



Military Equipment Use Policy & Summary CY 2025

Assembly Bill 481

Authored to address the funding, acquisition, and use of military equipment by law enforcement agencies.

Sheriff's Office required to obtain approval by the Board of Supervisors, through adoption of the military equipment use policy through ordinance.



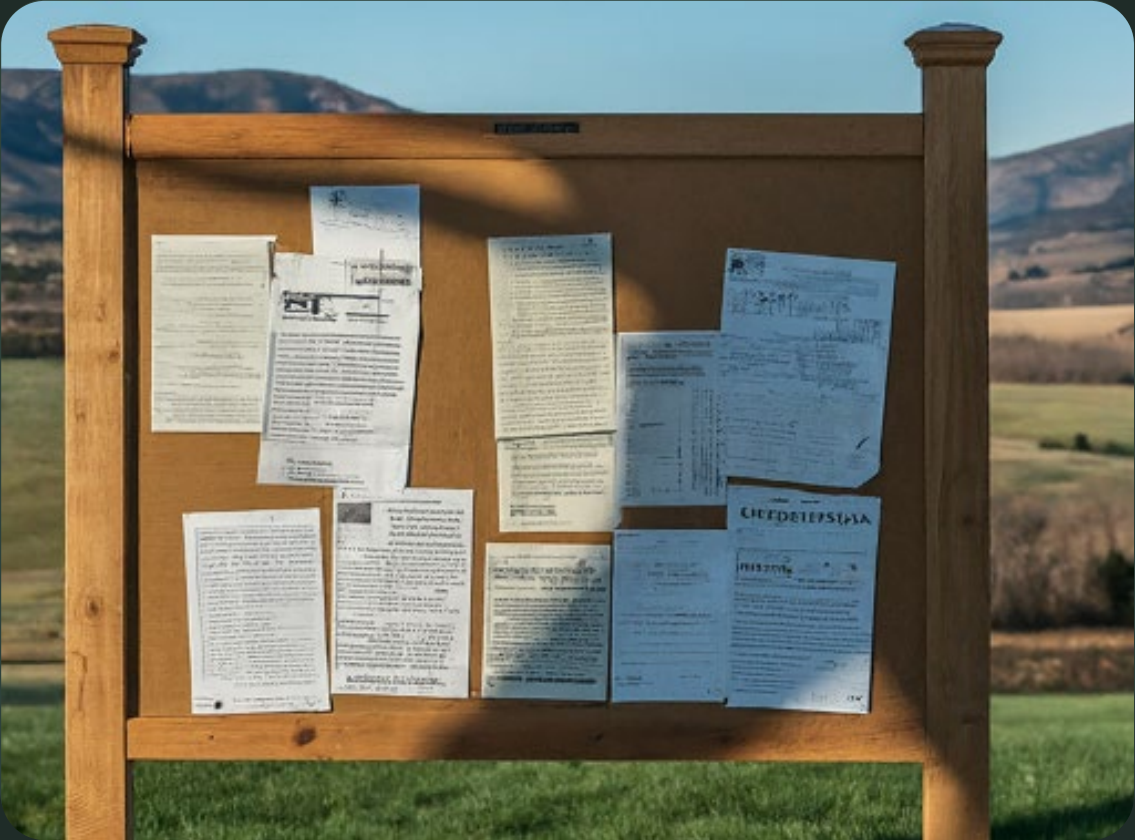
Assembly Bill 481

Sheriff's MEU Policy must be posted on our website for 30 days prior to introduction and adoption of the ordinance.

