

# TEXARKANA POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Firearms and Ammunition</b>		
<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>1102.01</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>January 15, 2009</b>
<b>Scheduled Review Date</b>	<b>May 18, 2020</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>January 15, 2009</b>
<b>Date Reviewed</b>	<b>May 18, 2017</b>	<b>REVISION DATE</b>	<b>April 26, 2019</b>
<b>APPROVED BY</b>		<b>ALEAP Standards</b>	<b>1.11,3.01,3.03, 6.04, 6.05; 13.13</b>

## I. Purpose and Scope

- A. The purpose of this policy addresses the issues surrounding the Texarkana Police Department's deployment and utilization of firearms and ammunition. The policy specifies the types of firearms and ammunition authorized for deployment by members of the Agency and establishes guidelines surrounding the handling and training of approved weapons.

## II. Policy

- A. It shall be the policy of the Texarkana Police Department to limit the deployment and use to only those firearms and ammunition approved for such use. All sworn personnel shall be instructed and trained on the use of the approved firearms and ammunition and shall demonstrate their proficiency and understanding of all policies, procedures and guidelines covering firearms, related equipment, the Department's use of force policy and the use of deadly force before any approved weapon is assigned to the sworn member. All members of the Department shall recognize and adhere to the guidelines set forth within this policy.

## III. Procedures

- A. Prior to the issue of all duty weapons, the weapons shall be inspected by the Agency's designated armorer(s). Any weapon deemed unsafe or inoperative shall be immediately removed from use until the weapon is repaired.
1. The only authorized on-duty firearms are those which are issued by the Department. Department issued firearms and all approved on-duty back-up weapons will be inspected and approved by a Department Armorer under established Department criteria approved by the Chief of Police.
  2. The Texarkana Police Department reserves the right to make changes to Department approved and authorized weapons and ammunition. These changes occur periodically as changes and variations in firearms, ballistic characteristics and ammunition technology evolves.
  3. Officers remain responsible for notifying a supervisor in writing of all firearms malfunctions. The supervisor will coordinate with the Services Division to ensure the officer's weapon is replaced with another Department issued weapon.
- B. The Personnel and Training Section will maintain a record of all weapons approved by the Department for official use. These records shall include the following:

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1. The description of the weapon;
2. The officer to which the weapon belongs or is assigned; and
3. The firearms course of fire used to qualify the officer on the weapon as well as the officer's score.

**C. Authorized Weapons and Registration Requirements**

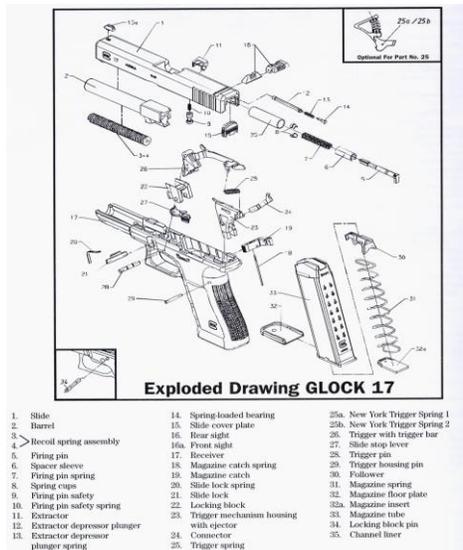
**1. Service Handguns**

- a. Service handguns issued by the Texarkana Police Department shall be exclusively limited to the following models. Only Department issued magazines shall be utilized with these semi-automatic service weapons:

(1) Glock Model 45

- b. All such service handguns shall be equipped with night sights and configured with a five (5) pound trigger pull. The Department issues approved standard duty ammunition for all assigned weapons. This ammunition will change periodically as ballistic characteristics and technology changes.
- c. Uniformed officers shall carry a Department issued 9mm Glock Model 45 semi-automatic handgun during periods in which the officer is on-duty.
- d. Unless otherwise designated within this policy, all Department issued handguns shall be carried in an approved holster. Non-uniformed officer shall utilize holsters which have been approved by the Division Commander or those holsters that have been issued through the Department's Quartermaster.

