

# AB 481

## Military Equipment Use Policy

### Annual report



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# AB 481 Overview

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- **September 30, 2021:**
  - AB 481 was signed into law as Government Code sections 7070 – 7075
- **Legislative intent:**
  - To increase public transparency by which all California law enforcement agencies fund, acquire, and/or use military equipment, as defined by AB 481.
- **Law Enforcement Agency Requirements:**
  - Present to the Board of Supervisors a Military Equipment Use policy.
  - Provide an annual report to the Board of Supervisors and the public after first year of adoption.
  - *Hold at least one, well-publicized and conveniently located community engagement meeting prior to annual report being presented to the Board of Supervisors. (DONE 3/21/2023)*
- **Board of Supervisor Requirements:**
  - Approve a “Military Equipment” policy through the adoption of an ordinance.
  - Annually renew or modify the policy upon receipt of annual report.



# AB 481 Overview (Cont.)

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## ■ **Board of Supervisors Role:**

- Approve a “Military Equipment” policy through the adoption of an ordinance.
- Per AB 481 (7071(d)), this approval will be granted if the Board determines the following:
  - The military equipment is necessary because there is not a reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
  - The proposed military equipment use policy will safeguard the public’s welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties.
  - If purchasing the equipment, the equipment is reasonably cost effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
  - Prior military equipment use complied with the military equipment policy that was in effect at the time, or if prior uses did not comply with the accompanying military equipment use policy, corrective action has been taken to remedy nonconforming uses and ensure future compliance.

# Sheriff's Office Equipment

The Military Use Policy (707) is posted on the Sheriff's Office website  
([www.sonomasheriff.org](http://www.sonomasheriff.org))



## Policies and Training

### Policies

The most requested policies are listed below. Click on each policy to read it. [Click here](#) to read all the Detention Division (Jail) policies. Redactions have been made pursuant to Government Code 6254 and 6255. [Click here](#) to read all the Detention Division (Jail) procedures. [Click here](#) to read all the Law Enforcement Division (Patrol) policies.

- [Bias-based Policing](#)
- [Body Worn Cameras and Audio Recorders](#)
- [Concealed Weapons \(CCW\) Policy](#)
- [De-Escalation](#)
- [Officer Involved Shootings and Deaths](#)
- [Homeless Persons](#)
- [Immigration Status](#)
- [Immigration Policy](#)
- [Prison Rape Elimination Act \(PREA\)](#)
- [Taser Use](#)
- [Use of Force](#)
- [Vehicle Pursuits](#)
- [Visiting Inmates](#)
- [Military Equipment Policy](#)
- [2022 Annual Military Equipment report](#)



# Sheriff's Office Equipment (Cont.)

The updated 2022 equipment report is also posted on the Sheriff's Office website  
([www.sonomasheriff.org](http://www.sonomasheriff.org))



## Annual Reports

- Fiscal Year 2021-2022, published August 31, 2022. If you have a black and white printer, you may [view and print the grayscale version here](#).
- Fiscal Year 2020-2021, published August 26, 2021. If you have a black and white printer, you may [view and print the grayscale version here](#).
- Fiscal Year 2019-2020, published October 15, 2020. If you have a black and white printer, you may [view and print the grayscale version here](#).

## Military Equipment Inventories (AB 481)

- [2022 Annual Military Equipment report](#)



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FACILITIES  
LAW ENFORCEMENT  
DETENTION  
ADMINISTRATION  
CONTRACT CITIES  
CORONER UNIT  
HISTORY  
[PUBLICATIONS](#)



# Policies, Related Legislation, & Guidelines

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## **Policies:\***

- **300:** Use of Force
- **303:** Control Devices and Techniques
- **404:** Special Operations Unit
- **407:** Hostage and Barricade Incidents
- **606:** Unmanned Aerial Systems Operations (Drones)
- **705:** Armored Rescue Vehicle
- **706:** Mobile Command Center (MCC)
- **707:** Military Equipment

## **Legislation:**

- **AB 48:** Crowd Control legislation

## **Guidelines:**

- **POST:** Crowd Management, Intervention, and Control

*\* All policies can be found on the Sheriff's Office website*



# Community Feedback

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We received feedback from the community in three ways:

- Community meeting (03/21/2023)
- Social media platforms
- Public comment today

*Comments received are attached to the agenda packet*



# Next Steps

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- Over the next year, if approved, the Sheriff's Office will:
  - Produce another annual report update and present it to the community and Board of Supervisors in 2024.
  - Conduct additional community engagement regarding the use of "military equipment" prior to the next annual report update.
  - Continue to maintain a place on the Sheriff's website for people to ask questions, express concerns, or file complaints related to this policy.





# Recommended Action

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- The Sheriff's Office is bringing this Annual Report and community feedback to the Board of Supervisors.
- We request the Board adopt a resolution making required findings pursuant to AB 481 that the military equipment use policy and ordinance complies with the standards for approval set forth in Government Code Section 7071(d) and satisfies the requirements of AB 481.



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THANK YOU!