Sheriff's Office required to submit an annual report to the Board of Supervisors which includes summaries of:

- How equipment was used/the purpose
- Any complaints/concerns received
- Annual costs
- Quantities Sought
- Other items





Policy Notices

- Report posted on Sheriff's website since 5/6/2026
- Public meeting announcement posted on Sheriff's social media on 3/30/2026 for review and comment
- Public Meeting hosted by Sheriff's Office on 5/5/2026 at 9:00 AM, at Schilling Place
- BOS Agenda on 5/19/2026



Drones

- Currently have 11 units
- Uses:
 - Patrol
 - Search & Rescue
 - Tactical Response
 - Bomb Squad

Vehicles

Currently have 13 units:

- (1) MRAP (Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected vehicle)
 - Flood response / High water rescue
 - Tactical response
- (8) Humvee Patrol
 - Patrol
 - Flood/High water rescue
- (2) Pickup Truck
 - Professional staff/Corrections
- (1) Bearcat Armored Carrier
 - Tactical response
- (1) Mobile Command Post vehicle
 - Special Events/Extended Incidents



Photo by Chris Morrison

Munitions & Launchers



- Distraction Devices
 - Noise & Light (“Flashbang”)
- Chemical Agents
 - OC (pepper spray)
- Launchers
 - 40mm
 - 12-gauge “bean bag” rounds
 - FN303
- Deployed in tactical situations requiring crowd control, crowd dispersal, or barricaded suspects

Breaching Explosives

- A thin plastic tube filled with fast-burning explosive material
- Bomb Squad Use
 - Training
 - Safe destruction of suspicious devices
 - Precision demolition
 - Tactical Breaches



Rifles

- Patrol
 - Model: Colt M-4
- Tactical Response/SWAT
 - Model: Colt 6490
 - 5.56 Caliber Ammunition
 - Model H&K MP5-N
 - 9mm Ammunition
 - Used only in tactical operations where longer rifles are deemed unpractical



Equipment Utilization – 2025

- Deployment of any military equipment is documented
- 43 deployments were recorded for 2025 across 8 categories

Apprehension (6)

- Searching for persons during an active law enforcement activity

SWAT Ops (3)

- Includes specialized rifles, drones, and specific munitions

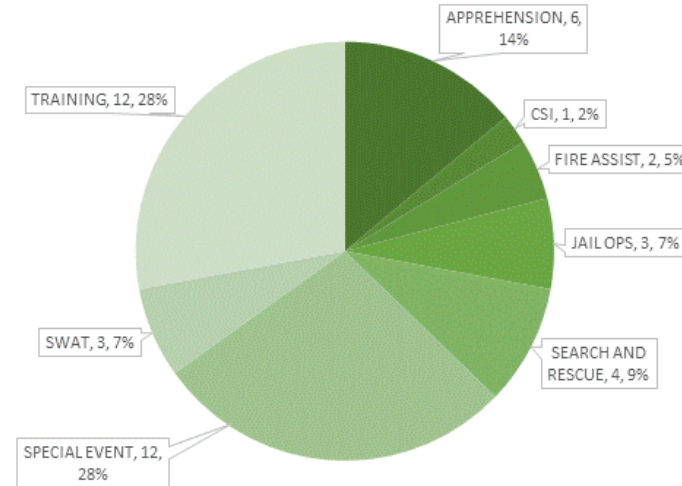
Special Events (12)

- Crowd observation / incident overwatch for large scale events

Search & Rescue (4)

