

Merced Police Department
Assembly Bill 481-Military Equipment Use Policy
Updated September, 2025
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Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

This document has been created in accordance with California Assembly Bill 481 (AB-481), codified in California Government Code sections 7070-7075.

The equipment identified in this document is stored and or used at the Merced Police Department operated facilities listed below.

Patrol Stations

Central Station- 611 W 22nd Street Merced, Ca 95340

South Station- 470 W 11th Street Merced, Ca 95340

The equipment listed in this document is primarily used by the Merced Police Department personnel during a critical incident or tactical operation. These incidents are mission based and may only call for some of the items to be used. Our goal is to resolve these incidents in a manner that will best safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties. The attempt to resolve each incident without using force or using as minimal force as possible is our primary goal.

A tactical operation or critical incident may be considered as, but not limited to the following:

High risk warrant service

Dignitary Protection

Overwatch

Civil Unrest

Barricaded Subject(s)

Hostage Situation

Active Shooter

Hazardous and explosive devices

It is the policy of the Merced Police Department to ensure we provide adequate public safety services in a transparent manner, including the purchase and use of military equipment.

Decisions regarding the use, procurement and funding of military equipment should take into consideration the public's welfare, safety, civil rights and allow for public input.

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

The Department shall make the following considerations before seeking authorization for purchasing military equipment:

- The equipment is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that could provide the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
- The equipment is reasonably cost effective compared to alternatives that can achieve the same objectives of officer and civilian safety.

The procurement or use of any new type of military equipment, not already in possession of the Department, or approved on the current Military Equipment Policy, will require the approval of the Merced City Council as outlined in Section 7071(a)(1)(A)- 7071(a)(1)(G). These procedures are also outlined in the Merced Policy and Procedure Manual Section 706.

Merced Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual Section 706 Military Use Equipment may be referred to for additional information regarding:

- The definition and types of military equipment as defined in California Government Code section 7070(c)(1)-(16).
- The approval process for the purchase of any additional military equipment.
- The requirements for the annual review of the Military Equipment Report as defined by California Government Code Section 7071(e).

Violations of the Military Equipment Use Policy by members of the Merced Police Department may result in sanctions including suspension or termination.

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1.0 Unmanned Aerial System (UAS), Interior Drone and Robots**
- 2.0 Armored personnel carriers/Multipurpose wheeled Vehicles**
- 3.0 Specialized firearms and ammunition**
- 4.0 Chemical Agents, OC filled projectiles and Flashbang Grenades**
- 5.0 40mm/37MM launchers, Less Lethal Bean Bag shotgun and munitions**
- 6.0 Inquiry/Complaint process**

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

1.0 UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM (UAS) INTERIOR DRONE AND ROBOTS

1.1 Unmanned Aerial System (UAS)

DJI Phantom 4	
Description	Commercial UAS
Quantity	4
Capability	Fly, Hover, broadcast video, record video, Photography
Life Span	UAS devices need to be upgraded as software becomes obsolete by vendors. Our current fleet will be upgraded this year
Manufacturer's Desc	Commercial grade UAS equipped with UHD capable camera. Has live stream capability and 28 min. flight time
Purpose	Provide Aerial Support for L.E. operations
Authorized Usage	Investigative purposes Used by licensed and trained personnel to locate persons and provide arial reconnaissance
Costs	Initial Cost: \$1,399.00 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0
	Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Remote Pilot 107 Certification, and 20 hours Merced Police UAS training
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 608 FAA Part 107 holder and completion of department training Merced City Resolution 2017-57

DJI Mavic Enterprise 2	
Description	Commercial UAS
Quantity	1
Capability	Fly, Hover, broadcast video, record video, Photography, FLIR
Life Span	UAS devices need to be upgraded as software becomes obsolete by vendors. Our current fleet will be upgraded this year

Merced Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Manufacturer's Desc	Commercial grade UAS equipped with integrated thermal camera. Has adjustable parameters and multiple display modes
Purpose	Provide Aerial Support for L.E. operations
Authorized Usage	Investigative purposes Used by licensed and trained personnel to locate persons and provide arial reconnaissance
Costs	Initial Cost: \$7,874.05 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Remote Pilot 107 Certification, and 20 hours Merced Police UAS training
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 608 FAA Part 107 holder and completion of department training Merced City Resolution 2017-57

