

WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT STANDARDS

9456

(No.24 May 2016)

The following standards have been adopted for weapons (including any weapons provided by local contract agencies) carried by CAL FIRE peace officers:

SIDEARM - STATE ISSUE

9456.1

(February 2002)

ON DUTY/OFF DUTY - Uniform Assignment and Civilian Attire:

Sig-Sauer
Semi-automatic pistol;
Stainless steel or
Blue finish, 9 mm or 40 caliber.

SECONDARY WEAPON

9456.3

(No.24 May 2016)

While the Department does not require the carrying of a secondary weapon on duty, it does provide authorization for employees to carry such a firearm. The following guidelines shall apply when employees choose to exercise this option:

- A. Definition – a secondary firearm is an approved revolver or semi-automatic pistol carried concealed on duty in addition to the Department primary weapon.
- B. Only the following types of weapons may be authorized for use as a secondary weapon:
 - 1. Semi-automatic pistols: Personal or state purchased Sig-Sauer. Currently owned or provided Smith & Wesson, Ruger, Colt, or Berretta that incorporates the same safety features found on the Sig-Sauer semi-automatic pistols.
 - 2. Revolvers: Weapons manufactured by Sig-Sauer, Smith & Wesson, Ruger, Colt, or Berretta that incorporate the same safety features found on the Smith & Wesson, Model 61 or 67.
 - 3. Minimum caliber: 32
 - 4. Maximum caliber: 45
 - 5. Minimum capacity: 5
- C. An officer is only authorized to register one secondary weapon with the Department.

- D. The secondary weapon must be inspected by the Unit's firearm instructor and recorded in the Unit's Peace Officer Records prior to carrying the weapon on duty. The following documentation must be received by the Region Law Enforcement Coordinator and/or the Deputy Chief of Law Enforcement:
 - 1. Certification from a factory certified armorer that the weapon meets factory specifications. The certification must be within thirty days of the request to carry the weapon.
 - 2. Fire arms qualification record for the secondary weapon showing operational safety check and successful completion of a qualification course.
 - 3. An approval letter from the Unit or Staff Chief for the secondary weapon. [\(See Weapon Authorization Request.\)](#)
- E. An authorization letter from the Region Law Enforcement Coordinator or Deputy Chief of Law Enforcement must be received prior to carrying a secondary weapon. [\(See Weapon Authorization Request.\)](#)
- F. All secondary weapons will conform and meet the same safety and maintenance requirements for state issued weapons.
- G. State funds will not be used for the purchase and maintenance of a personal secondary weapon or non-standard issue ammunition.

SIDEARM AMMUNITION **9456.4**
 (No.24 May 2016)

Only factory-loaded ammunition will be carried as service rounds and used for all qualification shoots.

SHOTGUN **9456.6**
 (No.24 May 2016)

Standard Issue: 12-gauge pump, bead or rifle sight, 18- or 20-inch barrel.
Remington: Model 870

SHOTGUN AMMUNITION **9456.7**
 (No.24 May 2016)

Standard Round: 00 buckshot and/or slugs

Special Circumstances: Other shot sizes may be used for training.

TACTICAL RIFLE

9456.8

(No.24 May 2016)

Standard Issue: Ruger Mini-14, 5.56 NATO / .223 Rem, matte stainless steel finish, overall length at least 37 1/8", barrel length at least 18", with a synthetic, non-folding stock. Magazines with a capacity of up to thirty-rounds are authorized.

Accessories may be approved on an individual basis and may include, but are not limited to, rails, lights, slings, and/or sighting systems. The Staff Chief of Law Enforcement will establish a preapproved list of accessories for Region, Unit and individual officer reference.

Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES will any modification be made or approval given for changes that would be in violation of Penal Code Section 30500, et al, known as the Roberti-Roos Assault Weapons Control Act of 1989.

The following is a partial listing of illegal modifications:

- a) pistol grip
- b) thumbhole stock
- c) folding/telescoping stock
- d) grenade/flare launcher
- e) flash suppressor
- f) forward pistol grip

TACTICAL RIFLE TRAINING

9456.9

(No.24 May 2016)

CAL FIRE peace officers must successfully complete an approved Tactical Rifle Course prior to being issued or authorized to carry a tactical rifle.

GAS MASK

9456.10

(February 2002)

Peace officers assigned gas masks will follow the Department's Respiratory Protection Equipment Policy. They will be knowledgeable in the specific operational procedures for the make and model of the gas mask provided. The gas mask will be readily available for the officer's use while on duty.

NONLETHAL CHEMICAL AGENTS

9456.11

(February 2002)

All Departmental peace officers who have completed a POST certified course in the use of non-lethal chemical agents, may carry and use non-lethal chemical agents in the discharge of their duties, as indicated below:

- A. Department peace officers are authorized to carry and use those handheld canisters of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC), CS, or CN agents, as authorized by the Department of Justice.
- B. Department peace officers are authorized to carry and use 12 gauge shotgun projectiles that dispense non-lethal chemical agents.
- C. Other systems of delivery of non-lethal chemical agents may be used by Department peace officers, in accordance with California law, while in training, assisting allied agencies, or in cases of extreme emergency.

POLICE BATON

9456.12

(No.3 November 2003)

The following batons are authorized for carrying and use by Department peace officers:

- A. Straight, commercially manufactured rigid baton, not less than 26" nor more than 29" in length, 1 1/8 to 1 1/4 inches in diameter, constructed of wood, metal, or composite materials, with no added or enhanced weight.
- B. Side Handle, commercially manufactured rigid baton, not less than 20" nor more than 26" in length, constructed of wood, metal, or composite material, with no added or enhanced weight.
- C. Expanding Baton, commercially manufactured rigid baton of straight or side-handle style, not less than 20" nor more than 26" in length when extended, constructed of wood, metal or composite materials, with no added or enhanced weight.
- D. Batons of longer lengths (36 inches to 42 inches) are authorized for use during specialized assignments, i.e. crowd control.

The following training and annual proficiency reviews are required for the carrying and use of batons by Department peace officers:

- A. Authorization for carrying and use of a straight baton requires the successful completion of a POST certified course of instruction by an authorized instructor. Demonstration of proficiency will be conducted by a certified instructor.
- B. Authorization for carrying and use of the side-handle baton requires the successful completion of a POST certified course of instruction by a certified side-handle baton instructor. Annual certification is required and will be under the direction of an authorized side-handle baton instructor.

- C. Authorization for carrying and use of an expandable straight or side-handle baton requires the successful completion of a recognized course of instruction in the use and handling of the baton. Annual training to demonstrate proficiency will be conducted by the Unit. This training requirement is in addition to any other training and/or certification requirements for the style of baton.
- D. Records of all training, certifications and local proficiency training will be maintained in the Unit.

[\(see next section\)](#)

[\(see HB Table of Contents\)](#)

[\(see Forms or Forms Samples\)](#)