

**1320.00 MILITARY EQUIPMENT**

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| <b>Responsible Officer:</b> | EVP-COO UC Operations  |
| <b>Responsible Office:</b>  | Systemwide Community Safety  |
| <b>Issuance Date:</b>       | [The date of issuance by the President]  |
| <b>Effective Date:</b>      | [The date that the Policy is first enforceable]  |
| <b>Scope:</b>               | The policies and procedures contained within constitute a directive for members of the University of California Police Department (UCPD). They were created to provide direction and guidance to the members of the UCPD and provide the framework of coordination for the protection of the population and resources of the University of California. |

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**I. POLICY SUMMARY**

The Systemwide UCPD Military Equipment policy governs the approval, acquisition, and oversight of certain equipment classified as “military” as defined and required by California law (AB 481, Chapter 406, Statutes of 2021). Any new acquisition requires approval from the UC Board of Regents after public notice and review. The policy stipulates that equipment classified as military equipment may be used only when no other reasonable alternative exists to protect safety, and that such use must remain

legally compliant and cost-effective. Strict rules govern training, authorized uses, and coordination with other agencies. The department must publish an annual report, maintain an inventory, and hold a community meeting to explain equipment use. The goal of this policy is to ensure transparency, oversight, and alignment with UC community values.

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## II. POLICY TEXT

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### 1320.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide procedures for the approval, acquisition, and reporting requirements of “military equipment” ([Government Code § 7070](#); [Government Code § 7071](#); [Government Code § 7072](#)).

#### 1320.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Governing body – The elected or appointed body that oversees the Department. The governing body for UCPD is the University of California Board of Regents (Regents).

Military equipment – Includes:

- (1) Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial, or ground vehicles.
- (2) Mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicles or armored personnel carriers.
- (3) High mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles (HMMWV), two-and-one-half-ton trucks, five-ton trucks, or wheeled vehicles that have a breaching or entry apparatus attached.
- (4) Tracked armored vehicles that provide ballistic protection to their occupants.
- (5) Command and control vehicles that are either built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units.
- (6) Weaponized aircraft, vessels, or vehicles of any kind.
- (7) Battering rams, slugs, and breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature. This does not include a handheld, one-person ram.
- (8) Firearms and ammunition of .50 caliber or greater, excluding standard-issue shotguns and standard-issue shotgun ammunition.
- (9) Specialized firearms and ammunition of less than .50 caliber, including firearms and accessories identified as assault weapons in [Penal Code § 30510](#) and [Penal Code § 30515](#), with the exception of standard-issue firearms.
- (10) Any firearm or firearm accessory that is designed to launch explosive projectiles.
- (11) Noise-flash diversionary devices and explosive breaching tools.

- (12) Munitions containing tear gas or OC, excluding standard, service-issued handheld pepper spray.
- (13) TASER® Shockwave, microwave weapons, water cannons, and long-range acoustic devices (LRADs).
- (14) Kinetic energy weapons and munitions.
- (15) Any other equipment as determined by a governing body or a state agency to require additional oversight.

## **1320.2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the University of California Police Department that members of this department comply with the provisions of [Government Code § 7071](#) with respect to military equipment.

### **1320.2.1 COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE**

The University of California Police Department will ensure that all Department members comply with this policy and the policies that govern the use of equipment defined as military equipment. The UC Police Department shall conduct an annual audit. The Chief of Police or their designee will be notified of any policy violation(s). If needed, the violation(s) will be referred to an internal complaint investigation and handled according to UC Police Department's Personnel Complaint policy. All instances of non-compliance will be reported to the Regents as part of the annual military equipment report.

Any member of the public can register a complaint, question, or concern regarding military equipment use by emailing local [Police Accountability Boards](#) or other reporting [resources](#). The Chief of Police or their designee will respond in a timely manner.

