Use  
Policy**



# **Merced College Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy**

This document has been created in accordance with California Assembly Bill 481 (AB-481), codified in California Government Code sections 7070-7075.

The equipment identified in this document is stored and or used at the Merced College Police Department operated facilities listed below.

## **Merced College Police Department**

Merced Campus – 3600 M Street Merced, Ca 95348

Los Banos Campus – 22240 CA-152, Los Banos, CA 93635

The equipment listed in this document is primarily used by the Merced College Police Department personnel during a critical incident or tactical operation. These incidents are mission based and may only call for some of the items to be used. Our goal is to resolve these incidents in a manner that will best safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties. The attempt to resolve each incident without using force or using as minimal force as possible is our primary goal.

A tactical operation or critical incident may be considered as, but not limited to the following:

- High risk warrant service
- Dignitary Protection
- Overwatch
- Civil Unrest
- Barricaded Subject(s)
- Hostage Situation
- Active Shooter

It is the policy of the Merced College Police Department to ensure we provide adequate public safety services in a transparent manner, including the purchase and use of military equipment. Decisions regarding the use, procurement and funding of military equipment should take into consideration the public's welfare, safety, civil rights and allow for public input.

## **Merced College Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy**

The Department shall make the following considerations before seeking authorization for purchasing military equipment:

- The equipment is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that could provide the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
- The equipment is reasonably cost effective compared to alternatives that can achieve the same objectives of officer and civilian safety.

The procurement or use of any new type of military equipment, not already in possession of the Department, or approved on the current Military Equipment Policy, will require the approval of the Merced College Board of Trustees as outlined in Section 7071(a)(1)(A)-7071(a)(1)(G). These procedures are also outlined in Merced College Board Policy/Administrative Procedure (BP/AP) 7600.

Merced College BP/AP 7600, District Police Department may be referred to for additional information regarding:

- The definition and types of military equipment as defined in California Government Code section 7070(c)(1)-(16).
- The approval process for the purchase of any additional military equipment.
- The requirements for the annual review of the Military Equipment Report as defined by California Government Code Section 7071(e).

Violations of the Military Equipment Use Policy by members of the Merced College Police Department may result in sanctions including suspension or termination.

# **Merced College Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 1.0 Specialized firearms and ammunition**
- 2.0 Less Lethal Bean Bag shotgun and munitions**
- 3.0 Inquiry/Complaint process**

# Merced College Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

<b>1.0 SPECIALIZED FIREARMS/AMMUNITION LESS THAN .50 CALIBER</b>
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**1.1 Rifle**

<b>Colt AR-15 Rifle / M4 Carbine</b>	
Description	Colt AR-15 Rifle / M4 Carbine (.223/5.56)
Quantity	6
Capability	The rifles can stop threats of great bodily injury or death at close and intermediate ranges. The rifle platform is capable of firing more accurately and quicker than a pistol while holding more rounds in the magazine and having better ballistic qualities.
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The Colt AR-15 is a lightweight, magazine-fed, gas-operated rifle. All of the rifles have 16-inch-long barrels designed for longer, more precise shots. All the rifles are equipped with a flashlight to assist in low-light situations.
Purpose	The AR-15 can stop threat of great bodily injury or death at close and intermediate ranges. The AR-15 platform is capable of firing more accurately and quicker than a pistol while holding more rounds in the magazine and having better ballistic qualities.
Authorized Usage	To defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death and are used by sworn officers.
Costs	Initial Cost: \$1,000.00 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: \$0-\$500 per firearm every 2 years.
Required Training	24-hour Patrol Rifle Course (CA POST) approved.
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced College PD Policy 300. (Use of Force) Merced College PD Police 706. (Military Equipment)

