

**BAY CITY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BAY CITY, MICHIGAN**

SECTION 3 – LAW ENFORCEMENT
GENERAL ORDER

January 16, 2013
INDEX NO. 3.19

PATROL RIFLE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this order is to establish departmental guidelines for the authorization, qualification, and maintenance of the patrol rifle by sworn officers of the Bay City Department of Public Safety authorized to carry firearms.

This policy is for internal use only and is not intended to enlarge the employee's civil or criminal liability in any way. It shall not be construed as the creation of a higher legal standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense with respect to third party claims, insofar as law imposes the employee's legal duty.

Noncompliance with this policy constitutes a violation of an employment duty only, except in such case as any noncompliance is also a violation of the laws of our state and nation. Therefore, violations of this policy shall only form the basis of disciplinary action within this department.

In the event that a violation of the duties imposed by this policy also constitutes a breach of the duties imposed by the laws of our state and nation, nothing herein shall be construed to relieve one from that legal duty or from any action resulting from a breach of that legal duty.

II. QUALIFICATION AND AUTHORIZATION

- A. Duly appointed and sworn officers of this department shall be authorized to carry a patrol rifle while on duty provided:
 - 1. An officer successfully completed and passed a course of fire as established by the departmental firearms instructors. The course of fire will be conducted once a year and it will be recorded and maintained in the training files.
 - 2. An officer successfully completed and passed an exam that tests their knowledge of this general order and their familiarization / orientation of the patrol rifle features and functions. The departmental firearms instructors will establish this exam. Officers must pass this exam with a 100% score. The exam will be recorded and maintained in the training files.

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III. REVOCATION OF AUTHORIZATION

- A. An officer's proficiency with firearms is a fundamental and mandatory element of his / her fitness for duty.
- B. Any officer, who fails to pass both of the above described requirements for qualification, shall be prohibited from carrying the patrol rifle until such time as the requirements are achieved.
- C. No officer shall at any time carry any weapon that he / she have not qualified with as required.
- D. In the event that the officer is unable to qualify with the patrol rifle after additional training with a thirty (30) day period, he / she shall be deemed unfit for duty and appropriate disciplinary action taken.

IV. INITIAL DEPLOYMENT

- A. The following procedures will be followed for deploying the patrol rifle:
 - 1. Officers, who are authorized to carry the patrol rifle, will retrieve a patrol rifle at the beginning of their shift from the arms room. The command officer will inspect the rifle prior to each officer deploying it.
 - 2. Officers, who are authorized to deploy a patrol rifle, will secure the weapon in their patrol vehicle during their shift.
 - 3. Officers will return the patrol rifle to the arms room after their respective supervisor inspects the rifle at the completion of their shift.
- B. At no time will an officer going off duty leave a patrol rifle in the patrol vehicle for another officer coming on duty who may be using the same patrol vehicle.

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V. SECURING THE WEAPON AT THE START OF EACH SHIFT

- A. The following procedure will be followed for securing the patrol rifle at the beginning of each officer's shift:
1. The officer will have his / her patrol rifle inspected by a supervisor. If a supervisor locates a chambered round, he / she will take the patrol rifle to the evidence intake area and clear the chambered round in the Guardian TS clearing device. The supervisor shall take the appropriate action concerning a chambered round in a patrol rifle.
 2. The officer will make certain that the weapon's safety is on.
 3. The officer will visually and physically check to ensure that the weapon is unloaded.
 4. If an officer locates a chambered round, he / she will take the patrol rifle to the evidence intake area and clear the chambered round in the Guardian TS clearing device.
 5. The officer will take the patrol rifle and a fully loaded magazine outside of the Law Enforcement Center.
 6. Position the weapon in a safe direction.
 7. Perform a function check of the EO Tech sight system and the SureFire Light system.
 8. The officer will visually check to see if the bolt is in a forward position.
 9. The officer will ensure that the charging handle is in a locked forward position.
 10. The officer will grasp the magazine with the support hand. The support hand should be low on the magazine, near the bottom.
 11. Check to ensure the magazine is loaded and there is no red tape on either magazine near the bottom.

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12. The primary duty round shall be determined by the supervisor in charge of departmental firearms instructors and approved by the Public Safety Director or designee.
13. Firmly insert the magazine into the magazine well until it clicks into place.
14. Pull down on the magazine. This insures the magazine is seated correctly.
15. The officer will then secure the patrol rifle in the gun rack in their assigned patrol vehicle.
16. An officer shall never place the patrol rifle into the gun rack with a chambered round.

VI. SITUATIONAL DEPLOYMENT

- A. Patrol Rifles will be deployed consistent with the departmental Response to Resistance Policy.
- B. Officers deploying the patrol rifle will maintain control of the firearm at all times or insure that the weapon is secured by another officer.
- C. The officer shall leave the safety on until he / she has made the decision to fire the weapon in accordance with the Use of Deadly Force and Firearms General Orders.
- D. Patrol rifle deployment is recommended when the following conditions are identified:
 1. Any potentially dangerous / deadly force situation where the officer has reason to believe that deployment of the patrol rifle will contribute to the safe resolution of the incident or diminish risk to the officer or the public.
 2. The officer is assigned as a cover officer on perimeter security or a containment team during a tactical operation.