**e. Component Parts of Department Issued Glock Handguns**



- (1) Department issued Glock handguns require scheduled maintenance. Each handgun should be cleaned when it is first placed into service, after the weapon has been fired, on a monthly basis or as deemed necessary.
- (2) Each Department issued Glock handgun should be annually examined by a Glock Armorer for a thorough cleaning of the weapon's slide and receiver. The Glock Armorer shall also inspect the weapon for worn parts.

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## **h. Line Inspection Procedure**

- (1) Supervisors will conduct both random and regularly scheduled inspections of weapons issued to personnel within their Division / Section / Squad. Squad Commanders / Section Supervisors shall schedule regular inspections no less than once every two weeks. Random inspections may be for the entire Squad / Section, or by selecting individual officers.
  - At the direction of the inspecting supervisor, the officer will make the weapon safe by removing the magazine from the weapon while it is holstered and secured.
  - The officer, following the above listed protocol, (including the use of the Action Target Bullet Trap), will remove the chambered round, and work the slide vigorously, locking the slide to the rear while performing a visual inspection to ensure that the chamber is empty.
  - With the slide locked to the rear, the officer, by grasping the barrel of the weapon, will offer the grip, ejection port up, to the inspecting supervisor.
  - The inspecting supervisor will visually inspect the weapon and magazines, checking for debris, dirt, obvious defects. The inspecting supervisor will perform the above listed Function Tests. If problems are noted, the inspecting supervisor will document the problems, and all issues that can be resolved by the officer will be done. If the problem requires the attention of a qualified Armorer, the inspecting supervisor will, if necessary, down the weapon and forward it to a qualified Armorer for repair. The inspecting supervisor will contact a Services Division Supervisor for temporary issuance of a replacement weapon.
  - Following the inspection, following the above listed protocol, the officer will retrieve the weapon from the inspecting supervisor and make the weapon ready for duty.
  - During the inspection, the inspecting supervisor will inspect the duty belt, holster, magazine holder, keepers, handcuffs, handcuff case, O.C. and holder / ASP and Holder, and any other equipment authorized by the agency that is maintained on the approved leather / nylon duty belt. Any problems / issues will be documented, and equipment will be replaced by the inspecting Supervisor after securing a replacement from the Services Division.

## **2. Shotguns**

- a. Department officers are either issued or have access to an Agency approved shotgun for use in the field. The standard issue shotgun of the Department shall be a Remington Model 870 12-gauge weapon designed to chamber 3-inch magnum rounds. When officers are on-duty, officers shall only carry a Department approved/issued shotgun.
- b. Currently, there are several types of standard ammunition approved for deployment with the shotgun. The Department issues 12-gauge 00 buckshot and 12-gauge rifled slug rounds for general patrol use. Officers assigned to the SWAT Team are issued shotguns as well as a wide variety of Department approved ammunition that remains dependent upon the threat the Officer expects to encounter. This ammunition will change periodically as ballistic characteristics and technology changes. Only Department issued, factory loaded shotgun ammunition is authorized for deployment with a Department shotgun.

