

Specialized Equipment

705.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

State MODIFIED

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

705.1.1 DEFINITIONS

State MODIFIED

Definitions related to this policy include:

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

Specialized equipment – Means equipment that is "militaristic in nature" and is identified in Government Code Section 7071 (c) (1-15).

705.2 POLICY

State MODIFIED

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

705.3 SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR

Best Practice MODIFIED

The Operations Division Captain or their designee will act as the specialized equipment coordinator. The responsibilities of the specialized 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 specialized equipment in the current possession of the Department, or the equipment the Department intends to acquire that requires approval by the governing body.
- (c) Conducting an inventory of all specialized equipment annually.
- (d) Collaborating with any allied agency that may use specialized equipment within the jurisdiction of Hemet 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.

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- (f) Preparing the annual specialized 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 specialized equipment, and how the Department will respond in a timely manner.

705.4 SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

State **MODIFIED**

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

[See attachment: Hemet PD Specialized Equipment List \(041922\).pdf](#)

705.5 APPROVAL

State **MODIFIED**

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall obtain approval from the governing body by way of an ordinance adopting the specialized equipment policy. As part of the approval process, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall ensure the proposed specialized 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 specialized equipment at issue (Government Code § 7071). The specialized equipment policy must be approved by the governing body prior to engaging in any of the following (Government Code § 7071):

- (a) Requesting specialized equipment made available pursuant to 10 USC § 2576a.
- (b) Seeking funds for specialized 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 specialized equipment either permanently or temporarily, including by borrowing or leasing.
- (d) Collaborating with another law enforcement agency in the deployment or other use of specialized equipment within the jurisdiction of this department.
- (e) Using any new or existing specialized 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 specialized equipment.
- (g) Acquiring specialized equipment through any means not provided above.

705.6 COORDINATION WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS

State **MODIFIED**

Specialized equipment should not be used by any other law enforcement agency or member in this jurisdiction unless the specialized equipment is approved for use in accordance with this policy.

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705.7 ANNUAL REPORT

State **MODIFIED**

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

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee should also make each annual specialized equipment report publicly available on the department website for as long as the specialized 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 specialized equipment in department inventory.

705.8 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

State **MODIFIED**

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 specialized equipment.

Attachments

Hemet PD Specialized Equipment List (041922).pdf

Section One: Hemet Police Department Specialized Equipment Inventory
Pursuant to CA Gov't Code §7070 (c)(1-15)

1. Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS/Drones)

Quantity Owned / Sought: (2) DJI Phantom 4 Pro's, (1) DJI Mavic 2 Enterprise owned, and (1) DJI Matrice 300 RTK sought

Lifespan: Approximately 5 years

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- Search and locate reported missing children or at-risk adults
- Search and rescue operations to locate lost or injured hikers
- A law enforcement specific application involving Aerial drones are used for open terrain or large field searches as a force-multiplier to assist in high-risk apprehensions of armed or violent suspects. Aerial drones can be used as an interior search tool to locate suspects barricaded inside a residence or commercial structure.
- Unmanned robotics have numerous applications and are used instead of personnel in high-risk environments to increase safety for law enforcement
- Gain visual/audio data, deliver Crisis Negotiation Phone, open doors, disrupt packages, and remotely clear buildings and structures

Fiscal Impacts: The initial costs of equipment, licensing, software and training was approximately \$25,000. Ongoing cost associated with remotely piloted aircraft/ground vehicles and maintenance is estimated to be approximately \$7,500 per year.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: Any use of a UAS will be in strict accordance with constitutional and privacy rights and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations. The use of the UAS potentially involves privacy considerations. Absent a warrant or exigent circumstances, operators and observers shall adhere to FAA altitude regulations and shall not intentionally record or transmit images of any location where a person would have a reasonable expectation of privacy (e.g., residence, yard, enclosure). Operators and observers shall take reasonable precautions to avoid inadvertently recording or transmitting images of areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Reasonable precautions can include, for example, deactivating or turning imaging devices away from such areas or persons during UAS operations.

Training Required: Prior to piloting any UAS/Drone staff members must secure an FAA Remote Pilot License and complete all training required by our FAA COA.

