

	ANDOVER POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER		Number: O2705
			Page: 1 of 3
			Distribution: All
Title: PATROL RIFLES		Section: Weapons	
Issued: 5/8/2012	Effective: 5/16/2012	Revised: 12/14/2015	
Rescinds: All Previous		Amends:	
CALEA References: 1.3.9a,b,c,d,e,f, 1.3.10, 1.3.11a,b,c, 1.3.12			
Review: Annual	Authority: Chief Michael A. Keller 		

I. Purpose

The purpose of this General Order is to establish guidelines for training and deployment of a patrol rifle.

II. Policy

It is the policy of the Andover Police Department to provide its officers with the means to protect themselves, the residents and guests of the City of Andover. To this end, officers trained in its use are authorized to carry and deploy the patrol rifle as provided for in this General Order.

The patrol rifle is an implement of deadly force, and as such, should be addressed within the context of this department's use of force and firearms policies. The proper use of the .223 caliber patrol rifle, when necessary, generally results in greater hit probability, less penetration and more decisive effect upon a threatening subject. Its usage is generally preferred over that of a handgun in appropriate circumstances.

III. Definitions

(This Section Intentionally Left Blank)

IV. Regulations

- A. Patrol Rifles assigned to patrol vehicles will not be moved from vehicle to vehicle without the authorization of the Range Master [A].

V. Procedures

A. Equipment

1. The only rifles authorized for use are City of Andover Police Department owned .223 caliber rifles (1.3.9a).
2. The Range Master or department armorer will inspect all patrol rifles approved by the Chief of Police before the rifle is placed into service (1.3.9c).
3. Patrol rifles shall be equipped with a twenty (20) round magazine, sling and open sights (1.3.9b).

	ANDOVER POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER Title: PATROL RIFLES	Number: O2705
		Page: 2 of 3
		Section: Administration

Rev. 12142015

4. Extra magazines and ammunition will be stored in supervisor assigned vehicles.
5. Officers shall carry only department issued ammunition (1.3.9b).

B. Deployment Guidelines

1. Any member deploying a patrol rifle is required to successfully complete departmentally approved training pertinent to the patrol rifle (1.3.10).
2. If high capacity magazines are used, reliable ammunition feeding will be assured by loading the magazine two (2) rounds short of capacity.
3. The patrol rifle shall be carried in the patrol vehicle with a properly loaded magazine inserted in the magazine well, the chamber empty and the bolt forward. It shall be stored in an approved locking mount on the interior of the vehicle (1.3.9f).
4. A round will be chambered and the rifle readied to fire when the rifle is removed from the patrol vehicle for deployment purposes. Prior to securing the rifle back into the patrol vehicle, the chambered round will be removed and taken out of service, and the rifle rendered safe. All rounds taken out of service will be immediately turned over to a supervisor for proper disposal and replacement.
5. Officers shall use sound judgment consistent with training in deciding when to deploy the patrol rifle. Rifles will be handled as inconspicuously as possible under the circumstances at hand. Officers are accountable for decisions made to deploy rifles.
6. The deployment and use of rifles shall be in accordance with this General Order and the department's Use of Force General Order such as during a spontaneous field incident, or when there is reason to believe a suspect is:
 - a. Wearing protective body armor;
 - b. Armed with or has immediate access to weapon(s) which could cause death or great bodily injury;
 - c. Armed or situated in a distant or fortified location that affords the suspect(s) a tactically superior position, in that the deployment of the rifle reasonably appears necessary to neutralize the threat posed by the suspect(s);
 - d. Engaged in activities or situations that have a high probability that the suspect(s) may be armed and dangerous, such as bank robberies, high risk felony stops and weapons calls.
7. This criteria is not intended to prevent the use of the patrol rifle by any officer in an emergency situation in which the rifle is the only means of self defense.

C. Training/Maintenance

Rev. 12142015

1. Before being authorized to use a Patrol Rifle, officers authorized to carry the weapon shall receive a copy of General Order O2102 Use of Force, be provided

	ANDOVER POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER Title: PATROL RIFLES	Number: O2705
		Page: 3 of 3
		Section: Administration

training and shall be required to demonstrate their understanding of the law and agency orders relating to the use of force. (1.3.11).

- a. The department's Range Master will conduct the training annually (1.3.11a).
 - b. The training coordinator will maintain documentation of the training, knowledge test results and documentation that each officer received a copy of the aforementioned General Order (1.3.11b).
2. Members who fail to qualify with their patrol rifle after at least two attempts will not be allowed to carry and use their patrol rifle. The officer may be reassigned to a restricted duty and be subject to the following requirements (1.3.11c):
- a. The member's Section Commander shall be notified and shall promptly arrange with the training coordinator for a period of formal remedial firearms training not to exceed one week in duration. Such training does not preclude an officer from engaging in any additional informal practice or training session that the officer may deem necessary.
 - b. The officer shall be given two additional attempts to re-qualify within one week of completion of remedial firearms training. A written report shall be forwarded to the Chief of Police through proper channels of any officer who fails to re-qualify within one week of completion of remedial firearms training. The report shall include the training officer's recommendation for corrective action.
 - c. If the officer fails to qualify within one week of completion of remedial firearms training they shall be subject to termination of employment (1.3.11c).
3. Each officer that is assigned to a patrol vehicle and that is on the night shift will remove their patrol rifle during even numbered months, clean it, check it for defects and perform maintenance duties as needed.
4. Any damage or mechanical failure of any kind shall be immediately reported to a supervisor. The rifle will be taken out of service until repaired and cleared for service by the department armorer (1.3.9d).
5. The Range Master will keep a file of each patrol rifle that will include the type of rifle, serial number, location, maintenance record and repair record (1.3.9e).
6. Members will keep patrol rifles in their assigned vehicle. Only the Range Master is allowed to reassign patrol rifles from car to car.

Rev. 07022014

D. Firearms Modifications

1. Modifications to any agency authorized firearm require the written approval of Chief of Police with the written recommendation of the head Range Master. This includes but is not limited to modifications involving grips, spring kits, sights or finishes.
2. Repairs or alterations to agency authorized firearms shall be made only by an armorer employed or authorized by the department.