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### 3. Patrol Rifles

- a. The Texarkana Police Department currently issues a Bushmaster M4 A3 as an added weapons platform for use by officers. The Division Commanders will designate those officers—other than SWAT Team members—who will be assigned a patrol rifle within their Division. Only those officers who have received proper training will be issued a patrol rifle.
- b. Officers who are assigned a patrol rifle shall be required to demonstrate their knowledge and proficiency with the weapon. All such Officers will be required to annually qualify with this weapon on a CLEST certified patrol rifle course. Any Officer who is assigned a patrol rifle capable of automatic or burst fire will be required to qualify with the patrol rifle on the Department's fully automatic course of fire.
- c. **On-Duty Use of Patrol Rifles**
  - (1) Officers qualified to carry and assigned a patrol rifle will utilize the weapon as a standard issue piece of equipment and shall only deploy a patrol rifle when such a weapons platform becomes necessary. The Officer's training and experience should always dictate those situations that necessitate the deployment of a patrol rifle.
  - (2) The patrol rifle shall not be utilized or deployed on routine calls for service. Instead, the patrol rifle offers the Officers of the Department with a weapons platform that enables an appropriate deployment under the following circumstances:
    - (a) When confronted with stand-off situations that require additional firepower and improved ballistics. Some examples of stand-off situations include barricade suspects, robberies in progress, felony traffic stops where the suspect(s) are believed to be armed and dangerous and open field searches for armed / dangerous person(s);
    - (b) During periods in which the officer has reason to believe there exists a potential encounter with an adversary who is equally or better armed; or
    - (c) A life-threatening situation exists.
- d. **Care and Maintenance of Patrol Rifles**
  - (1) Each officer who is issued a patrol rifle shall be responsible for cleaning and maintaining the weapon in a ready state. Each officer shall inspect his/her assigned patrol rifle daily to ensure the weapon, magazines, ammunition, sling and case are in proper working order.
  - (2) Each officer shall inspect his/her rifle's bolt carrier prior to each shift to ensure adequate lubrication. Each officer shall field strip his/her assigned patrol rifle once monthly and perform routine cleaning, lubrication and function checks on the rifle after reassembly.
  - (3) Other than sight adjustments and sling adjustments, no officer will modify their issued patrol rifle, magazines or ammunition without prior approval of the Uniform Patrol Division Commander. After approval from the Uniform Patrol Division Commander, all approved modifications—and those necessary repairs—will be conducted by a Department armorer. Each rifle will be inspected by an approved agency M4 armorer annually.
  - (4) Supervisors will conduct routine inspections of assigned patrol rifles to ensure compliance with this policy. During regular or special training sessions, instructors and/or approved armorers will inspect all components of the assigned patrol rifles and their accessories.

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e. **Patrol Rifle Function Checks**

- (1) The following guidelines shall be followed when conducting function checks of all patrol rifles:
  - (a) **Ensure that no magazine is in the magazine well;**
  - (b) **Ensure that there is no round in the chamber, visual and physical inspection;**
  - (c) **Point the weapon in a safe direction;**
  - (d) Place the selector lever on safe. If the selector switch will not go on safe, pull the charging handle to the rear and release. Place the selector lever on safe. Pull the trigger to the rear, the hammer should not fall;
  - (e) Place the firing selector lever on semi automatic. Pull the trigger to the rear and hold. The hammer should fall. While holding the trigger to the rear, pull the charging handle to the rear and release. Release the trigger, and pull it to the rear again. The hammer should fall.
  - (f) Place the firing selector lever on burst. Pull the charging handle to the rear and release. Pull the trigger to the rear and hold. The hammer should fall. While holding the trigger to the rear, pull the charging handle to the rear three times and release. Release the trigger and pull it to the rear again. The hammer should fall.

f. **Patrol Rifle Storage**

- (1) Officers who are issued a patrol rifle shall store the rifle in a case provided by the Department. While not on duty, it will be the responsibility of the officer to secure the rifle in an appropriate manner while ensuring the magazines and ammunition remain stored separately from the patrol rifle.
- (2) When not on duty—with the weapon stored at a location other than the Department's armory—the rifle will have the Agency issued gun lock appropriately installed on the rifle to prevent unauthorized use of the weapon. Officers shall ensure their issued rifle, magazine(s) and ammunition remain inaccessible to unauthorized person(s). Patrol rifles will not be stored or left unattended in a vehicle that is not in service.
- (3) **Patrol Ready Mode**
  - (a) When on duty, the rifle shall be maintained and secured in Patrol ready mode. Patrol ready mode is defined as:
    - No Live Round in the chamber;
    - Bolt Closed;
    - Dust Cover Closed;
    - Fire selector switch placed in the SAFE position; and
    - Issued PMag with 28 issued duty rounds inserted and locked in the magazine well.
- (4) On duty, the patrol rifle will be stored in the patrol ready mode, secured in its issued case and placed in the unit's locked trunk.