2. Armored vehicles with breaching or entry apparatus attachable

Quantity Owned/Sought: LENCO BEAR-CAT, 1 owned

Lifespan: Approximately 25 years

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- LENCO Ballistic Engineered Armored Response Counter-Attack Truck (BEAR-CAT). The BEAR-CAT, or rescue vehicles, are primarily used during high-risk tactical enforcement operations, officer rescues, and vehicle borne interventions. Additional deployments are used during criminal unrest and riots. Rescue vehicles provide ballistic safety during containment and apprehension of armed violent suspects.
- Rescue vehicle for on-campus active shooter incidents to rescue injured victims.
- 4X4 capability to transport or evacuate victims in floods, fires, or other natural disasters.
- Rescue vehicles provide numerous safety capabilities for law enforcement, victim rescues, and overall community safety.
- BEAR-CAT vehicles have attachable metal booms that can be used for breaching structures, fences, or ramming objects during high-risk incidents, to include active shooter incidents on school grounds or buildings.

Fiscal Impacts: There was no initial cost for our armored vehicle as it was obtained through a Department of Homeland Security grant in 2008. Annual maintenance cost approximately \$1,500.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: Use shall be in accordance with California State law regarding the operation of motor vehicles.

Training Required: The Southwest Cities SWAT Team provides internal training for staff members prior to allowing them to operate these vehicles. The officers are trained in vehicle operation, equipment use, and driving.

3. Command and Control Vehicles used to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units.

Quantity Owned/Sought: 1 owned

Lifespan: 20-year lifespan on chassis and vehicle structure. Upgrades needed every 5-7 years to maintain IT systems.

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- Command vehicles are built in various platforms to include ½ ton pickup chassis, vans, trailers, and RV style configurations. Vehicles are built to better assist in command and control during law enforcement operations, natural disasters, and public safety issues. Vehicles are designed with additional communication abilities, computers, white boards, lightening, generators, and mission essential supplies. Purchase cost was approximately \$35,000 in 2001.

Fiscal Impact: Annual maintenance cost is approximately \$500.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: Use shall be in accordance with California State law regarding the operation of motor vehicles.

Training Required: The CNT team and designated Command Post personnel are trained quarterly in vehicle operation, equipment use, and driving.

4. Assault weapons defined under PC 30510 & PC 30515

Quantity Owned/Sought: (4) Colt AR15-A2, (2) Colt M4A2, (12) Colt M16A1, (12) Colt Commando, (2) Rockriver, (9) HK MP5, (3) .308 Remington 700, and (1) .308 HK G3A3 rifles owned. None Sought

Lifespan: 15 years

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- The Colt automatic and semiautomatic rifle can fire 5.56mm projectile bullet.
- Inventory includes AR-15 style rifles that function at semi-automatic capability and SWAT trained officers are issued full-automatic M4 style rifles.
- Increased accuracy and precision at long-range distance to address a threat, if present and feasible.
- Officer's may deploy the patrol rifle in any circumstance where the officer can articulate a reasonable expectation that the rifle may be needed.
- Currently used by most law enforcement agencies across the nation.

Fiscal Impacts: The initial cost of AR-15 style rifles are approximately \$1200-\$1500 each. The ongoing costs for ammunition will vary and maintenance is conducted by departmental staff.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: All applicable State, Federal and Local laws governing police use of force. Various Hemet Police Department Policies on Use of Force and Firearms.

Training Required: Officers must successfully complete a CA POST certified 24-hour patrol rifle course as well as regular department firearms training and qualifications as required by law and policy.

5. Diversionary Devices

Quantity Owned/Sought: Defensive Technologies low roll, 30 owned.

Lifespan: 5 years for the 12-gram reload, and 25 maximum uses for the low-roll body.

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- Light Sound Diversionary Device (LSDD-“Flashbangs”) are used to minimize risk to all parties through the temporary distraction or disorientation of armed and violent suspects that pose significant danger to law enforcement personnel and community.
- The effects of the LSDD reduce a suspect’s reactionary capabilities and allow for momentary disorientation which creates a tactical advantage. LSDD is a hand delivered device and generally deployed on the exterior of structures
- Provides a humane fright to aggressive dogs that pose a threat to law enforcement personnel
- A diversionary device is ideal for distracting dangerous suspects during assaults, hostage rescue, room entry or other high-risk arrest situations.

Fiscal Impact: Initial cost per item \$82.44. No annual maintenance cost.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: HPD policy is to utilize diversionary devices only for official law enforcement purposes and pursuant to State and Federal law regarding use of force.

Training Required: The Southwest Cities SWAT team provides internal training by POST certified instructors for staff members prior to allowing them to use any of these items.

6. Chemical Agents and Smoke canisters

Quantity Owned / Sought: Defensive Technologies chemical agents & smoke canisters

Lifespan: 5 years

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- To limit the escalation of conflict where employment of lethal force is prohibited or undesirable.
- Chemical agents are deployed through various means to include hand delivery and weapon launchable, such as pepper ball. Munitions are 40mm caliber, shotgun ferret rounds or canister shotgun launched ordinance. Hand delivered chemical agents are placed in metal burn boxes to reduce fire hazards
- May be used for dangerous and/or combative subjects, riot/crowd control and civil unrest incidents, circumstances where a tactical advantage may be gained, potentially viscous animals, training exercises or approved demonstrations, circumstances where a tactical advantage can be obtained.