# Merced College Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

## **1.2 .223 Ammunition**

<b>Federal Premium Sierra GameKing .223 Rem</b>	
Description	Federal Premium 55 grain .223 Ammunition
Quantity	Approximately 500 Rounds
Capability	Precision Round, for close to mid-range accuracy
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The exclusive primer design provides the best sensitivity and most consistent ballistics in the industry. The precision-built Sierra GameKing bullet is the only choice for the world's most elite shooters. This round provides; Boat-tail hollow point bullet for extra margin of ballistic performance, uniform match jacket ensures consistent accuracy, Federal brass, specially formulated propellant and the Benchrest-quality Gold Medal primer
Purpose	Precision Round with limited penetration
Authorized Usage	To defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death Used by sworn officers.
Costs	Initial Cost: \$43.99 a box (20 rounds) Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	24 hour – POST Certified Patrol Rifle Course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced College PD Policy 300. (Use of Force) Merced College PD Policy 706. (Military Equipment)

# Merced College Police Department

## AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

<b>2.0 Bean Bag Shotguns and Munitions</b>
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### 2.1 Remington Bean Bag Shotgun

<b><i>Remington 870 Less Lethal Bean Bag Shotguns</i></b>	
Description	Remington 870 12-gauge pump action shotgun
Quantity	3
Capability	Deploying less lethal 40-gram tear shaped bag as long-range impact weapon
Life Span	20 years
Manufacturer's Desc	A myriad of aftermarket Remington 870 accessories enables owners to customize the 870 Express for specific purposes. 870 Remington is a receiver milled from a solid billet of steel for maximum strength, and twin action bars that prevent binding and twisting while cycling the action
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as high-risk tactical operations. These are necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety/will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by authorized and trained police personnel
Costs	Initial Cost: \$700 each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Authorized personnel attend annual departmental training and qualify on a yearly basis.
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced College PD Policy 300. (Use of Force) Merced College PD Policy 706. (Military Equipment)

## Merced College Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

### 2.2 Defense Technology Drag Stabilized 12-Gauge Bean Bag Round

<b>Defense Technology Drag Stabilized 12-Gauge Bean Bag Round</b>	
Description	Bean bag munition deployed with Remington 870 less lethal shotguns.
Quantity	Approximately 25
Capability	Deploying less lethal 40-gram tear shaped bag as long-range impact weapon.
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Description	The Drag Stabilized 12-Gauge Round is a translucent 12-Gauge shell loaded with a 40-Gram tear shaped bag made from a cotton and ballistic material blend filled with #9 shot. This design utilizes four stabilizing tails and utilizes smokeless powder as the propellant. The 12-Gauge Drag Stabilized Round has secured its place as the Law Enforcement Communities' number one choice for specialty impact munitions. This round has a velocity of 270 fps with a maximum effective range of 75 feet.
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as high-risk tactical operations. These are necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety/will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties.
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by authorized and trained police personnel.
Costs	Initial Cost: \$25 a box (5 in a box) Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Authorized personnel attend an annual departmental training and qualify on a yearly basis.
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced College PD Policy 300. (Use of Force) Merced College PD Policy 706. (Military Equipment)

# Merced College Police Department

## AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

### 3.0 INQUIRY/COMPLAINT PROCESS

**Inquires made be made in the following ways:**

- In person at any Merced College PD station
- By telephone (209) 386-6600
- By mail:

Merced College Police Department  
3600 M St. Merced, Ca 95348

General questions or concerns will be routed to the Director of Law Enforcement for a response within 30 days. The Director of Law Enforcement shall track all inquiries and responses for inclusion in the Military Equipment Use Report.

#### **Complaints**

If you wish to make an allegation of misconduct against a member of the Merced College Police Department related to the use of military equipment, you may register your complaint the following ways:

- In person at the Merced College Police Department.
- By telephone at (209) 386-6600 or mail to  
Merced College Police Department  
3600 M Street  
Merced, CA 95340
- Formal complaints, warranting further investigation, will be routed to Internal Affairs for review and follow-up, in accordance with statute and policy. The Department will investigate any noncompliance with the Military Equipment Use Policy in accordance with section 832.5 of the California Penal Code, which sets mandatory provisions for complaints made on peace officers as defined by California Penal Code 832 and custodial officers as defined by section 831.5 PC.

The Director of Law Enforcement will conduct annual inspection to ensure the Military Equipment Use Policy is followed and the items listed in the Military Equipment Report are utilized within policy and in accordance with applicable laws. Any violation of policy or law will be investigated accordingly and reported in the annual Military Equipment Use Report.