DJI Mavic Mini	
Description	Commercial UAS
Quantity	5
Capability	Fly, Hover, broadcast video, record video, Photography
Life Span	UAS devices need to be upgraded as software becomes obsolete by vendors. Our current fleet will be upgraded this year
Manufacturer's Desc	Commercial grade UAS equipped with UHD capable camera. Has live stream capability and 28 min. max flight time
Purpose	Provide Aerial Support for L.E. operations
Authorized Usage	Investigative purposes Used by licensed and trained personnel to locate persons and provide arial reconnaissance
Costs	Initial Cost: \$499.00 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Remote Pilot 107 Certification, and 20 hours Merced Police UAS training

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 608 FAA Part 107 holder and completion of department training Merced City Resolution 2017-57
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DJI Inspire 1	
Description	Commercial UAS
Quantity	1
Capability	Fly, Hover, broadcast video, record video, Photography
Life Span	UAS devices need to be upgraded as software becomes obsolete by vendors. Our current fleet will be upgraded this yea.
Manufacturer's Desc	Commercial grade UAS equipped with UHD capable camera. Has live stream capability and a 25-minute flight time
Purpose	Provide Aerial Support for L.E. operations
Authorized Usage	Investigative purposes Used by licensed and trained personnel to locate persons and provide arial reconnaissance
Costs	Initial Cost: \$0 ** Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed ** This drone was taken as evidence and later converted to department use in 2017
Required Training	Remote Pilot 107 Certification, and 20 hours Merced Police UAS training
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 608 FAA Part 107 holder and completion of department training Merced City Resolution 2017-57

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

1.2 Surveillance Robots

Avatar II	
Description	Avatar Tactical Robot
Quantity	2
Capability	Detect, reduce, and clear threats in complex terrain such as dense urban areas, and confined spaces. Has the ability to manipulate objects with articulating arm. Has microphone and loudspeaker to communicate through robot
Life Span	Devices need to be upgraded as software becomes obsolete by vendors
Manufacturer's Desc	The AVATAR enhances the capabilities of SWAT and tactical response teams by allowing them to inspect dangerous situations quickly and safely, there is no longer a need to send personnel in before you've had a chance to assess the situation The AVATAR saves lives by keeping first responders out of harm's way, and it does so at a fraction of the price of other robots. The AVATAR Robots are regarded by tactical teams as a standard operational tool, like a firearm, vehicle, or piece of body armor. Departments across the United States and internationally are using the AVATAR Robots
Purpose	Tactical scouting, moving objects, opening doors
Authorized Usage	Barricaded suspect, High risk warrant service Used by SWAT inside buildings for safer entry
Costs	Initial Cost: \$26,266 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	No official training required but only SWAT may deploy
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 404 and 407

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

1.3 Bomb Squad Robots

<i>Remote F6 Robot (Bomb Squad)</i>	
Description	Remote F6A
Quantity	1
Capability	Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Robot
Life Span	10-15
Manufacturer's Desc	The Remote ANDROS F6A is the most versatile, heavy-duty robot on the market. Speed and agility unite to make it the first choice for a wide range of missions, and its proven stair climbing ability, rugged and dependable chassis, and an arm capable of lifting 65lbs mean that the F6A is more than strong enough to handle any task. The F6A also offers multiple communications options, a chassis and manipulator that allow for unlimited accessories and tool combinations, and quick-release pneumatic wheels for rapid width reduction
Purpose	To assist in render safe procedures on Bomb Squad incidents
Authorized Usage	Emergency operations related CBRNE Used by the Bomb Squad for safer entry and/or investigation of devices
Costs	Initial Cost: \$220,000.00 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: \$1000.00 annually for maintenance, not including any upgrades
Required Training	No official training required but only Bomb Squad may deploy
Authority for Authorized Use	Certified by the FBI/ATF to render safe explosive threats under MPD policy section 408

<i>ICOR Robot (Bomb Squad)</i>	
Description	ICOR Caliber Flex
Quantity	1

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Capability	Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Robot
Life Span	10-15
Manufacturer's Desc	The Smartest robot in the CALIBER family, the CALIBER FLEX offers a lift capacity of 80 lbs. (36kg). Its Command & Control Unit provides automatic pre-set positioning to facilitate rapid deployment; and a 3D avatar that offers real-time positional feedback on the actual position of the robot. The Robot also comes equipped with flexible and precision controls, IP mesh radios, new and improved lasers with integrated LIDAR distance sensor, 2 speed pan tilt zoom camera and arm control and simultaneous controls.
Purpose	To assist in render safe procedures on Bomb Squad incidents
Authorized Usage	Emergency operations related CBRNE Used by the Bomb Squad for safer entry and/or investigation of devices
Costs	Initial Cost: \$196,000.00 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: \$1000.00 annually for maintenance, not including any upgrades
Required Training	No official training required but only Bomb Squad may deploy
Authority for Authorized Use	Certified by the FBI/ATF to render safe explosive threats under MPD policy section 408

