

California Assembly Bill 481: Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition, and Use Policy 2024 Annual Update – Community Police Review Board, February 19, 2025

Assistant Police Chief Torres



Agenda



- Assembly Bill 481 Overview
- “Military Equipment” Defined and Categorized
- San Leandro Police Inventory by Category
- 2024 Community Police Review Board Feedback
- How We Used the “Military Equipment”
- Concerns
- Policy Violations
- Additional Requests



Assembly Bill 481 Overview



- Signed into law by Governor Newsom on September 30, 2021
- Increases transparency, accountability and oversight for funding, acquisition and use of specified equipment
- Provides safeguards to protect public welfare, safety, and civil liberties
- Defines and categorizes “military equipment”
- Requires law enforcement agencies possessing “military equipment” to seek City Council approval for the procurement and continued use of such equipment
- Requires an annual report to summarize usage, updates, community concerns and internal audits/policy violations





Military Equipment – Defined and Categorized

- Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial or ground vehicles (Category 1)
- Mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles or armored personnel carriers (Category 2)
- 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 (Category 3)
- Tracked armored vehicles that provide ballistic protection to their occupants (Category 4)
- Command and control vehicles that are either built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units (Category 5)
- Weaponized aircraft, vessels, or vehicles of any kind (Category 6)
- Battering rams, slugs, and breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature (Category 7)
- Firearms of .50 caliber or greater (Category 8) |
- Ammunition of .50 caliber or greater (Category 9)
- Specialized firearms and ammunition of less than .50 caliber (Category 10)
- Any firearm or firearm accessory that is designed to launch explosive projectiles (Category 11)
- Noise-flash diversionary devices and explosive breaching tools, munitions containing tear gas or OC, excluding standard, service-issued handheld pepper spray (Category 12)
- TASER® Shockwave, microwave weapons, water cannons, and long-range acoustic devices (Category 13)
- Kinetic energy weapons and munitions (Category 14)
- Any other equipment as determined by a governing body or a state agency to require additional oversight (Category 15)

*Highlighted represents SLPD existing PD Equipment



SLPD Military Equipment - Categorized

Category 1

- Tactical Robot
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV, also know as “drone”)

Category 2 & 3

- MedEvac Armored Personnel Carrier (Category 2)
- Battering ram attached to the MedEvac Armored Personnel Carrier (Category 3)

Category 5

- Mobile Command Post
- Mobile Hostage Negotiations Team Operation Command Vehicle

Category 7

- Breaching Shotguns
- Breaching Rounds



SLPD Military Equipment - Categorized

Category 10

- AR-15 Rifles
- .308 Sniper Rifle
- Rifle Ammunition

Category 11

- Bean Bag Shotgun
- 40MM Launcher

Category 12

- Diversionary Device (Flash Bangs)
- Chemical Agents

Category 14

- 40MM Tactical Launcher
- Bean Bag Shotgun
- Bean Bags

2024 Community Police Review Board Feedback

- Community Meeting – February 21, 2024
- Board unanimously voted on the following recommendations [paraphrased for brevity]:
 - Add specific language to exclude from future acquisition:
 - Tracked Armored Vehicles
 - Weaponized Aircraft
 - Firearms and Ammunition of .50 caliber or greater
 - TASER Shockwave, microwave weapons, water canons and long-range acoustic devices
 - Delete Policy Section 707.7 regarding “Exigent Circumstances”

707.4 Policy Revision – Equipment Inventory

- The following equipment is not authorized for use by the San Leandro Police Department:
 - Tracked Armored Vehicles
 - Weaponized aircraft of any kind
 - Firearms and ammunition of .50 caliber or greater
 - TASER Shockwave, microwave weapons and long-range acoustic devices
- **Water Canons are authorized to be used for fire suppression purposes only.**

707.7 Policy Revision – Exigent Circumstances

- If there is a good faith belief that an emergency involving the danger of, or imminent threat of, death or serious physical injury to any person ~~or destruction of property~~ is occurring, has occurred, or is about to occur, and with the approval of the Chief of Police or designee, the department may acquire, borrow and/or use military equipment that is not included in the military equipment inventory section of this policy.

Military Equipment Usage in 2024



* Non-training settings January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024



SLPD Military Equipment – Category I

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

- 62 Deployments
 - Barricaded Subjects
 - Warrant Service
 - Scene Mapping
- Search for:
 - Armed Individuals
 - Burglary Suspects
 - Theft Suspects
 - Robbery Suspects
 - Attempt/Murder Suspect
 - Missing Persons
 - Evidence Retrieval

SLPD Military Equipment – Category 2 & 3



MedEvac Armored Vehicle

- 21 Tactical Deployments
 - Barricaded Subjects
 - Armed Subject
 - Shooting
- 2 Community Events



SLPD Military Equipment – Category 5

Mobile Command Post

- 4 Deployments
 - Cherry Festival
 - Car Show
 - San Leandro Pride Fest
 - 12/29/24 Gas Leak

Mobile Hostage Negotiations Command Vehicle

- 5 Deployments
 - Warrant Service
 - Suicidal Subjects with Shots Fired



SLPD Military Equipment – Category 12

40MM Launcher

- 2 Deployments (12 device launches)
 - Barricaded Robbery Suspect in Stationary Vehicle (11 rounds)
 - Assault With a Deadly Weapon Suspect (1 round)

CS Gas Ferret

- 12 Deployments w/ 40MM Launcher
 - Barricaded Robbery Suspect in Stationary Vehicle (11 rounds)
 - Assault With a Deadly Weapon Suspect (1 round)

CS Gas Canister

- 1 Deployment
 - Barricaded Robbery Suspect in Stationary Vehicle

Community Complaints or Concerns Received

- None

Military Equipment Related Policy Violations

- None

2024/2025 Acquisitions – Category 10

- Primary Weapon Systems Patrol Rifle
 - AB 481 approved purchase of 40 rifles in 2023
 - 20 rifles were purchased in February 2024
 - \$51,999.90 (Approx. \$2,600/each)
 - 20 budgeted for FY 24/25
 - Remaining 20 to be purchased in FY 24/25
 - Approximately \$3,000/each
- Rock River Arms Upper Half Receiver Rifle Replacement Parts
 - Converted 16 SWAT Rifles to Patrol Officer Use
 - \$10,794.38

2024 Removals– Category I0

- Removed (4) Personally Owned Rifles
 - There are no longer any personally owned rifles that are being deployed by officers

Requests for 2025 – Category 7

- (2) Aardvark Kinetic Breaching Tool (KBT) Model: 3-1000
 - Hand-held self-contained impact ram, powered by .45 caliber powder-actuated cartridges
 - Allows for forced entry by defeating locking mechanisms, hinges, and doorframes
 - Increase operator safety by allowing operators to breach from behind a shield or to the side of the door.
 - Is more efficient and safer than a traditional battering ram or shotgun breaching
 - \$14,000 each
 - Expected Life Span of 10 years
 - Will Replace the Breaching Shotguns



2025 Planned Removals– Category 7

- (4) Remington 870 Express Breaching Shotguns
 - Royal Arms T.E.S.A.R. -1 Orange Cap Breach Rounds
 - Royal Arms T.E.S.A.R. - 2 Black Cap Breach Rounds

*Will be removed upon approval and acquisition of AARDVARK Breaching Tool

SLPD Assembly Bill 48I Website

- Current Policy
- Current Inventory
- <https://www.sanleandro.org/1077/Assembly-Bill-48I>