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- (5) A round will not be chambered until the weapon is removed from the unit for deployment on a call. The rifle will be secured in the unit's retention device with the bolt closed, dust cover closed, 28 round magazine inserted in the magazine well with the fire selector switch placed in the SAFE position. At the conclusion of the tour of duty, the officer will remove the patrol rifle from the retention device or carrying case, and the weapon should be checked to ensure that the fire selector switch is on SAFE.
  - (a) The officer should then remove the magazine, open the bolt and visually and physically ensure there the chamber remains empty. After verifying the rifle's chamber is empty, the officer should allow the bolt to close.
  - (b) The safety selector switch will remain in the SAFE position. The dust cover should be closed, and the patrol rifle weapon should be placed in the issued rifle case. The patrol rifle will not be stored with a magazine inserted in the magazine well. Upon the officer's return to his/her residence, the patrol rifle will be configured with the gun lock until the beginning of the officer's next tour of duty.
- (6) For those officers who are assigned a patrol rifle and are authorized to store the rifle within the Department's facility, the officer will follow the above described process for making the weapon safe following their tour of duty. The patrol rifle will be placed in its carry case with the patrol rifle's firing selector switch placed in the SAFE position, no round in the chamber, no magazine in the magazine well, bolt closed with the dust cover closed. The patrol rifle, rifle case, magazines and ammunition will be secured in the authorized Uniform Patrol Division Gun Locker.
  - (a) The Shift Commander or designee will open the Uniform Patrol Division Gun Locker gun locker at the beginning and end of each shift as needed. Unless directed to do so by a supervisor or armorer for inspection or repair purposes, no patrol rifle will be removed from the weapon case within the building. The weapon will be checked for readiness pursuant to this policy immediately prior to placing the weapon into patrol ready mode.

#### IV. Ammunition

- A. The Texarkana Police Department will provide all ammunition for training and on-duty use for all issued weapons. Only Department issued ammunition will be carried by officers and will not undergo any modification.
- B. Unless written authorization is received from the appropriate Division Commander, all ammunition carried in all on-duty back-up weapons shall be approved by the Personnel and Training Section utilizing the same characteristics and specifications listed below:
  - 1. Only Department issued, factory loaded ammunition will be used in all Department issued weapons.
  - 2. Although not inclusive, the following is a list of all types of prohibited ammunition:
    - (a) All ammunition which has been reloaded or remanufactured;
    - (b) All ammunition which is explosive, poisonous or toxic;
    - (c) All ammunition classified as either tracer rounds or incendiary rounds;
    - (d) All ammunition classified as armor-piercing or Teflon-coated;
    - (e) Glaser rounds or any pre-fragmented ammunition; and

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- (f) Any ammunition which has been deemed unsuitable for duty use by the Personnel and Training Section.
- C. The duty-round for all department issued patrol rifles shall be a 5.56 NATO-round approved for departmental use.