### **1320.3 MILITARY EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR**

The Chief of Police should designate a member of this department to function as the military equipment coordinator. The responsibilities of the military equipment coordinator include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Acting as liaison to the governing body for matters related to the requirements of this policy.
- (b) Identifying department equipment that qualifies as military equipment in the current possession of the Department, or the equipment the Department intends to acquire that requires approval by the governing body.
- (c) Conducting an inventory of all military equipment at least annually.
- (d) Collaborating with any other law enforcement agencies that may use military equipment within the jurisdiction of the University of California Irvine Police Department ([Government Code § 7071](#)).
- (e) Preparing for, scheduling, and coordinating the annual community engagement meeting to include:

- i. Publicizing the details of the meeting.
  - ii. Preparing for public questions regarding the department's funding, acquisition, and use of equipment.
- (f) Preparing the annual military equipment report for submission to the Chief of Police and ensuring that the report is made available on the department website ([Government Code § 7072](#))

#### 1320.4 MILITARY EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

The following constitutes a list of qualifying equipment for the Department: [UC Police Military Equipment.pdf](#)

#### 1320.5 APPROVAL

The Chief of Police in collaboration with all UC Police Departments shall obtain approval from the governing body by way of an ordinance adopting the military equipment policy ([Government Code § 7071\(a\)\(1\)](#)).

As part of the approval process, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall ensure the proposed military equipment policy is submitted to the governing body and is available on the department website at least 30 days prior to any public hearing concerning the military equipment at issue ([Government Code § 7071\(b\)](#)).

The military equipment policy must be approved by the governing body prior to engaging in any of the following ([Government Code § 7071\(a\)](#)):

- (a) Requesting military equipment made available pursuant to [10 U.S.C. § 2576a](#).
- (b) Seeking funds for military equipment, including but not limited to applying for a grant, soliciting or accepting private, local, state, or federal funds, in-kind donations, or other donations or transfers.
- (c) Acquiring military equipment either permanently or temporarily, including by borrowing or leasing.
- (d) Collaborating with another law enforcement agency in the deployment or other use of military equipment within the jurisdiction of this department.
- (e) Using any new or existing military equipment for a purpose, in a manner, or by a person not previously approved by the governing body.
- (f) Soliciting or responding to a proposal for, or entering into an agreement with, any other person or entity to seek funds for, apply to receive, acquire, use, or collaborate in the use of military equipment.
- (g) Acquiring military equipment through any means not provided above.
- (h) This approval is intended to permit the Department to maintain the quantities of military equipment at the amounts that were last approved by the governing body. Accordingly, the Department can engage in any of the activities listed in 1320.5(a)-(g) without seeking additional approval as long as the Department does not exceed the pre-approved quantity.

### **1320.5.2 MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE CONSIDERATIONS**

- (a) The governing body shall only approve a military equipment use policy if it determines all of the following: [\(Government Code § 7071\(d\) \(1\)\)](#)
1. Necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
  2. The military equipment use policy will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties.
  3. Reasonably cost-effective compared to available alternatives, if any, that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
- (b) Military equipment shall only be used by a Department employee only after applicable training, including any course required by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, has been completed, unless exigent circumstances exist.

### **1320.6 COORDINATION WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS**

Military equipment used by any member of this jurisdiction shall be approved for use and in accordance with this Department policy. Military equipment used by other jurisdictions that are providing mutual aid to this jurisdiction shall comply with their respective military equipment use policies in rendering mutual aid.

### **1320.7 ANNUAL REPORT**

Upon approval of a military equipment policy, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee should submit a military equipment report to the governing body for each type of military equipment approved within one year of approval, and annually thereafter for as long as the military equipment is available for use [\(Government Code § 7072\)](#).

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee should also make each annual military equipment report publicly available on the department website for as long as the military equipment is available for use. The report shall include all information required by [Government Code § 7072](#) for the preceding calendar year for each type of military equipment in the department inventory.

### **1320.8 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Within 30 days of submitting and publicly releasing the annual report, the Department shall hold at least one well-publicized and conveniently located community engagement meeting, at which the Department should discuss the report and respond to public questions regarding the funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment. [\(Government Code § 7072\(b\)\)](#).

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### III. COMPLIANCE / RESPONSIBILITIES

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Each Chief of Police has the responsibility to adopt and publish policies and procedures for the assistance and guidance of the members of their individual campus police departments. Policies and Procedures for campus police departments issued by authority of the Chief of Police shall have the same authority as these Policies.

Local regulations, including General and Special Orders, Procedural Memoranda and instructions may be written more restrictively than Policies Applying to University of California Police Department, however they may not be written to supplant or diminish the Policies and Procedures contained within this Systemwide document.

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### IV. RELATED INFORMATION

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[UCOP Annual AB 481 Reports](#)

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### V. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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Not applicable

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### VI. REVISION HISTORY

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**January 2, 2026:** New policy to comply with law, approved in Sept 2022 by Regents. This Policy is also reformatted to meet Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0

**January 7, 2011:** Revised