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CHAPTER 4
FIREARMS EQUIPMENT

1. MAGAZINES.

a. Duty Magazines. All uniformed employees shall be issued five duty magazines (designated by black base plate) for primary duty use with the primary duty pistol.

b. While on duty, uniformed employees are required to carry a minimum of three fully loaded magazines when wearing the duty belt. One magazine shall be carried in the state-issued pistol and a minimum of two magazines shall be carried in the primary magazine pouch. All state-issued magazines shall be documented on a CHP 81, Receipt of State Property. Each command shall maintain a spare supply of duty magazines equal to five percent of the uniform command strength. Additional magazines may be purchased at the employee's own expense, but the total magazines carried on the employee's person are not to exceed one in the pistol and four on the duty belt. These magazines shall be the same capacity as the magazines issued by the Department and shall be designed and manufactured to be used in the primary duty pistol by the manufacturer of the primary duty pistol. Prior to use, these magazines must be inspected by the range officer. Departmentally approved ammunition is authorized for issue to an employee who carries additional magazines while on duty.

c. Training Magazines. Each command has been issued training magazines (designated by red or orange base plate) which are to be used only for the purpose of training. Each command shall maintain a supply of training magazines equal to three magazines per assigned uniformed employee, up to 66 percent of the command strength.

(1) During emergency operations, Division commanders may authorize employees to carry departmental training magazines in addition to the duty magazines while on duty.

(2) If the training magazines are carried while on duty in emergency operations, commanders shall ensure the training magazines have been properly inspected and cleaned by the Area range officer prior to issue.

d. Replacement or Repair of Magazines.

(1) Duty magazine replacements are available only from the Academy, Weapons Training Unit (WTU), and require a requisition which shall include the employee's name, identification number, and the command for which the

replacement is being made. All damaged or defective magazines shall be returned with the requisition to the Academy, WTU.

(2) Repairs to magazines shall only be performed by the departmental gunsmith at the Academy.

(3) Requests for additional magazines or changes in the authorized allotment of magazines shall be approved by the appropriate Assistant Commissioner.

(4) Training magazine replacements are available only from the Academy, WTU, and require a requisition approved by the appropriate commander.

2. HOLSTERS.

a. Primary Firearm Holster—On Duty in Uniform With Duty Belt.

(1) Only holsters that have been evaluated and approved by the Academy, WTU, for safety, security, and functional reliability, and have been approved by the Office of the Commissioner are authorized for use by employees of this Department. A list of approved duty holsters is located in Annex A of this chapter and shall be reviewed and updated annually by the Academy, WTU.

(2) Employees desiring to have a holster evaluated for placement on the approved holster list shall notify the Academy, WTU, through channels, by memorandum indicating the make, style, and manufacturer, and ensure it meets the following specifications:

(a) The holster shall be a belt-type for use with the duty belt.

(b) The holster shall be made of 8- to 9-ounce top-grain leather or synthetic material and be specifically designed by the manufacturer for the primary firearm.

(c) All visible leather or synthetic material shall be black in color and be finished with a hand-stamped basket weave design or similar finish.

(d) All stitching shall be lock-stitched with a minimum of five stitches per inch, using a minimum of hot-waxed 5 cord linen thread or equivalent.

(e) All visible metal snaps and/or swivels are to be constructed of solid brass. All screws, pins, or rivets not visible shall have a permanent black finish.

(f) The trigger guard of the firearm must be covered to prevent access to the trigger when the firearm is holstered and secured in place.

(g) The holster must secure the firearm against accidentally falling or bouncing out when the wearer is running or jumping.

(h) The holster shall not be lined with any material or fitted with any objects that will contribute to excessive wear or damage to the firearm's finish or the clothing of its wearer.

(i) The holster shall have a securely fashioned, 2 inch to 2 1/4 inch standard belt loop with sufficient separation between the holster and loop to allow a jacket to fit properly within the separation. The belt loop shall be constructed of one piece of thermal formed polymer (or similar material) to ensure rigidity when drawing the firearm from the holster. The belt loop shall be fixed to the holster in such a manner as to prevent twisting and weakening under intensive use.

(j) The holster shall be designed to permit the wearer access to the magazine release button while the firearm is holstered. However, the design shall minimize the unintentional release of the magazine.

(k) The muzzle area shall prevent the collecting of dust and water.

(l) The holster shall be a top draw or semi-breakfront design, fixed or swivel, standard high-ride, mid-ride, low-ride, or border patrol style (tip of barrel canted to the rear of the wearer).

b. Primary Firearm Holster—On Duty in Uniform Without Duty Belt.

(1) Uniformed employees on duty within an Area, Division, or headquarters facility, in uniform without a duty belt, may wear a privately owned special duty holster as long as the following conditions are met:

(a) Prior approval is granted by the commander.