**V. Off-Duty / Back-Up Weapons Guidelines**

- A. Officers are permitted to carry a back-up weapon while on-duty. All such approved weapons shall be no smaller than .38 caliber (9mm) or larger than .45 caliber.
- B. Officers are issued a Glock 27 for back-up and off duty carry. Should an officer desire to carry a different back-up duty weapon, he/she shall forward a written request to the Chief of Police through his/her Division Commander. Such a request shall contain the brand of weapon, the weapon’s caliber, the weapon’s serial number as well as the type and brand of ammunition the officer intends to deploy. Once approved by the Chief of Police, this information will be forwarded to the Personnel and Training Section and placed within the officer’s training file.
  - 1. Once approved, officers shall not make any modifications to off-duty weapons. Any repairs will require the weapon to be re-submitted for a secondary approval using the above identified process.
- C. Officers must demonstrate satisfactory knowledge of the weapon’s mechanical operation as well as adequate safe handling skills of the personally owned weapon. Officers must also demonstrate a satisfactory proficiency in target identification and acquisition when deploying the weapon.
- D. Officers must qualify with their chosen back-up weapon once annually in accordance with the CLEST qualification and training guidelines established within this policy.
- E. Officers of the Agency are required to carry a weapon while they are off-duty. It is the duty of every officer of this Department—both day and night—to preserve public peace and to protect life and property within the jurisdiction of Texarkana, Arkansas. It is recommended officers carry their Glock Model 45 duty weapon during such periods; however, officers may carry any other handgun of their choice.
- F. Pursuant to *A.C.A. §12-15-203*, any certified Law Enforcement Officer may carry a concealed handgun as long as the Officer meets the following established guidelines:
  - 1. Presently employed with a public law enforcement department, office or agency;
  - 2. Authorized by the public law enforcement department, office or agency to carry a firearm during the course and within the scope of his/her duties;
  - 3. Not subject to any disciplinary action by the public law enforcement department, office or agency;
  - 4. Carrying a badge and appropriate written identification issued by the law enforcement department, office or agency that identified him/her as a certified law enforcement officer; and
  - 5. Not otherwise prohibited under federal law.
- G. In accordance with these established requirements, Officers of the Texarkana Police Department shall carry their issued belt badge and official credential case during periods in which they are armed off-duty.
- H. Any display or use of an off-duty weapon shall be governed by the same rules, regulations, provisions, guidelines and policies affecting those Officers in an on-duty capacity. Whenever

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practical, Officers not in uniform shall display their badges contemporaneously with the drawing of their weapon.

I. Off-duty weapons carried while not in uniform must be concealed.

**J. Carrying of Department Weapons While Operating in an Undercover Capacity:**

1. An officer assigned in an undercover capacity is authorized to temporarily carry a Department approved secondary weapon as a primary weapon in those instances when the maximum concealment of the weapon is a significant importance.

(a) Any such deviation that finds the carrying of a secondary weapon in lieu of a duty weapon must receive authorization from the undercover Officer's supervisor. The affected Officer must have first qualified with the secondary weapon, and a record of that weapon must be on-file with the Personnel and Training Section in accordance with Section V, paragraph B of this policy.

(b) Such deviations are granted on a case-by-case basis. Under normal circumstances, the Officer will be required to carry his/her issued duty weapon as the primary service weapon.

**VI. Firearms Training**

A. Proficiency in the use of firearms by members of the Texarkana Police Department is essential. Excellence in marksmanship is an area all Officers should strive to improve in, in order to enhance their ability to protect and serve the public. All sworn Officers of the Texarkana Police Department will qualify a minimum of once annually with all firearms the Officer is approved to use. Specifically, Officers will qualify with their Glock 22 and 27, shotgun, patrol rifle if issued, swat firearms if issued, and any approved back-up/off duty weapon. During one annual qualification all firearms will be inspected for proper functioning by a department armorer. [ALEAP 3.01; 3.03](#)

1. The minimum firearms proficiency score for commissioned personnel—as determined by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training (CLEST)—is eighty percent (80%). Officers who are assigned to specialized positions within the SWAT Team are required to score a minimum of ninety percent (90%) on all weapons assigned to the individual Officer.

2. All firearms training and qualification courses—as well as the respective scores of all Department Officers—shall be maintained within the Officer's Training File.

(a) Unless otherwise specified within this policy, firearms proficiency training for the Texarkana Police Department will be conducted as specified by the Personnel and Training Section.

3. Only those Officers demonstrating proficiency with an approved weapon at a frequency determined by the Chief of Police shall be authorized to use such weapons. [ALEAP 13.13](#)

**4. Expert Marksmanship Award**

(a) This recognition award will be noted within the training file belonging to those Officers who distinguish themselves as an outstanding marksman after obtaining a firearms proficiency score of ninety percent (90%) during their scheduled firearms and proficiency qualification. The qualification course must be a CLEST recognized firearms course of fire.

**5. Distinguished Expert Marksmanship Award**

(a) This recognition award will be noted within the training file belonging to those Officers who distinguish themselves as an outstanding marksman after obtaining a firearms proficiency score of ninety eight percent (98%) during their scheduled firearms and proficiency qualification. The qualification course must be a CLEST recognized firearms course of fire.