Fiscal Impact: Initial cost per item \$50.00. No annual maintenance cost.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: HPD policy is to utilize chemical agents only for official law enforcement purposes and pursuant to State and Federal law regarding use of force.

Training Required: Sworn members utilizing chemical agent canisters are certified by POST less lethal and chemical agent instructors.

7. 37mm / 40mm Less Lethal launchers and Kinetic Energy Munition

Quantity Owned/Sought: Defensive Technologies 40mm single launcher, (11) Owned. Sage 37mm single launcher (1) owned and Schermuly 37mm single launcher (1) owned / None sought

Lifespan: Approximately 15 years

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- The 37mm/40mm Less Lethal Launchers and Kinetic Energy Munitions are intended for use as a less lethal use of force option.
- Less lethal 37mm/40mm launchers and rubber projectile munitions are configured for high and low energy impact. Munitions have the additional benefit as a barrier round for breaking vehicle and residential glass so that chemical munitions can be deployed.

- 37mm/40mm less lethal launchers have been effective in disarming violent suspects, armed suspects, and subjects who are suicidal with minimal injury and risk to the person, law enforcement or the public.
- 37mm/40mm less lethal launchers are light weight, versatile and used worldwide by police and corrections officers.
- The 37mm/40mm launcher family of products is available in single-shot, spring-advance multi, and pump-advance multi-versions.

Fiscal Impacts: The initial cost of each 37/40mm launcher was approximately \$1200. The ongoing costs for munitions will vary and maintenance is conducted by departmental staff.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: HPD policy is to utilize less lethal and chemical agents only for official law enforcement purposes and pursuant to State and Federal law regarding use of force.

Training Required: Officers must complete a department, POST certified 37/40mm course as well as regular training and qualifications as required by law and policy. Various Hemet Police Department policies on Use of Force and Crowd Control.

8. Less Lethal Bean Bag Launchers (shotguns)

Quantity Owned/Sought: (17) owned / None sought

Lifespan: 25 years

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- To limit the escalation of conflict where employment of lethal force is prohibited or undesirable.
- Less lethal bean bags are deployed through a marked/orange colored easily identifiable less lethal shotgun. The bean bag round is a small led pellet filled munition made of high-density cloth. The bean bag is the predecessor to 40mm less lethal launcher, having similar benefits as other less lethal platforms

Authorized Use: Situations for use of the less lethal weapon systems may include, but are not limited to: Self-destructive, dangerous and/or combative individuals, riot/crowd control and civil unrest incidents, circumstances where a tactical advantage can be obtained, potentially vicious animals.

Fiscal Impact: Annual maintenance is approximately \$20 for each shotgun

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: utilize the less lethal shotgun only for official law enforcement purposes, and pursuant to State and Federal law, including those regarding the use of force

Training Required: All officers are trained in the 12 gauge less lethal shotgun, as a less lethal option by POST certified in-service training and police academy training.

9. Non-handheld battering rams, slugs and breaching equipment apparatuses that are explosive in nature

Quantity Owned/Sought: (3) Remington 12GA “breaching” shotguns owned / None sought

Lifespan: 15 years

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- Explosive breaching tools are used to breach fortified structures to establish a point of entry. Explosive charges are fashioned to produce little to no fragmentation at the time of detonation. Explosive breaching effectively reduces the time spent overcoming a fortified door or structure. The reduction in time mitigating a hardened structure increasing officer safety and the element of surprise. Blast injuries are reduced by using low yield explosives that mechanically overcome door frames and locking mechanisms. Explosive breaching mandates extensive schooling and certification processes
- Avon frangible shotgun ammunition is used to breach doors and points of entry on fortified doors or structures. The rounds are used to impact door hinges, doorknobs and locks.

Fiscal Impacts: The initial cost of a breaching shotguns is approximately \$800 each. The ongoing costs for ammunition will vary and maintenance is conducted by departmental staff.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: Diversionary devices and explosive breaching tools are only for official law enforcement purposes and pursuant to State and Federal law regarding use of force.

Training Required: SWAT officers assigned as team breachers receive POST certified training in the use and deployment of these breaching shotguns and frangible shotgun ammunition.