(b) The holster shall be black in color and may have either a basket weave or matte finish.

(c) All visible metal snaps or rivets shall be solid brass or have a permanent black finish.

(d) The holster shall be of a paddle, belt loop, or clip-on design, and be made for the specific model of the primary firearm.

(e) The holster shall have a retention system that secures and retains the weapon until the uniformed employee makes a conscious decision to draw the weapon.

(f) The trigger guard of the firearm must be covered to prevent access to the trigger while the firearm is holstered and snapped in place.

(g) The holster must provide immediate accessibility for the employee to draw and shall allow one-handed reholster of the pistol (must be demonstrated).

(h) Holsters shall be designed to be worn on the employee's primary side.

(2) The purchase and maintenance of a holster is the sole responsibility of the uniformed employee (as listed above).

c. Primary Firearm and Supplemental Firearm Holsters—On Duty in Plain Clothes.

(1) Uniformed employees on duty in plain clothes assignment, including any employee attending court in civilian attire, may carry their primary firearm in a belt paddle or clip-on holster, purse, or shoulder holster.

(2) The finish of the belt or shoulder holster shall be in the black or brown color range. The holster shall comply with the minimum safety requirements listed below:

(a) The holster must allow the firearm to be carried concealed while the employee is in public view.

(b) The holster shall have a positive retention device utilizing a mechanism designed to prevent loss of control.

(c) The holster shall be designed to prevent movement or access to the trigger while the firearm is holstered.

(d) The holster must provide immediate accessibility for the employee to draw and shall allow for one-handed reholster of the firearm (must be demonstrated).

d. Primary Firearm Holster—On Duty Mobile Road Enforcement Officer, Platform Scale Inspection Facilities. Employees assigned to commercial enforcement duties shall wear their duty belt, primary firearm, and an approved holster meeting the specifications outlined in paragraph 2.a.(2) of this chapter.

NOTE: The above-mentioned employees, as outlined in paragraph 2.d. of this chapter, may wear a black basket weave belt loop pancake, nonduty style holster with the duty belt when not wearing a jacket. Pancake-style holsters shall meet the specifications outlined in paragraph 2.a.(1) of this chapter. If a jacket is to be worn, the employee shall wear their normal duty holster.

e. Primary Firearm Holster—On Duty, Shoulder Style.

(1) The holster shall be made of leather, 6- to 13-ounce top-grain cowhide or equivalent material and designed for the specific model of firearm approved for carry while on duty.

(a) Air Operations Specifications. The Air Operations leather or leather-appearing synthetic material shoulder holsters are to be a cross draw-type holster, designed to be held in position by a soft leather harness and belt loop straps that secure it to the wearer's belt or flight suit waist straps. A combination cuff case/magazine pouch shall be attached to the holster harness on the opposite side of the firearm. The adjustable, soft-leather harness is attached to each piece, is to be placed over the shoulders, and comfortably supports the outfit on the body. The muzzle of the pistol, when holstered, shall be pointed either vertical to the ground or horizontal to the ground pointed rearward.

1 Pilots and observers assigned to the departmental Air Operations Program (AOP) may carry the supplemental firearm in lieu of the primary firearm when wearing an approved shoulder holster.

(b) Finish.

1 Holster and cuff case/magazine pouch shall be finished in permanent, vat-dried, odorless black dye on the front side and left natural brown on the side next to the body. The outside surface of the holster and magazine pouch shall be stamped with a basket weave pattern or similar finish. All exposed edges shall be edged and burnished with finishing wax to ensure edges are smooth, dyed, and polished. Finished holster shall be treated to provide luster and prevent excessive dye rub-off.

2 The skin side (top) of the soft leather harness strap shall be smooth and finished in permanent, odorless black dye with the side next to the body left natural so there will be no dye rub-off on the clothing of its wearer.

(c) Construction. The outside portion of the holster and the holster liner shall be glued and sewn together with 5 cord black polished linen thread with a belt-attaching strap sewn to the back. The holster shall have an 8-ounce safety strap equipped with a flat spring piece incorporated in the tip to assure ease of unsnapping with one finger. The holster shall be designed for the specific model of the primary firearm.

(2) Black Ballistic Nylon for Air Operations, Vehicle Theft, and Drug Task Force Employees Only.

(a) Material. The holster shall be designed for the specific model of firearm approved for carry while on duty. The holster material shall be durable, quality grade black ballistic nylon. The holster shall be constructed so as to hold the firearm securely in place, not allow the trigger to be exposed, and shall have hammer safety straps to prevent accidental discharge. The holster harness shall have belt loop straps that secure it to the wearer's belt or flight suit waist straps. A combination handcuff case/magazine pouch shall be attached to the harness on the opposite side of the firearm. The muzzle of the pistol, when holstered, shall be pointed either vertical to the ground or horizontal to the ground pointed rearward.

