



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Assembly Bill 481 Military Equipment Use Policy

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Lieutenant
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Presentation Overview

Police Department

- Overview of Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481)
- Military Equipment Definition
- Pasadena Police Department (PPD) implementation
- Pasadena Police Department's Equipment Inventory
- Recommendations
- Q&A

Public Comment on Policy

- Policy posted and comments accepted online:
 - > Pasadena Police Website: www.cityofpasadena.net/police



AB 481 Overview

Police Department

- AB 481 became Effective January 1, 2022
- Ensures there are safeguards, including transparency, oversight, and accountability measures in place, for the equipment in use.
- Summary of bill requirements:
 - > Law enforcement agencies to obtain approval of the governing body related to funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment.
 - > Adoption of a military equipment use policy by ordinance.
 - > Annual reporting of military type of equipment and renew of ordinance.
 - > Post on agency's website any proposed or final military equipment use policy for as long as the military equipment is available for use.
 - > Begin a governing body approval process by May 1st.
- Policy approval by governing body required within 180 days or the law enforcement agency shall cease use of equipment until receiving approval.



Military Equipment Definition

Police Department

- Equipment includes:
 - > Items that are “military” type equipment per AB 481
 - > Any surplus equipment received from the Department of Defense / Military
- Majority of equipment is considered non-lethal equipment.
- Equipment considered best practice and tools of the trade.
- Industry standard for Law Enforcement nationwide.
- Designed to ensure public safety:
 - > De-escalate violent incidents
 - > Minimize the use of lethal force
 - > Reduce injury to either suspects or officers
- Most equipment sourced through direct purchases and seizures.
- Items are rarely used, but available and prepared to use if necessary.




Military Equipment & Public Safety

Police Department

- City of Pasadena is an international destination with large scale events, business centers, universities and attractions
- New Year events ideal opportunity for terrorist attacks
 - > Department of Homeland Security assessment
 - > Consistently receive Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR) of 1
 - Significant event
 - National and/or international importance
 - Requires extensive federal interagency support
- Potential use of equipment during:
 - > Active shooters
 - > School attacks
 - > Vehicle attacks
 - > Hostage rescue / barricaded suspect
 - > Violent demonstration

Office of Operations Coordination
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528



Fact Sheet

What are Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR) Events?

SEAR events are voluntarily submitted special events, which are sent to the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) [Office of Operations Coordination \(OCS\)](#) by state, local, and federal officials for a risk assessment. Examples of submitted events have included the Super Bowl, Indianapolis 500, and the Kentucky Derby. OCS applies a risk-based methodology to all submitted events and assigns them a SEAR rating. This methodology considers the threat, vulnerability, and consequences for each event.

Submitted events may receive one of the following SEAR ratings:

Level	Description
1	Significant events with national and/or international importance that require extensive federal interagency support.
2	Significant events with national and/or international importance that may require some level of federal interagency support.
3	Events of national and/or international importance that require only limited federal support.
4	Events with limited national importance that are managed at the state and local levels.
5	Events that may be nationally recognized but generally have local or state importance.

What role does the federal government play for these events?

The federal government assists and supports state and local officials in filling local capability shortfalls, thus helping to assure a safe and secure event. For past SEAR events, this assistance has included:

- Explosive detection canine teams;
- Cyber risk assessments;
- Venue screening and field intelligence teams; and
- Air security and tactical operations support.

PASADENA



PPD Implementation

Police Department

- Drafted Military Equipment Use Policy – 711, including equipment inventory, consistent with AB 481:
 - > Description
 - > Quantity
 - > Capabilities
 - > Purchase Cost
 - > Purpose
 - > Authorized Users
 - > Fiscal impact
- Posted policy on the Police Department website on April 21st for a minimum of 30-days for public review and comment.
- Provided information to Local media outlets and social media posts to engage public.
- Community Police Oversight Committee (CPOC) presentation scheduled at the upcoming May meeting to solicit feedback.



AB 481 – Equipment Categories

Police Department

Military Equipment Categories: (16 Total – 9 Types in Pasadena)

1. Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial or ground vehicles

- Tactical Robot
- Unmanned Aerial System

2. Mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicles or armored personnel carriers

- BearCat Armored Rescue Vehicles

5. Command and control vehicles that are either built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units

- Mobile Command Post
- Mobile Operations Center

7. Battering rams, slugs, and breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature

- Lock defeating / breaching shotgun rounds

8. Firearms of .50 caliber or greater – Specifically Excludes shotguns

- .50 caliber precision rifle

9. Ammunition of .50 caliber or greater - Specifically Excludes shotgun rounds

- .50 caliber ammunition



AB 481 – Equipment Categories

Police Department

Military Equipment Categories (cont.):

12. Flashbangs and explosive breaching tools, “tear gas,” and “pepper balls,”

(excludes standard handheld pepper spray)

- Flashbang Distraction Devices
- Chemical Agents (CS & OC)
- PepperBall Launcher and rounds – PAVA Powder

14. Projectile launch platforms and associated munitions

- 40mm launchers (both single and multi-launchers)
- 40mm impact munitions

16. Equipment controlled by the Federal Defense Logistics Agency

- Helicopters



Recommendations

Police Department

It is Recommended that the City Council:

1. Approve the CEQA finding; and
2. Direct the City Attorney to draft and return with an ordinance within 30 days to adopt a military equipment use policy pursuant to Government Code 7071.

The ordinance and policy will incorporate feedback from the Community Police Oversight Commission (CPOC) and public comments received.



Questions

Police Department

Questions?