Section Two: Specialized Equipment Inventory known to be owned and/or utilized by law enforcement agencies with which the Hemet Police Department collaborates with and/or may require assistance from in a mutual-aid situation for law enforcement services, Pursuant to CA Gov't Code §7070(c) (1-15)

1. Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle (MRAP)

Quantity Owned/Sought: None

Lifespan: Unknown

Purpose/Capabilities/Description: The MRAP is a large ballistic armored rescue vehicle deployed during search warrant services and primarily in open desert areas requiring extreme off-road capability. The MRAP is also used for large parcel outdoor illegal marijuana grow enforcement. Operation requires a Class "B" driver's license. Capable of transporting personnel and equipment while providing them with armored protection from gunfire.

Fiscal Impacts: None. Equipment owned, maintained, and operated by another agency.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: The MRAP can be deployed any time tactical operators determine that there is a need to move personnel and/or resources into areas in which they have reason to expect potential armed resistance requiring its protection.

Training Required: None, Equipment owned, maintained and operated by another agency.

2. Armored Vehicles with breaching or entry apparatus or water cannon

Quantity Owned/Sought: None

Lifespan: Unknown

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- Lenco Ballistic Engineered Armored Response Counter-Attack Trucks (BEARCATS). The BEARCAT's are primarily used during high-risk tactical enforcement operations, officer rescues, and vehicle borne interventions. Additional deployments are used during criminal unrest

- and riots. Rescue vehicles provide ballistic safety during containment and apprehension of armed violent suspects.
- Rescue vehicle for on-campus active shooter incidents to rescue injured victims
 - 4X4 capability to transport or evacuate victims in a natural disaster
 - BOMB-CAT bullet resistant rescue vehicle provisioned with a front mounted Water Cannon. BOMB-CAT use is for tactical operations and explosive ordinance mitigation and fire suppression
 - Rescue vehicles provide numerous safety capabilities for law enforcement, victim rescues, and overall community safety
 - TAC-CAT vehicle- A tracked bullet resistant caterpillar tractor driven and deployed during high-risk and tactical operations, with various hydraulic boom attachments including claw, chemical agent dispersal box and ram extension

Fiscal Impacts: None. Equipment owned, maintained, and operated by another agency.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: Use shall be in accordance with California State law regarding the operation of motor vehicles.

Training Required: None, Equipment owned, maintained and operated by another agency.

3. Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD)

Quantity Owned/Sought: None

Lifespan: Unknown

Purpose/Capabilities/Description: LRAD is an acoustic hailing device used for emitting amplified public announcements during search warrant services, barricaded suspects, or tactical operations. The loud audible technology ensures broadcasted announcements are loud and clear while offering advantages over less amplified patrol car PA systems. The larger LRAD 1000 system is portable and can be used for criminal unrest and rioting to provide clear dispersal orders for unlawful assembly. LRAD can also be used for any public announcements or safety advisements during natural disasters or evacuations

Fiscal Impacts: None. Equipment owned, maintained, and operated by another agency.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: LRADs can only be deployed in accordance with all applicable State, Federal and Local laws governing police use of force, crowd control, etc.

Training Required: None, Equipment owned, maintained and operated by another agency.

4. Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered ground vehicles

Quantity Owned/Sought: None

Lifespan: Unknown

Purpose/Capabilities/Description:

- Deliver Crisis Negotiation Phone, open doors, disrupt packages
- Vehicles are capable of being remotely navigated to provide scene information and intelligence in the form of video and still images transmitted to first responders.
- Deliver chemical agent inside a structure without placing officers in harm's way.
- Gain visual/audio data and remotely clear buildings and structure
- Unmanned robotics have numerous applications and are used instead of personnel in high-risk environments to increase safety for law enforcement

Fiscal Impacts: None. Equipment owned, maintained, and operated by another agency.

Legal/Procedural Rules Governing Use: The use of unmanned, remotely piloted, powered ground vehicles potentially involves privacy considerations. Absent a warrant or exigent circumstances, operators and observers shall adhere to all applicable privacy laws and shall not intentionally record or transmit images of any location where a person would have a reasonable expectation of privacy (e.g., residence, yard, enclosure).

Training Required: None, Equipment owned, maintained and operated by another agency.

Pursuant to California Government Code §7070(d)(7), members of the public may register complaints or concerns or submit questions about the use of each specific type of Specialized Equipment in this policy by contacting the Specialized Equipment Use Coordinator by any of the following means:

1. Via phone call to: (951) 765-2400
2. In person at the Hemet Police Department: 450 E. Latham Avenue, Hemet, CA. 92543

The Hemet Police Department is committed to responding to complaints, concerns and/or questions received through any of the above methods in a timely manner.