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

2.0 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS/MULTIPURPOSE WHEELED VEHICLES

2.1 Armored Vehicle

<i>Avenger (SWAT)</i>	
Description	2006 Ford F550 Armored Avenger
Quantity	1
Capability	The Avenger is a large mobile armored vehicle used to conduct rescues, transport personnel and equipment, and provide security to the public. The Avenger is smaller and more maneuverable than the Armored Car
Life Span	20 years
Manufacturer's Desc	The Avenger is the standard tactical armored vehicle for special operations units within the US Law Enforcement community. Since the early 2000s a vast majority of law enforcement SWAT teams utilize the Avenger in training operations and critical incidents
Purpose	Regional asset. Provides armored vehicle response to critical incidents
Authorized Usage	To protect and safely transport Police personnel to active scenes Used only by SWAT personnel
Costs	Initial Cost: \$300,000.00 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: Approximately \$500.00 annually or as needed
Required Training	Class C California Driver's license
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD policy section 404

<i>Mobile Command Post</i>	
Description	2021 Farber Specialty Vehicle
Quantity	1
Capability	A mobile command post that's provides shelter, access to Merced Police Department's computer and communication systems, incident briefing room for extended events and operations.

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Life Span	20 years
Manufacturer's Desc	Emergency Response Mobile Command Vehicle. 38-foot vehicle on a Freightliner Chassis, 4 workstations and separate multi-purpose room.
Purpose	To be used based on the circumstances of a given critical incident, tactical operation, large event, natural disaster, or community event.
Authorized Usage	Authorized Merced Police Department personnel
Costs	Initial Cost: \$496,149.39 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: Approximately \$500.00 annually or as needed
Required Training	Class C California Driver's license
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD policy section 703

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

3.0 SPECIALIZED FIREARMS/AMMUNITION LESS THAN .50 CALIBER

3.1 Rifles

<i>Colt AR-15 Rifle / M4 Carbine</i>	
Description	Colt AR-15 Rifle / M4 Carbine (.223/5.56)
Quantity	49
Capability	The rifles can stop threats of great bodily injury or death at close and intermediate ranges. The rifle platform is capable of firing more accurately and quicker than a pistol while holding more rounds in the magazine and having better ballistic qualities
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The Colt AR-15 is a lightweight, magazine-fed, gas-operated rifle. Some of the rifles have select fire triggers. Some of the rifles have longer barrels and are designed for longer, more precise shots
Purpose	The AR-15 can stop threats of great bodily injury or death at close and intermediate ranges. The AR-15 platform is capable of firing more accurately and quicker than a pistol while holding more rounds in the magazine and having better ballistic qualities.
Authorized Usage	To defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death. Used by SWAT and sworn officers
Costs	Initial Cost: \$1000.00 per firearm Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: \$0-\$500 per firearm every 2 years
Required Training	24 hour –Patrol Rifle Course (CA POST) and POST certified SWAT school (SWAT only)

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

<i>Daniel Defense Delta 5 Pro</i>	
Description	Daniel Defense Delta 5 Pro .308 Caliber
Quantity	4
Capability	Long range precision shooting
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The Daniel Defense Delta 5 Pro are bolt operated, magazine fed, rifle chambered in .308 caliber guaranteed to shoot 0.5 MOA or Better.
Purpose	The platform is equipped with magnified optics and can be utilized to take precision shots at intermediate to long ranges. The .308 caliber bullet it shoots is also bigger and heavier than a typical .223 caliber bullet from an AR-15 which means it will penetrate barriers like glass with much less deflection.
Authorized Usage	To defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death. Used by the SWAT team.
Costs	Initial Cost: \$2500 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: \$0-\$500 per firearm every 2 years
Required Training	40 hour – POST Certified basic sniper school
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 404 Merced PD Use of Force Policy