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6. Prior to receiving authorization to carry any Department issued weapon, newly appointed Officers will receive copies of the Department's use of force policy and receive training related to this policy and associated guidelines through the Personnel and Training Section.
  - (a) While attending the Basic Police Academy, a recruit Officer shall only be permitted to carry a Department issued weapon during firearms orientation training and during other applicable training sessions at the Academy.
7. Should the Department add new weapons to its inventory, Officers must first receive training in their use before being given authorization to carry the weapon.
8. The Agency reserves the right to require sworn Officers to participate in additional firearms training as deemed necessary by the needs of the Department. Any such training will be coordinated through the Personnel and Training Section.
9. All firearms qualification training periods shall be supervised in their entirety by a Department certified Firearms Instructor.

**B. Failure to Qualify and Demonstrate Proficiency**

1. Qualification and continued proficiency of issued service weapons is a major condition of continued employment as a Police Officer with the Texarkana Police Department. Failure to qualify and demonstrate adequate proficiency may result in discipline up to and including termination of employment. The failure to qualify with any other Department approved weapon shall prohibit that Officer from continued authorization to carry that particular weapon.
2. An Officer who fails to qualify with any Department approved weapon after three (3) consecutive attempts shall undergo immediate remedial training by a certified Department Firearms Instructor.
  - (a) The Firearms Instructor providing the remedial training shall notify the Officer's Division Commander and the Chief of Police in the event the Officer undertaking remedial training remains unable to qualify at the conclusion of the remedial training session.
  - (b) Upon such a notification, the Division Commander shall immediately suspend the unqualified Officer from duty with pay and confiscate the Officer's identification and Department issued weapon(s).
  - (c) The affected Officer will be directed to report to the Personnel and Training Section the following duty day for additional remedial training. The Officer shall remain on the suspension until such time the Officer qualifies, or the Firearms Instructor renders additional remedial training futile.
  - (d) If the Firearms Instructor determines—in his/her opinion—the affected Officer has not responded satisfactorily to the remedial training and thereby remains unqualified, the Instructor will notify the Officer's Division Commander who shall in turn notify the Chief of Police in writing with all applicable information.
3. Officers returning to duty after an absence exceeding six (6) months shall report to the Personnel and Training Section for remedial training and requalification prior to receiving authorization to return to full-duty status.

**VII. Weapons Repair and Maintenance Guidelines**

- A. The Texarkana Police Department strictly prohibits any modifications to issued weapons without the approval of the Chief of Police through the member's respective Division Commander. Minor

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modifications—such as polishing, porting or replacing parts—is allowed if these particular modifications are completed by Department armorer who is qualified to work on the specific type of weapon that will undergo modification.

- B. Only Department certified police armorers, who are authorized by the Chief of Police will repair, modify or work on Department owned weapons.
- C. Officers are responsible to maintain their issued and personally owned weapons in a clean and serviceable condition.
- D. All Department issued weapons will be inspected as directed by the Services Division Commander.
- E. After obtaining prior authorization from the Personnel and Training Section, Officers may install—at their own expense—approved after market grips, laser sights and/or tactical flashlights on the personally owned weapon authorized for on-duty deployment.

