

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, TO
ADOPT A MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY FOR THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 481**

County Counsel Summary

This ordinance is in response to Assembly Bill ("AB") 481, which was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom on September 30, 2021 and is codified at Government Code section 7070 et seq. AB 481 requires California law enforcement agencies to obtain approval of their applicable governing body, by an ordinance adopting a military equipment use policy prior to taking certain actions relating to the funding, acquisition, and/or use of military equipment. This ordinance establishes a military equipment use policy for the District Attorney's Office. This ordinance establishes a military equipment use policy by adding the attached "Military Equipment" policy to the Monterey County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigations.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey hereby ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

A. On September 20, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill ("AB") 481 into law, which is codified at Government Code section 7070 *et seq.*

B. The legislative intent behind AB 481 is to increase the public transparency by which California law enforcement agencies fund, acquire, and/or use military equipment, as defined under AB 481.

C. AB 481 requires California law enforcement agencies to obtain approval of their applicable governing body, by an ordinance adopting a military equipment use policy prior to taking certain actions relating to the funding, acquisition, and/or use of military equipment.

D. AB 481 requires California law enforcement agencies that receive approval for a military equipment use policy to submit to the applicable governing body an annual military equipment report for each type of military equipment approved by the governing body within one year of approval, and annually thereafter so long as the military equipment is available for use.

E. AB 481 requires the applicable governing body of the California law enforcement agency to annually review the military equipment use policy to either disapprove a renewal of the authorization of a type of military equipment or amend the military equipment use policy.

F. The Board of Supervisors believes that with respect to the attached Military Equipment Policy for the District Attorney's Office: 1) the identified equipment is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety; 2) the policy will serve to safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties; 3) in future instances in which equipment is to be purchased, the equipment will be reasonably cost effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety; and 4) corrective action has been taken, as necessary, to ensure that prior nonconforming use of military equipment is in compliance with new policies.

SECTION 2. The attached policy, titled "Military Equipment", shall be added to the Monterey County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigations Policy Manual.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall become effective on the thirty-first day following its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of September 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:


ABSENT: None

Mary Adams, Chair,
Monterey County Board of Supervisors

A T T E S T :

VALERIE RALPH
Clerk of the Board

By: _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

KELLY L. DONLON
Assistant County Counsel

Military Equipment

705.1 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).

705.1.1 DEFINITIONS

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

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

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.

Military Equipment

705.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Monterey County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigations that members of this bureau comply with the provisions of Government Code § 7071 with respect to military equipment.

705.3 MILITARY EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR

The Chief Investigator should designate a member of this bureau 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 the governing body for matters related to the requirements of this policy.
- (b) Identifying bureau equipment that qualifies as military equipment in the current possession of the Bureau, or the equipment the Bureau intends to acquire that requires approval by the governing body.
- (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 Monterey County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigations (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 bureau's funding, acquisition, and use of equipment.
- (f) Preparing the annual military equipment report for submission to the Chief Investigator and ensuring that the report is made available on the bureau 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 Bureau will respond in a timely manner.

705.4 MILITARY EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

1. The following constitutes a list of qualifying equipment for the Bureau: Colt M4 Carbine Caliber 5.56 with 11.5-inch barrel, Serial No. LE515092
2. Colt M4 Carbine Caliber 5.56 with 11.5-inch barrel, Serial No. LE515103
3. Drone - Skydio2-e7kv Serial No. S2.0F.B.00E7KV
4. Drone - DJI WM330A Serial No. 07DDD3T0A10549

Military Equipment

705.5 APPROVAL

The Chief Investigator 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 Investigator or the authorized designee shall ensure the proposed military equipment policy is submitted to the governing body and is available on the bureau 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 bureau.
- (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.

705.6 COORDINATION WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS

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

705.7 ANNUAL REPORT

Upon approval of a military equipment policy, the Chief Investigator 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 Investigator or the authorized designee should also make each annual military equipment report publicly available on the bureau 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 bureau inventory.

Military Equipment

705.8 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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