<i>LWRC M6 6.8mm Rifle</i>	
Description	LWRC M6 6.8mm Rifle
Quantity	4
Capability	Long range precision shooting
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The LWRC International M6 series are gas-piston operated, rotary bolt, magazine fed, air-cooled, self-loading rifles chambered in 5.56x45mm NATO and 6.8x43mm SPC based on the Stoner AR-15 architecture
Purpose	The platform is equipped with magnified optics and can be utilized to take precision shots at intermediate to long ranges. The 6.8mm caliber bullet it shoots is also bigger and heavier than a typical .223 caliber

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

	bullet from an AR-15 which means it will penetrate barriers like glass with much less deflection
Authorized Usage	To defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death. Used by the SWAT team
Costs	Initial Cost: \$2500 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: \$0-\$500 per firearm every 2 years
Required Training	40 hour – POST Certified basic sniper school
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 404 Merced PD Use of Force Policy

<i>Ruger Mini 14 (.223)</i>	
Description	Ruger Mini 14 (.223) Rifle
Quantity	1
Capability	Long range precision shooting
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	Garand-style action with breech bolt locking system, a fixed-piston gas system and self-cleaning moving gas cylinder gives unparalleled reliability under harsh operating conditions
Purpose	The Mini 14 can stop threats of great bodily injury or death at close and intermediate ranges. The rifle platform is capable of firing more accurately and quicker than a pistol while holding more rounds in the magazine and having better ballistic qualities
Authorized Usage	To defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death. Used by the SWAT team
Costs	Initial Cost: \$1500 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: \$0-\$500 per firearm every 2 years
Required Training	40 hour – POST certified basic sniper school

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 404 Merced PD Use of Force Policy
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<i>Bushmaster AR-15 Rifle</i>	
Description	Bushmaster AR-15 Rifle (.223)
Quantity	21
Capability	The rifles can stop threats of great bodily injury or death at close and intermediate ranges. The rifle platform is capable of firing more accurately and quicker than a pistol while holding more rounds in the magazine and having better ballistic qualities
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The Bushmaster AR-15 is a lightweight, magazine-fed, gas-operated rifle. Some of the rifles have select fire triggers. Some of the rifles have longer barrels and are designed for longer, more precise shots
Purpose	The AR-15 can stop threats of great bodily injury or death at close and intermediate ranges. The AR-15 platform is capable of firing more accurately and quicker than a pistol while holding more rounds in the magazine and having better ballistic qualities
Authorized Usage	To defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death. Used by SWAT and sworn officers
Costs	Initial Cost: \$1000.00 per firearm Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: \$0-\$500 per firearm every 2 years
Required Training	24 hour –Patrol Rifle Course (CA POST) and POST certified SWAT school (SWAT only)
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 404 Merced PD Use of Force Policy

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

3.2 Ammunition

<i>Gold Medal Sierra MatchKing 308 WIN</i>	
Description	Federal Premium 168 Grain .308 Ammunition
Quantity	Approximately 3600 Rounds
Capability	Precision Round, Long-range accuracy
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The exclusive primer design provides the best sensitivity and most consistent ballistics in the industry. The precision-built Sierra MatchKing bullet is the only choice for the world's most elite shooters. This round provides; Boat-tail hollow point bullet for extra margin of ballistic performance, uniform match jacket ensures consistent long range accuracy, Federal brass, specially formulated propellant and the Benchrest-quality Gold Medal primer
Purpose	Precision Round with limited penetration
Authorized Usage	To defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death Used by SWAT snipers only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$43.99 a box (20 rounds) Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	40 hour – POST Certified basic sniper school
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 404 Merced PD Use of Force Policy

Federal Premium .223 Remington Ammunition	
Description	Federal Premium 55 Grain
Quantity	Approximately 19,200 Rounds
Capability	Precision Round, Long-range accuracy
Life Span	N/A

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Manufacturer's Desc	The Federal .223 Remington Sierra Hollow Point ammunition is precision-engineered for seeking accuracy and performance. Loaded with a 55-grain Sierra hollow point bullet, this round delivers expansion and limited penetration for critical situations with optimal precision.
Purpose	Precision Round with limited penetration
Authorized Usage	To defend against an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death Used by SWAT operators and certified patrol officers
Costs	Initial Cost: \$45.99 a box (20 rounds) Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	24 hour – POST Certified Patrol rifle course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 404 Merced PD Use of Force Policy