### VIII. Weapons Handling and Storage Guidelines

- A. One of the primary responsibilities of every Officer continues to be the safe, proper handling and storage of firearms—both on and off-duty. Weapons should be secured when not in the Officer’s immediate care, custody and control.
  - 1. In an effort to assist Officers with the security of their issued weapons when off-duty, all Officers are provided with a locking cable at the time of the weapon’s issue intended to be used during those periods in which the weapon is stored. In addition to the locking cable, each weapon was issued with a hardened plastic case that can be configured with a padlock for added safety.
  - 2. **Officers should make every attempt to ensure their issued weapons are secure at all times. The Department strongly encourages Officers to utilize this safety locking cable—or some other means of secure storage when off-duty—particularly if there are small children within the Officer’s family who could gain access to the duty weapon.**
- B. Shotguns assigned to specific units shall be secured in either the vehicle shotgun rack installed within the unit or secured in the unit’s trunk. Department owned weapons that are not issued, shall remain stored in the Agency’s armory or within the patrol shotgun locker. Weapons issued to patrol units will be secured in the armory—or the patrol shotgun locker—whenever a unit is rendered inoperable and requires service or repair. Weapons issued to the SWAT Team shall remain secured in the SWAT section of the Agency’s armory.
- C. When loading or unloading a weapon inside the building, Officers will utilize one of the bullet traps intended for this purpose.
- D. Officers are reminded that all weapons other than issued handguns and Department approved back-up weapons carried on the officer’s person, will be unloaded prior to entering the Bi-State Justice Center. This includes all long guns and specialized weapons assigned to SWAT Team members.
  - 1. Shotguns will be carried inside the building with the breech open. There are exceptions to this guideline. Officers transporting prisoners to the basement of the building may leave their assigned shotgun locked within the vehicle. This order does not apply to Officers responding to calls for police service within the building when the circumstances of the situation call for the use of a long gun or other specialized weapon.
- E. When deployed in the field, shotguns shall be stored in accordance with paragraph B above with the breech closed, chamber empty, magazine full and the safety mechanism engaged. Shotguns stored in this fashion are commonly referred to as “patrol ready”.

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1. Under no circumstances shall a shotgun be placed in the shotgun rack on within the trunk of any unit with a round in the chamber or with the safety mechanism disengaged.
- F. Officers shall at all times adhere to the standard firearms safety instruction provided by the Department training they have received and defined within this policy. Firearms at all times shall be maintained and deployed in a manner that precludes accidental discharges.
1. During periods of Department firearms training and qualification, Firearms Instructors will instruct Officers in the correct methods of carrying, clearing and unloading weapons. Officers are required to exercise due care and safety while carrying and unloading all Department issued weapons and are reminded to keep their finger off of the trigger unless the Officer intends to shoot.

**IX. SWAT Weapons and Ammunition**

A. Specialized weapons—other than assigned duty weapons—shall only be authorized for deployment to those Officers who are qualified with the respective weapon and whose assignments require for the deployment of such weapons.

1. Specialized weapons include rifles, carbines, fully-automatic weapons, rifles or shotguns configured with a sawed-off or shortened barrel, silencer, suppressors and those weapons configured with laser sights.

B. The Commander of the SWAT Team shall determine the need for specialized weapons. The Commander will also be responsible to ensure the Personnel and Training Section is supplied with an accurate list and description of all specialized weapons utilized by the SWAT Team. The following is a list of weapons authorized for deployment:

1. Glock Model 45; 9mm
2. Benelli M-1, 12-gauge shotgun;
3. Remington Model 870, 12-gauge shotgun;
4. H & K MP5, 9mm submachine gun;
5. H & K MP5, 9mm submachine gun with suppressor;
6. Colt M-4, 5.56mm NATO assault rifle;
7. Colt M-16, 5.56mm NATO assault rifle;
8. Bushmaster M-4, 5.56mm NATO assault rifle
9. Remington Model 40 Police Sniper rifle; 7.62mm NATO caliber; and
10. Remington Model 700 Police Sniper rifle, 5.56mm NATO caliber;
11. Savage bolt action .22 caliber rifle with suppressor.

**C. Weapons not Specified**

1. Due to the fluid nature of SWAT operations, it remains impossible to predict the needs of SWAT Team members with regard to weapon selection. On occasion, a weapon system not specifically outlined and defined within the SWAT Operational Policy may be deployed.

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2. All such weapons must receive approval by a member of the SWAT Team Command Staff before any such deployment of the weapon becomes authorized. At all times, such weapons must only be deployed by those SWAT Officers having a familiarization with the operation of the weapon.
3. Whenever the deployment of a non-specified weapon occurs, a member of the SWAT Team Command Staff shall generate written documentation that specifies the weapon system deployed as well as the circumstances that necessitated the departure from the standard weapons authorized for deployment. This documentation should be generated as soon as practical following the conclusion of the SWAT operation.