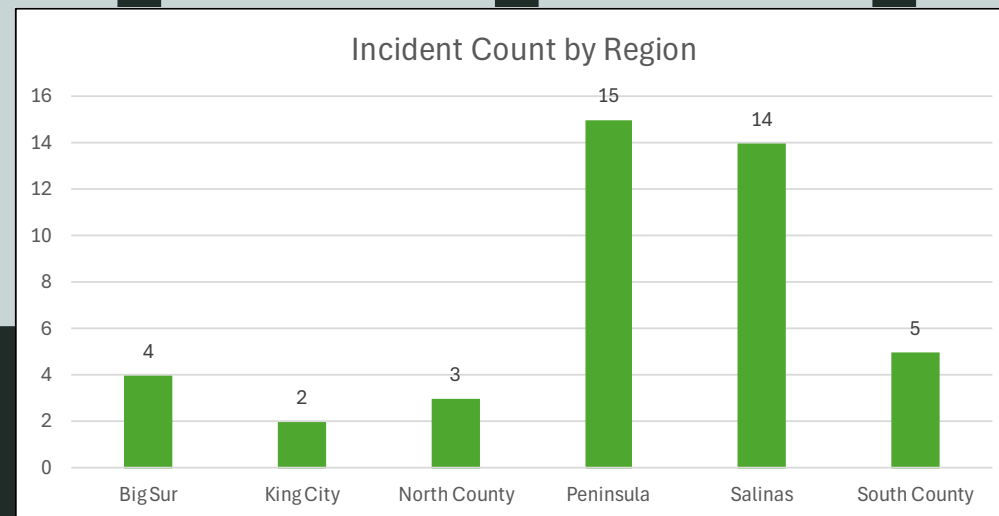
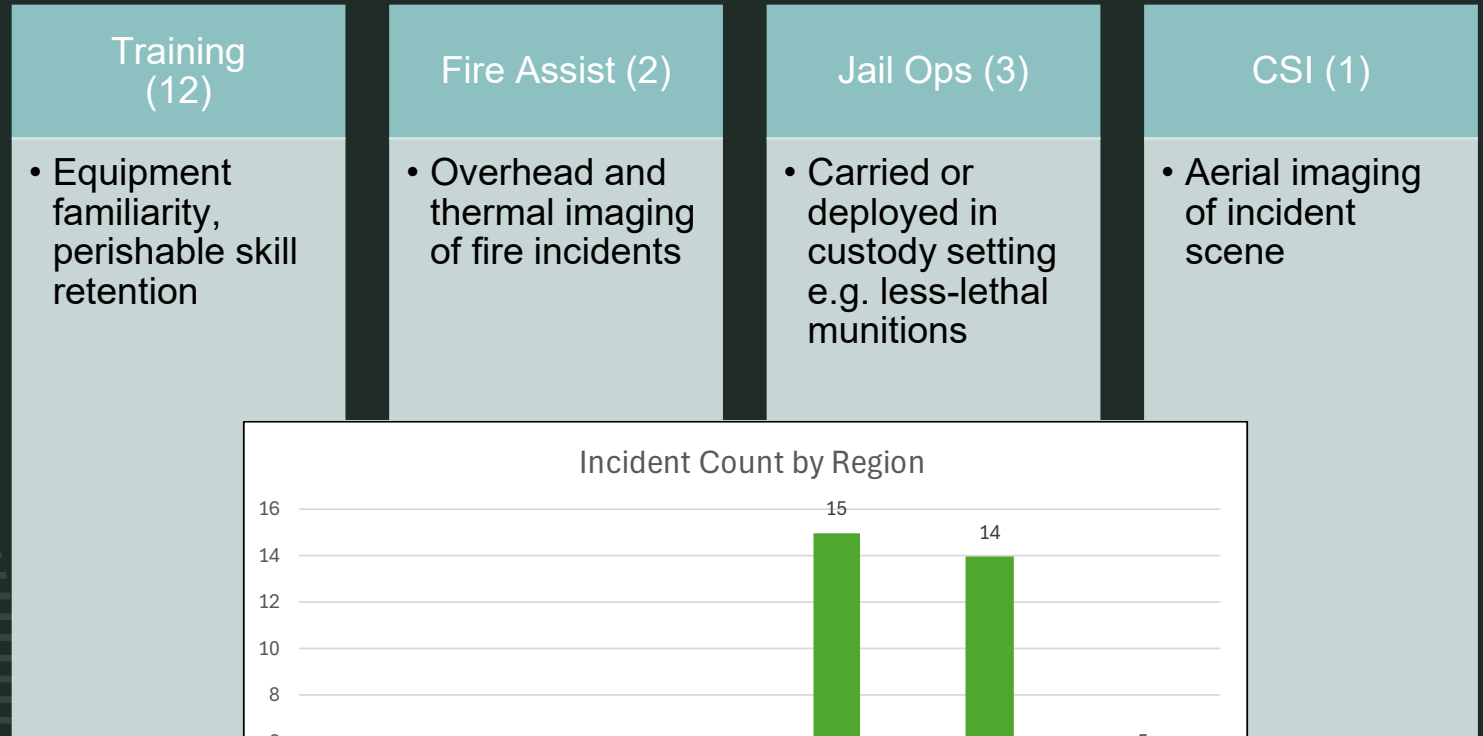
- Aid in locating missing persons or victim recovery