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

4.00 CHEMICAL AGENT, OC FILLED PROJECTILES, FLASHBANG GRENADES

4.1 Chemical Agent

	<i>Spede-Heat Continuous Discharge Grenade, CS</i>
Quantity	5
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed via robot, launched, placed into a, Burn Safe and Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Spede-Heat CS Grenade is a high-volume continuous burn device. It expels its payload in approximately 30-40 seconds. The payload is discharged through four gas ports on top of the canister, three on the side and one on the bottom. This launchable grenade is 6.12 inches by 2.62 inches and holds approximately 81.2g of CS chemical agent
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: Approximately \$29.63.00 each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course.
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Han-Ball Grenade, CS/OC</i>
Quantity	9 (6 CS/3OC)
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed via robot, launched, placed into a Gas Ram, Burn Safe and Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Manufacturer's Desc	The Han-Ball CS Grenade is an outdoor use grenade expelling its payload in approximately 15-20 seconds. The rubber ball round has an overall size of 4.8 in. tall, including the fuse head, and 3.1 in. diameter. This launchable grenade holds approximately 45.5g of CS chemical agent which is expelled through three ports around the equator of the ball
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operation
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT only
Costs	Initial Cost: Approximately \$36.66 each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Stinger Balls CS</i>
Quantity	11
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed via robot, launched or placed in a Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Stinger CS grenade is a maximum effective device that delivers four stimuli for psychological and physiological effects: rubber pellets, light, sound and CS gas in a 50-foot radius when deployed
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: Approximately \$40.00 each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Stinger Balls OC</i>
Quantity	11
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed via robot, launched or placed in a Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Stinger CS grenade is a maximum effective device that delivers four stimuli for psychological and physiological effects: rubber pellets, light, sound and OC gas in a 50-foot radius when deployed
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: Approximately \$40.00 each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Riot Control Continuous Discharge Grenade, CS</i>
Quantity	15
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed via robot, launched, Burn Safe and Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Manufacturer's Desc	The Riot Control OC Grenade is designed specifically for outdoor use in crowd control situations with a high-volume continuous burn that expels its payload in approximately 20-40 seconds through four gas ports located on the top of the canister. This grenade can be used to conceal tactical movement or to route a crowd. The volume of smoke and agent is vast and obtrusive. This launchable grenade is 6.0 in. by 2.6 in. and hold approximately 25g of OC chemical agent
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations.
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$26.95 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Pocket tactical Grenade, CS</i>
Quantity	9
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed via robot, launched, Burn Safe and Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Pocket Tactical CS Grenade is small, and lightweight. The 25.2g of CS chemical agent will burn approximately 20-40 seconds. At 4.75 in. by 1.4 inches in size, it easily fits in most tactical pouches. The is a launchable grenade; however, it is normally used a signaling or covering device. Though this device is slightly over four inches in length, it produces a smoke cloud so fast it appears to be an enveloping screen produced by a full-size tactical grenade
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Costs	Initial Cost: \$19.60 Each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Military-Style Saf-Smoke Grenade</i>
Quantity	15
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed via robot, launched, or placed into a Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Saf-Smoke Grenade was designed for training, by may also be used in operations. The Saf-Smoke Grenade offers the same approximate burn times as the Spede-Heat Grenade in CN or CS and the Riot Control Grenade in CN or CS. The similar burn times may make it the appropriate choice for training or simulation deployment of chemical agent canisters. The Saf-Smoke formulation is considered less toxic than Hexachloroethane (HC) smoke. The Saf-Smoke Grenade emits a very white smoke
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by the Special Enforcement Detail
Costs	Initial Cost: \$23.60 Each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

