



# Fitchburg State University

## Police Department

<b>Subject: WEAPONS PROFICIENCY</b>		<u>General Order</u>  <h1>7.2</h1>
Reference: <b>IACLEA:</b> 7.1.14, 7.2.2, 7.2.3, 7.2.4 <b>MPAC:</b> 1.3.10, 1.3.11, 1.3.12		
<b>Effective Date:</b> May 11, 2020	<b>Re-Issued Date:</b> October 26, 2022	
<b>By Order of:</b> Michael J. Cloutier, Chief of Police		

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for weapon proficiency and safe handling of all firearms by members of the Fitchburg State University Police Department.

### POLICY:

Officers will be properly trained and remain proficient in the use of all weapons and equipment such as the baton, OC, firearms, patrol rifles, (the agency does not possess any shotguns or less lethal electrical devices at this time), and handcuffs. All personnel authorized to carry lethal and non-lethal weapons will be issued copies of the department's General Order that apply to those weapons and receive proper training in the use of those weapons before they are authorized to carry said weapons.

### PROCEDURE:

#### **Training and Qualification:**

- A. All Officers will receive use of force and firearms training in accordance with the standards established by the Massachusetts State Police, or the Municipal Police Training Committee. All officers will also receive annual training in the use of all less lethal weapons authorized to be carried on duty, as well as training on weaponless control techniques. This training will include a review of the Department's "Use of Force" policy, **GO 7.1 Response to Resistance** as part of the department's firearm qualification. [IACLEA 7.1.14 / MPAC 1.3.12](#)

- B. The department will also provide annual refresher training for any weapon issued to the officers by the department.

1. The Defensive Tactic and or Firearm Instructor will keep track of such training.
- C. Weapon Qualifications conducted for members of the Department shall be approved by the Chief of Police. Firearm Qualification will be performed under the control and direction of a certified M.P.T.C. firearms instructor. Training and qualification records will be maintained by the Defensive Tactic or Firearm instructor(s).
- D. Officers will be given a copy of the Department's "Response to Resistance" policy and will electronically sign an acknowledgment indicating receipt which will be retained by the Training Officer.
- E. Only those Officers who successfully complete the qualification training will be allowed to carry a firearm in the performance of their duties. Officers who fail to qualify will not be authorized to carry a firearm. Those officers who fail to qualify will receive remedial training at a time designated by the Chief of Police.
1. Officers who fail to qualify will be given the opportunity to re-qualify an additional two (2) times within 60 days.
  2. Officers are required to carry firearms and must be able to meet the MPTC qualification standards. Officers may be subject to reassignment or separation if they fail to meet the requirements of the position.
- F. All firearms will be field stripped, cleaned and inspected at the completion of each qualification and training session by the officer to which the firearm is issued, or the department armorer. Patrol rifles will be cleaned and inspected by the department armorer.
- G. No officer of the Fitchburg State University Police Department will be issued a firearm until she/he has completed the following requirements:
1. The officer has been issued a warrant as a Massachusetts Special State Police Officer,
  2. Has obtained a license to carry a firearm from the police department in the jurisdiction where they reside, or by the Firearms Records Bureau if they reside out of state;
  3. Has become completely familiar with the Department's Use of Force policy, including both the use of deadly and non-deadly force and,
  4. Has successfully passed a psychological interview and exam approved by the Chief of Police;
  5. A criminal history check (BOP and III) has been completed for each officer;
  6. Has met with and been approved to carry a firearm by the Chief of Police of the Fitchburg State University Police Department.

*IACLEA 7.2.4/ MPAC 1.3.10*

## II. Firearms and Ammunition

A. The Fitchburg State University Police Department maintains strict control over all firearms, weapons, and ammunition that it permits members to carry and use in the performance of their official duties. This general order specifies the following type, caliber, and other characteristics of authorized firearms authorized for use by its sworn members. All other weapons not stated below will be deemed unauthorized weapons and ammunition.