**D. Specifications for Ammunition Authorized for Deployment by SWAT**

1. The SWAT Team Commander will authorize the types of ammunition utilized within all SWAT issued weapons. All such ammunition and authorization shall be consistent and dependent upon the specific use of each weapon.
2. Due to manufacturing improvements, technical upgrades and advances in ballistic technology, the Commander is authorized to make changes in ammunition as deemed appropriate.
3. Although not inclusive, the following is a list of available *Less than Lethal* options:
  - (a) 37 / 40mm gas launchers;
  - (b) Handheld OC foggers;
  - (c) Hand deployed CS canisters;
  - (d) Non-flammable OC / CS expulsion canisters;
  - (e) OC hose delivery;
  - (f) Pepper ball launcher;
  - (g) 37 / 40mm impact munitions;
  - (h) Hand deployed smoke canisters; and
  - (i) Noise flash diversionary devices.

**X. Retired Law Enforcement Officers**

- A. Retired Texarkana Arkansas Police Officers are granted the authority to carry firearms through the following established state statutes and federal law:
  1. Within the State of Arkansas—A.C.A. §12-15-202(b) establishes the following guidelines:
    - (a) Retired from service from a public law enforcement department, office or agency for reasons other than mental disability;
    - (b) Immediately before retirement was a certified Law Enforcement Officer authorized by a public law enforcement department, office or agency to carry a firearm in the course and scope of his/her duties;
    - (c) Has nonforfeitable rights to benefits under a retirement plan of a public law enforcement department, office or agency;

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- (d) Is carrying appropriate written documentation issued by a public law enforcement department, office or agency identifying him/her as a retired and former certified law enforcement officer;
  - (e) Is not otherwise prohibited under federal law; and
  - (f) Has fingerprint impressions on-file with the Department of Arkansas State Police together with written authorization for state and national level criminal history screening.
2. States other than Arkansas — U.S. Federal Law H.R. 218 allows qualified Law Enforcement Officers an exemption from state laws that prohibit the carrying of concealed firearms. This federal law also includes retired Law Enforcement Officers and defines qualified retired Law Enforcement Officers as:
- (a) Retired in good standing from service with a public agency as a Law Enforcement Officer, other than for reasons of mental instability;
  - (b) Before such retirement, was authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of—or the incarceration of any person for any violation of law—and had statutory powers of arrest;
  - (c) Before such retirement, was regularly employed as a Law Enforcement Officer for an aggregate of 15 years or more; or
    - (1) Retired from service with such agency after completing any applicable probationary period of such service due to a service-connected disability as determined by such agency.
  - (d) Has non-forfeitable right to benefits under the retirement plan of the agency;
  - (e) During the most recent 12-month period has met—at the expense of the individual—the State’s standards for training and qualification for active Law Enforcement Officers to carry firearms; and
  - (f) Is not prohibited by Federal law from receiving a firearm.
3. In accordance with H.R 218 and CLEST regulations 1025 and 1026, The Texarkana Police Department has established the following guidelines for those retired Officers electing to carry a concealed firearm:
- (a) Any retired Texarkana Arkansas Police Officer who elects to carry a concealed firearm must annually—at his/her own expense—complete a Department approved firearms qualification course using their chosen weapon under the supervision of a Department Firearms Instructor.
  - (b) In order to be deemed qualified, retired Officers must meet the criteria established in Section VI, paragraph A (1) contained within this policy.
  - (c) The retired Officer will be limited to one (1) Department approved handgun, and on the date of their scheduled qualification, the retired Officer must present the firearm and ammunition he/she intends to carry to a Firearms Instructor who will inspect and approve the retired Officer’s selection.
  - (d) The retired Officer must possess a Department issued identification card which identifies them as a retired Officer.

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- (e) After successfully qualifying on the course of fire, the Personnel and Training Section will report the score to CLEST who will issue an identification card authorizing the retired Officer to carry the approved weapon.

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