	<i>OC Vapor Aerosol Grenade</i>
Quantity	14
Capability	Can be hand thrown and deployed in a Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Defense Technology OC and CS Vapor Aerosol Grenade is for law enforcement and corrections use to deliver a high concentration of OC in a powerful mist. The grenade is designed for indoor use in confined areas and once deployed, inflames the mucous membranes and exposed skin resulting in an intense burning sensation. The incapacitating effect of the OC Vapor on the subject is dramatic yet requires minimal decontamination. Removing the subject from the affected area to fresh air will resolve respiratory effects within minutes. The OC Vapor Aerosol Grenade is ideal for cell extractions or barricade situations where the use of pyrotechnic, powder or liquid devices is not practical or desired
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$42.50 per Aerosol Grenade Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course.
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Skat Shell CS (40MM)</i>
Quantity	15
Capability	Can deploy CS cannister from 40 mm launcher
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Manufacturer's Desc	The Skat Shell chemical projectile round is designed to deliver multiple CS canisters from a 40 mm launcher. It is designed for outdoor use and has a fire-producing capability and a maximum effective range of 80-100 yards. It is widely used as a crowd management tool for the rapid and broad deployment of a chemical agent by a single grenadier
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$31.80 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Skat Shell Smoke (40MM)</i>
Quantity	15
Capability	Can deploy smoke cannister from 40 mm launcher
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Skat Shell chemical projectile round is designed to deliver multiple Saf-Smoke canisters from a 40 mm launcher. It is designed for outdoor use and has a fire-producing capability and a maximum effective range of 80-100 yards. It is widely used as a crowd management tool for the rapid and broad deployment of a chemical agent by a single grenadier
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$31.80 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course.
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Flameless Tri-Chamber (CS)</i>
Quantity	10
Capability	Can be hand thrown and deployed in a Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The design of the Tr-Chamber Flameless CS Grenade allows the content to burn within an internal can and disperse the agent safely with the reduced risk of fire. The grenade is designed primarily for indoor tactical situations to detect and dislodge a barricaded subject
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$45.00 per Aerosol Grenade Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Flameless Tri-Chamber (OC)</i>
Quantity	4
Capability	Can be hand thrown and deployed in a Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Manufacturer's Desc	The design of the Tr-Chamber Flameless OC Grenade allows the content to burn within an internal can and disperse the agent safely with the reduced risk of fire. The grenade is designed primarily for indoor tactical situations to detect and dislodge a barricaded subject
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$42.00 per Aerosol Grenade Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Triple Chaser Separating Cannister (OC)</i>
Quantity	10
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed from a launcher, or deployed in a Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Triple-Chaser OC pyrotechnic grenade is one of our first ever pyrotechnic grenades that combines the effectiveness of OC as an irritant and inflammatory agent with flexible delivery methods, range and are coverage of pyrotechnic munitions for crowd control. The Triple-Chaser OC consists of three separate cannisters pressed together
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

	Used by SWAT Personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$45.00 Each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>Instantaneous Blast Grenade (CS)</i>
Quantity	6
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed from a launcher, or deployed in a Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Instantaneous Blast CS Grenade is designed for indoor or outdoor use; this grenade's power is expelled upon initiation of a small internal detonator that has sufficient force to split the cannister at six machined grooves on the outside surface. This device is well suited for affecting numerous subjects grouped within a contained portion of a prison yard or area, using wind to the advantage
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT Personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$48.00 Each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

	<i>Flameless Expulsion Grenade (CS)</i>
Quantity	6
Capability	Can be hand thrown, deployed from a launcher, or deployed in a Munitions Pole
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The CS Flameless Expulsion Grenade is a compact, non-pyrotechnic, chemical agent device that provides safe expulsion without the risk of fire. Its is safe to use inside of a residence. Unlike pyrotechnic grenades, this device's contents are expelled upon actuation of a CO2 cartridge that will affect a confined area of approximately 1500 square feet
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT Personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$45.00 Each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>SAGE BP-5 CS Rounds (37MM)</i>
Quantity	20
Capability	Deployed from a SAGE Launcher
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Manufacturer's Desc	The BP5 is a non-pyrotechnic barricade penetrating munition capable of delivering micro-pulverizing chemical agents through barricades from a rifled 37MM launcher. The BP5 achieves superior accuracy and penetration through a combination of barrel rifling and projectile design. The projectile is made of frangible plastic and is filled with micro-pulverizing powdered chemical agent. The BP5 is designed to penetrate windows, doors, and other barriers. The micro-pulverizing powder payload is released upon impact
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as a barricaded subject scenario
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT Personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$35.00 Each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

	<i>SAGE KO-3 CS Rounds (37MM)</i>
Quantity	3
Capability	Deployed from a SAGE Launcher
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The KO-3 is a direct fire crush nose chemical impact baton round that is designed to be used in situations where a combination of kinetic energy and chemical agents is preferred for the incapacitation of hostile and/or non-compliant individuals. Upon impact the KO-3 projectile imparts blunt trauma and additionally releases a micro-pulverizing CS powder payload as the baton nose is crushed

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest and high-risk tactical operations
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT Personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$30.00 Each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

