

RECOMMENDATION SUBMISSION AND RESPONSE FORM

2022 MEU #3

DISCUSSED BY SCPRC	05/20/2022	APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED	X	PENDING FURTHER REVIEW	
RECEIVED BY SPD	08/17/2022	APPROVED AND PENDING		SPD UNABLE TO IMPLEMENT	
RETURNED TO SCPRC	09/09/2024	PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION		DENIED	

SCPRC RECOMMENDATION

GO 580.02 Use of Force

GO 410.06 Military Equipment Use

SPD language related to military munitions usage is overly vague or too broad

Changes to Existing Policy(s): Add specific language detailing the usage, rationale and justification for use of all Armor-Piercing (AP) munitions in the context of public safety.

SCPRC RECOMMENDATION RATIONALE

While current UOF policy governs the use of AP munitions when suspects are heavily armored in Class level 4 or above, SPD does not have specific use policy related to their usage. Given its clear military applications, we recommend adding language that provides criteria for using AP munitions, including a rationale, restrictions on its use, and other criteria governing where, against whom, and in what context they may be used.

SPD RESPONSE

General Order 580.15 (Special Weapons and Tactics [SWAT] Team) was published on 02/02/2024 and contained the following in the "Deployment of SWAT Weapons" section:

4. Armor-piercing ammunition shall only be possessed and utilized by SWAT members trained in its use and who have successfully passed the regular qualification in the use of armor-piercing ammunition.
 - a. Armor-piercing ammunition is only authorized for use with approved SWAT-issued rifles, in accordance with California Government Code §§ 7070-7075, and General Order 410.06 (Military Equipment Use).
5. Armor-piercing ammunition shall only be utilized in circumstances where other rifle ammunition would be ineffective, and the use is authorized by the SWAT commander in consultation with the IC. Factors to consider before use include:
 - a. The suspect(s) utilizing body armor.
 - b. The suspect(s) concealment behind armor.
 - c. The backdrop of the target area.

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS

N/A

APPENDIX

N/A