1. Authorized firearms for on-duty are:

- a. GLOCK 17 9MM
- b. GLOCK 26 9MM
- c. GLOCK 19 9MM

**NOTE:** Officers, upon successful training, may equip their Glock with a weapon-mounted light (Streamlight TLR1 or TLR1-HL).

2. Authorized patrol rifle:

- a. Smith and Wesson M&P15
- b. Windham Weaponry AR15

3. Authorized Duty Ammunition:

- a. Pistol- Federal 9mm 147 grain Tactical HST HP
- b. Rifle- Federal Hi-Shock .223 caliber 55-grain soft point

**NOTE:** Each patrol rifle may only be equipped with Single point sling, EoTech electronic sight, and flashlight.

3. Officers are not restricted, other than by state law what they carry off duty for their own personal protection; Officers may be afforded an opportunity to qualify with their off-duty weapons if time allows, during scheduled in-service qualifications and the weapon has been inspected for safety by a department authorized armorer.

4. OC authorized by the Department to be carried by its Officers will follow the following guidelines:

- a. Size- MK-3
- b. Delivery- stream.
- c. Compatible with Electronic Control Devices (ECD) (non-alcohol propellant)

5. Officers **will only carry** that baton that the department has issued or approved for use.

- a. Monadnock expandable batons with plastic safety tips.

[IACLEA 7.2.2 / MPAC 1.3.9](#)

## III. Weapons and Control

**Weapon:** Any implement or device that can be used with the intent to inflict damage or harm.

- A. Upon successful completion of the required training and qualification, officers will be issued a firearm and ammunition to carry while on duty.
- B. All firearms' serial numbers will be tracked by the department armorer and to whom each firearm was issued to. Also, all rifle serial numbers will be tracked the same and to which cruiser they are assigned to.
- C. All non-issued firearms or firearms taken out of service will be stored in the armory.
  - 1. All firearms and patrol rifles will be stored in the armory and unloaded.
  - 2. Patrol rifles will be stored with the safety on at all times.
  - 3. Gun clearing stands are available in the locker rooms and in the armory.
- D. Officers are to store their firearms securely in their lockers when not holstered on their persons.
  - 1. Command Staff may store their firearms in their office, if in an approved safe or secure container.
- E. The department armorer will inspect each firearm annually and make any necessary repairs, which will be tracked in the armorer's repair notes.
- F. If a weapon has been deemed unsafe, it will be immediately removed from service and placed in the armory for inspection and either repaired or replaced.
  - 1. If an officer's weapon is removed from service, a loaner will be issued temporarily until the issued weapon can be repaired or replaced.
- G. Each officer is responsible for cleaning and maintaining their firearms at all times, and they will be cleaned after each qualification/training prior to returning to duty.
  - 1. No modifications or alterations are to be done to any department firearm or patrol rifle without the written authorization of the department armorer.
  - 2. Any alterations or work needed, including optional accessories, will be completed by the department armorer.
  - 3. A list of acceptable accessories that are approved for use on the department pistols will be maintained by the department armorer(s).
- H. OC and Batons will be kept on each officer's duty belt when they are not being deployed in accordance with **GO 7.1 Response to Resistance** or removed as part of Defensive Tactics Training.
  - 1. When any equipment is removed from the duty belt for training purposes it shall be kept in the locker or in a section of the training area not accessible by the public.

2. Each officer is responsible to report any deficiencies with their issued OC or Baton to their immediate supervisor.
  - a. The Supervisor will inspect the deficiency and determine if the item should be taken out of service and issue a replacement or keep an item in service.
  - b. If a supervisor believes that the deficiency with the OC or with the baton appears to be from misuse, they should request a To/From from the officer and submit it to the Operation Lieutenant for review.

IACLEA 7.2.3 / MPAC 1.3.9

Approval:

M. J. Clark  
Chief of Police

10/26/2022