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3. The officer has cause to believe that an armed offender is wearing body armor or is shielded by an intervening barrier.
 4. In the event that the officer has reason to believe that the offender is wearing body armor or is shielded by an intervening barrier, the officer may deploy an approved “Barrier” round. Prior to deployment, the officer shall request permission from a supervisor. If neither time nor safety allows such procedure, the officer may deploy this round to accomplish a safe resolution to the incident.
 5. The officer has cause to believe that an offender may be engaged at an extended distance.
 6. The destruction of an injured or sick animal per departmental policy.
- E. The following procedure shall be followed to chamber a round for situational deployment:
1. Remove the weapon from the gun rack in the patrol vehicle.
 2. Point the weapon in a safe direction.
 3. Ensure the safety selector is on SAFE, and your finger is off the trigger.
 4. Check to ensure the magazine is seated in the magazine well by pulling firmly down on the magazine.
 5. Keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and your finger off the trigger, pull the charging handle to the rear and release it. This will chamber a round.
 6. If the bolt was locked to the rear before insertion of a magazine, the operator can either pull the charging handle to the rear and release it or depress the bolt catch to allow the bolt to go forward and seat a round into the chamber.

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VII. SECURING THE PATROL RIFLE FOLLOWING DEPLOYMENT

- A. The procedure for securing the patrol rifle following deployment in the patrol vehicle gun rack shall be:
1. Point the weapon in a safe direction.
 2. Ensure the safety selector is on SAFE, and your finger is off the trigger.
 3. Grasp the magazine with the support hand.
 4. Depress the magazine release.
 5. Remove the magazine from the weapon and secure it in a pouch or pocket.
 6. Keeping the weapon pointed in a safe direction rotate the weapon 90 degrees so the ejection port is towards the ground.
 7. Place thumb on the bolt catch.
 8. Slowly, deliberately pull the charging handle to the rear, ejecting the round onto the ground where you can see it.
 9. Rack the action 2 to 3 additional times, watching to insure no more live rounds are falling onto the ground.
 10. Press the bolt catch while pulling the charging handle to the rear, locking the bolt open.
 11. Push the charging handle forward into the locked position.
 12. Visually and physically inspect the chamber to ensure it is empty.
 13. Prior to securing the weapon into the patrol vehicle gun rack for situational deployment, the officer shall follow steps listed in:
“V – SECURING THE WEAPON AT THE START OF EACH SHIFT” of this General Order.

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VIII. SECURING THE WEAPON AT THE END OF THE SHIFT

- A. The following procedure will be followed for securing the patrol rifle at the completion of each officer's shift:
1. The officer will remove the patrol rifle from the patrol vehicle gun rack.
 2. The officer will make certain that the weapon's safety is on.
 3. The officer, while outside of the Law Enforcement Center, shall grasp the magazine with the support hand.
 4. Depress the magazine release.
 5. Remove the magazine from the weapon and secure it in a pouch or a pocket.
 6. Keeping the weapon pointed in a safe direction rotate the weapon 90 degrees so the ejection port is towards the ground.
 7. Place thumb on the bolt catch.
 8. Slowly, deliberately pull the charging handle to the rear.
 9. If the officer locates a chambered round, he / she will take the patrol rifle inside the Law Enforcement Center. He / she will place the barrel inside the Guardian TS clearing device and rake the action to eject the live round.
 10. Rack the action 2 to 3 additional times, watching to insure no live rounds are falling onto the ground.
 11. Press the bolt catch while pulling the charging handle to the rear, locking the bolt open.
 12. Push the charging handle forward into the locked position.
 13. Visually and physically inspect the chamber to insure it is empty.

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14. The action will be locked back open and the magazine will be removed at ALL times when the weapon is inside of the Law Enforcement Center.
15. The officer will return the patrol rifle and magazine to a supervisor for inspection.
16. A supervisor will inspect the officer's patrol rifle and magazine.
17. If the supervisor observes something wrong, he / she will document the information and forwarded it to the supervisor in charge of departmental firearms instructors.

IX. MAINTENANCE / EQUIPMENT OF PATROL RIFLES

- A. The departmental issued patrol rifle is the Rock River AR-15 with the following accessories:
 1. BlackHawk single point sling
 2. Collapsible stock magazine pouch
 3. Trijicon 3 dot night sights
 4. EOTech 500 Series
 5. SureFire M-500A
- B. No officer shall, at any time, change, alter, adjust, or modify the weapon itself or the accessories for the weapon.
- C. In the event that an officer discovers something wrong with the patrol rifle, he / she shall notify a departmental firearms instructor immediately. If a departmental firearms instructor is not available, he / she shall notify a supervisor. The supervisor shall take the weapon out of service.
- D. Noncompliance constitutes a direct violation of this order and shall result in disciplinary action.

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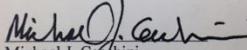
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X. ADMINISTRATIVE REMOVAL OF THE PATROL RIFLE

- A. An officer shall never leave a patrol rifle in the patrol vehicle gun rack when a patrol vehicle is being taken to be serviced.
- B. An officer shall never leave the tactical bag inside of a patrol vehicle when it is being taken to be serviced.

By order of:


Michael J. Cocchini
Public Safety Director