

Monterey County Sheriff's Office

Military Equipment Use Policy

May 2022



AB 481

- Assembly Bill 481 was authored to address the funding, acquisition and use of military equipment by law enforcement.
- It requires the Sheriff's Office to obtain the approval of this Board of its military equipment use policy through adoption of the policy by ordinance.



AB 481

- The Sheriff's Policy must be posted on its website for 30 days prior to introduction and adoption of the ordinance.
- AB 481 also requires the Sheriff's Office to submit annual reports to this Board regarding the use of the equipment, any complaints received, and other similar information.



AB 481

The governing body shall only approve a military equipment use policy pursuant to this chapter if it determines all of the following:

- (A) The military equipment is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
- (B) The proposed military equipment use policy will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties.
- (C) If purchasing the equipment, the equipment is reasonably cost effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
- (D) Prior military equipment use complied with the military equipment use policy that was in effect at the time, or if prior uses did not comply with the accompanying military equipment use policy, corrective action has been taken to remedy nonconforming uses and ensure future compliance.



Draft Policy

- Posted on Sheriff's Website for public review
- Posted on Sheriff's Social media on April 22, 2022, for review and comment.



Equipment Covered in Policy

- Drones
- Vehicles
- Breaching Explosives
- Non-deadly launchers and munitions
- SWAT Rifles



Drones and Robots

- Currently have 11 drones
- Used by:
 - Patrol
 - Search and Rescue
 - SWAT
 - Bomb Squad
- Future purchase of fixed wing drone.
 - No additional county funding



Vehicles

- Currently have 8 vehicles
- MRAP- 1
 - SWAT
 - Community Services
- HUMVEE -5
 - Patrol
 - Community Services
 - SWAT
- Pick-Ups -2
 - Professional Staff
- Command Control Vehicle
 - Future purchase, not seeking additional county funding



Breaching Explosives

- Used by
 - Bomb Squad
 - SWAT



Distraction Devices / Chemical Agents / Non-Deadly Munitions

- Currently use
 - 40mm launchers and rounds
 - Noise and light distraction devices
 - FN303
 - 12-gauge Supersock Rounds



SWAT Rifles

- Currently have Colt M-4
 - SWAT Deputies



Controlling Polices

- Lexipol 208 – Training
- Lexipol 300 – Use of Force
- Lexipol 312 – Firearms
- Lexipol 316 – Deputy Response to Calls
- Lexipol 408 – Crisis Response Unit (SWAT)
- Lexipol 416 – Response to Bomb Calls
- Lexipol 613 – Unmanned Aerial System Operations
- Lexipol 1020 – Personnel Complaints
- Lexipol 709 – Military Equipment Use Policy (DRAFT)



Questions or Complaints Regarding Equipment

- Lexipol 1020 – Personnel Complaints governs responding to complaints received from the community.



Annual Report

- Annual Report will be submitted to the Board in May 2023 and published on Sheriff's website and social media sites.



Questions?