4.2 Flash Sound Diversionary Devices

	<i>Diversionary Device Low-Roll (Handheld)</i>
Quantity	30
Capability	Light sound diversionary device
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	The Tactical Diversionary Device is a compact unit designed around a 6.5-gram water resistant charge, capable of producing an effective, yet reduced 162 decibel sound level
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest, high-risk tactical operations, or critical incident indoors
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$46.00 each Re-Occurring Costs: As needed Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course

Merced Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy
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	<i>Diversiory Device (Command Initiated)</i>
Quantity	7
Capability	Light sound diversiory device
Life Span	5-year manufacturer warranty
Manufacturer's Desc	This diversiory device is command initiated using a switch. It is capable of producing an effective 162 decibel sound level
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as violent civil unrest, high-risk tactical operations, or critical incident indoors
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by SWAT personnel only
Costs	Initial Cost: \$46.00 each Re-Occurring Costs: As needed Maintenance Costs: None
Required Training	SWAT attends annual internal training from SWAT instructor who has been to a 40-hour POST certified chemical agent instructor course.
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

5.0 40MM LAUNCHERS/LESS LETHAL BEAN BAG SHOTGUN AND MUNITIONS

5.1 40MM launchers

40 MM Launcher Defense- LMT	
Description	40LMTS- 40 mm LMT Tactical Single Launcher
Quantity	2
Capability	Deploying 40mm less lethal impact projectiles Deploying 40mm chemical agent (CS) barricade penetrating rounds
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	Will fire standard 40mm less lethal ammunition up to 4.8 inches in cartridge length. This product will not fire 40mm High Velocity HE (high explosive) ammunition
Purpose	Deploying 40mm less lethal impact munitions Deploying 40mm chemical agent (CS) barricade penetrating rounds
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by the SWAT Personnel and authorized sworn personnel
Costs	Initial Cost: \$1160.79 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Authorized users must qualify and train on annual basis
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

SAGE SL6 (37MM)	
Description	SAGE S6 37MM Rifled Barrel Launcher
Quantity	4
Capability	Deploying 37mm less lethal impact projectiles Deploying 37mm chemical agent (CS) barricade penetrating rounds

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The SL6 37mm multi-role six (6) shot projectile launcher fulfills current police requirements for a launcher capable of firing either Sage Control Ordnance, Inc. or ARWEN 37 munitions. Having an accurate multiple shot system available to deliver blunt trauma inducing batons, pyrotechnic chemical agents, and non-pyrotechnic barricade penetrating projectiles has become a necessity for the successful completion of many police operations. Exceptional accuracy by the SL6 is achieved by using a rifled barrel, calibrated sighting system, and a family of ammunition manufactured to standards which maximize performance
Purpose	Deploying 37mm less lethal impact munitions Deploying 37mm chemical agent (CS) barricade penetrating rounds
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by the SWAT Personnel and authorized sworn personnel
Costs	Initial Cost: \$2000.00 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Authorized users must qualify and train on annual basis
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

<i>SAGE SL-1 (37MM)</i>	
Description	SAGE SL-1 37MM Single Shot Launcher
Quantity	2
Capability	Deploying 37mm less lethal impact projectiles Deploying 37mm chemical agent (CS) barricade penetrating rounds
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The SL1 can deliver accurate blunt trauma inducing batons, combination baton/chemical rounds, non-pyrotechnic barricade penetrating projectiles, as well as pyrotechnic chemical agents. The SL1 achieves exceptional accuracy by combining a rifled barrel, calibrated sighting, and a family of ammunition manufactured to quality standards which maximizes performance. The calibrated sighting system consists of a flip up rear

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

	aperture and a flip up front ballistic ladder calibrated from 20 to 100 meters in 20-meter increments. The five-groove rifling of the SL1 spin stabilizes projectiles which allows for superior accuracy
Purpose	Deploying 37mm less lethal impact munitions Deploying 37mm chemical agent (CS) barricade penetrating rounds
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by the SWAT Personnel and authorized sworn personnel
Costs	Initial Cost: \$2000.00 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Authorized users must qualify and train on annual basis
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