2025 Incident Type Summary
(Type, Count, % of Total)



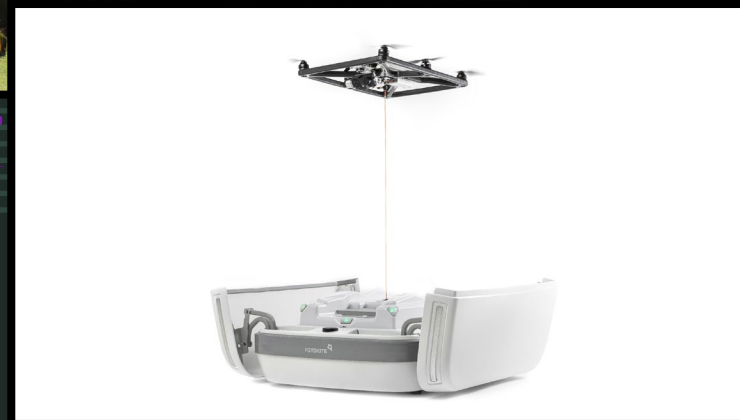
Equipment Utilization – 2025

- Deployments occurred in all areas of the county
- Peninsula and Salinas regions had the highest activity (Special Event and Training categories contributed to this)
- Salinas region includes deployments within the County Jail



Equipment Acquisition Plans

- (6) Drones identical or similar to existing equipment (approx. \$225,000)
- (1) “Fotokite Sigma” tethered drone
 - Grant funding for purchase cost (approx. \$71,000)
- (1) or more Humvee and/or MRAP style vehicles
 - No cost to obtain via federal program
 - May be used to support/maintain existing equipment
- (1) “Rook” armored vehicle platform
 - Grant funding for purchase cost (approx. \$475,000)



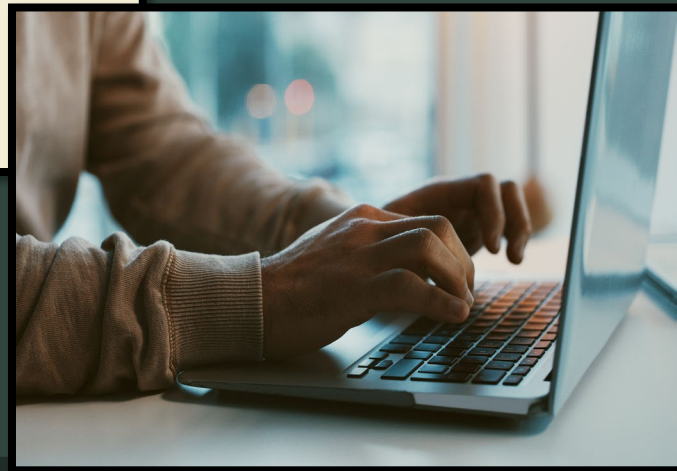
Controlling Lexipol Policies

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





Professional
Standards
Division



Complaint or Concern Process

- Lexipol policy #1020 – Personnel Complaints governs response to complaints received from the community
- Policy #709 – Military Equipment governs questions or concerns related to use of military equipment
- Complaints handled in same manner as other citizen complaints
- No complaints were received for CY2025

2025

2025 MILITARY
EQUIPMENT ANNUAL
REPORT (GC §7072)

MONTEREY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Annual Report

- 2026 Annual Report for CY2025 will be submitted to the Board
- Report is also published on the Sheriff's website and social media accounts

Thank You



Chief Deputy Eric Bixler
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