<i>SAGE BML (37MM)</i>	
Description	SAGE BLM 37MM Launcher with detachable magazine
Quantity	2
Capability	Deploying 37mm less lethal impact projectiles Deploying 37mm chemical agent (CS) barricade penetrating rounds
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The BML 37mm multi-role six (6) shot projectile launcher fulfills current police requirements for a launcher capable of firing either Sage Control Ordnance, Inc. or ARWEN 37 munitions. Having an accurate multiple shot system available to deliver blunt trauma inducing batons, pyrotechnic chemical agents, and non-pyrotechnic barricade penetrating projectiles has become a necessity for the successful completion of many police operations. Exceptional accuracy by the BML is achieved by using a rifled barrel, calibrated sighting system, and a family of ammunition manufactured to standards which maximize performance. BML has a detachable magazine
Purpose	Deploying 37mm less lethal impact munitions Deploying 37mm chemical agent (CS) barricade penetrating rounds

Merced Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by the SWAT Personnel and authorized sworn personnel
Costs	Initial Cost: \$2000.00 Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Authorized users must qualify and train on annual basis
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

5.2 Bean Bag Shotguns and Munitions

<i>Remington 870 Less Lethal Bean Bag Shotguns</i>	
Description	Remington 870 12-gauge pump action shotgun
Quantity	12
Capability	Deploying less lethal 40-gram tear shaped bag as long-range impact weapon
Life Span	20 years
Manufacturer's Desc	The 14" barrel has a fixed cylinder choke for optimum performance with buckshot and slugs at close range. A myriad of aftermarket Remington 870 accessories enables owners to customize the 870 Express for specific purposes. 870 Remington is a receiver milled from a solid billet of steel for maximum strength, and twin action bars that prevent binding and twisting while cycling the action
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as high-risk tactical operations. These are necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety/will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by authorized and trained police personnel

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Costs	Initial Cost: \$700 each Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed
Required Training	Authorized personnel attend an annual departmental training and qualify on a yearly basis.
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

<i>Defense Technology Drag Stabilized 12-Gauge Bean Bag Round</i>	
Description	Bean bag munition deployed with Remington 870 less lethal shotguns.
Quantity	Approximately 400
Capability	Deploying less lethal 40-gram tear shaped bag as long-range impact weapon
Life Span	N/A
Manufacturer's Desc	The Drag Stabilized 12-Gauge Round is a translucent 12-Gauge shell loaded with a 40-Gram tear shaped bag made from a cotton and ballistic material blend filled with #9 shot. This design utilizes four stabilizing tails and utilizes smokeless powder as the propellant. The 12-Gauge Drag Stabilized Round has secured its place as the Law Enforcement Communities' number one choice for specialty impact munitions. This round has a velocity of 270 fps with a maximum effective range of 75 feet
Purpose	To safely resolve critical situations such as high-risk tactical operations. These are necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety/will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties
Authorized Usage	De-escalation tool not likely to inflict serious injury Used by authorized and trained police personnel
Costs	Initial Cost: \$25 a box (5 in a box) Re-Occurring Costs: \$0 Maintenance Costs: As needed

Merced Police Department

AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

Required Training	Authorized personnel attend an annual departmental training and qualify on a yearly basis
Authority for Authorized Use	Merced PD Policy 304 Use of Force Policy

6.0 INQUIRY/COMPLAINT PROCESS

Inquires made be made in the following ways:

- In person at any Merced PD station
- By telephone (209) 385-6905
- By mail:
Merced Police Department
611 W. 22nd Street
Merced, CA 95340

General questions or concerns will be routed to the Administrative Lieutenant for a response within 30 days. The Administrative Lieutenant shall track all inquiries and responses for inclusion in the Military Equipment Use Report.

Complaints

If you wish to make an allegation of misconduct against a member of the Police Department related to the use of military equipment, you may register your complaint the following ways:

- In person at any Merced PD station
- By telephone or mail to the Internal Affairs Unit - (209) 385-6905
Merced Police Department
Internal Affairs Unit
611 W 22nd Street
Merced, CA 95340
- Online through our [Submit a Complaint Form](#)
- Formal complaints, warranting further investigation, will be routed to Internal Affairs for review and follow-up, in accordance with statute and policy. The Department will investigate any noncompliance with the Military Equipment Use Policy in accordance with section 832.5 of the California Penal Code, which sets mandatory provisions for complaints made on peace officers as defined by California Penal Code 832 and custodial officers as defined by section 831.5 PC.

The Administrative Lieutenant will conduct annual inspection to ensure the Military Equipment Use Policy is followed and the items listed in the Military Equipment Report are utilized within

Merced Police Department AB 481-Military Equipment Use Policy

policy and in accordance with applicable laws. Any violation of policy or law will be investigated accordingly and reported in the annual Military Equipment Use Report.