(b) Handcuff Case/Magazine Pouch. The handcuff case/magazine pouch shall be black ballistic nylon sufficient in size to hold one pair of standard handcuffs and one double magazine pouch with the flaps secured by snaps or hook-and-loop (Velcro®).

f. Fanny Packs.

(1) Upon written approval from the Division commander, only employees assigned to auto theft or drug task force duties in civilian attire, and actually engaged in covert and sensitive undercover enforcement operations as defined by the Division commander, may be authorized to use a fanny pack to carry their primary firearm on duty. Guidelines that shall be considered prior to approval are listed below:

(a) The fanny pack shall not be used during routine plain clothes operations.

(b) Whenever the employee's attire dictates the use of a plain clothes holster, the holster shall be used in lieu of the fanny pack.

(c) Proficiency in drawing and reholstering safely shall be demonstrated prior to the use of a fanny pack.

(2) The only authorized fanny packs will be those which meet the requirements listed below:

- (a) Constructed of a durable material and specifically designed with a compartment for carrying the primary firearm.
- (b) Protects the firearm from unusual wear or damage.
- (c) Designed to prevent unintentional loss of control of the firearm.
- (d) Designed to prevent accidental rearward movement of the trigger.
- (e) Conceals the primary firearm from public view at all times when carried.

NOTE: Fanny packs may be used to carry the primary firearm off duty, but the pack must meet the requirements listed above.

g. Tactical Flight Vest for Air Operations Personnel.

(1) The holster material shall be durable, quality-grade synthetic ballistic nylon, or molded specifically for the departmentally issued firearm and Modular Lightweight Load-Carrying Equipment (MOLLE) compatible. The holster shall be black in color with level-two retention or higher.

(a) The MOLLE holsters shall be affixed by a minimum of two rows of MOLLE web looping.

(2) The holster shall be designed to prevent loss of control.

(3) The holster shall be designed to prevent movement or access to the trigger while the firearm is holstered.

(4) Pilots and flight observers assigned to the departmental AOP may carry the supplemental firearm in lieu of the primary firearm when wearing the tactical flight vest.

3. MAGAZINE POUCH (ON DUTY).

a. On Duty in Uniform With Duty Belt.

(1) Employees on duty in uniform wearing the duty belt shall have one magazine pouch that holds a minimum of two duty magazines located on the duty belt toward the front on either side of the buckle, so as not to interfere with

drawing of the firearm. It may be worn vertically or horizontally as long as the open end of the pouch is not facing down. The magazine pouch shall:

- (a) Be constructed of 6- to 7-ounce top-grain leather or equivalent synthetic material and be constructed to accommodate a minimum of two magazines side by side.
- (b) Be designed and constructed to similar dimensions as the primary firearm magazines.
- (c) Be black leather with a basket weave pattern or similar finish.
- (d) Have all visible metal snaps or rivets made of solid brass.
- (e) Be lock-stitched with a minimum of five stitches per inch using hot-waxed five cord linen thread or better.
- (f) Have a belt loop or slots on its back enabling its wearer to carry the magazines either vertically or horizontally along a 2 1/4 inch wide duty belt.
- (g) Have an individual flap over each magazine. Each one shall be secured by a brass snap and operate independently of the other.

(2) Employees on duty in uniform wearing the duty belt may wear additional approved magazine pouches on the duty belt, provided the magazine pouches meet the specifications described in paragraph 3.a.(1) of this chapter.

NOTE: Employees on duty in uniform wearing the duty belt shall not carry more than four, nor fewer than two, magazines on the duty belt.

(3) Only pouches that have been evaluated and approved by the Academy, WTU, for safety, security, and functional reliability, and subsequently approved by the Office of the Commissioner, are authorized for wearing by members of this Department. Employees wishing to submit a magazine pouch for review and approval by the Academy, WTU, shall ensure it meets the above requirements prior to being submitted.

b. On Duty in Uniform Without Duty Belt. Employees on duty in uniform without the duty belt who carry a magazine pouch shall have the pouch located on their belt in such a manner so as not to interfere with the drawing of the firearm. The magazine pouch shall:

- (1) Be constructed of 6- to 7-ounce top-grain leather or equivalent synthetic material or ballistic nylon material and constructed to accommodate one to two magazines only.

(2) Be designed and constructed specifically for the primary or supplemental firearm magazines.

(3) Be black leather with a basket weave pattern or similar finish.

(4) Have all visible metal snaps or rivets made of solid brass.

(5) Have a belt loop, clip, or slots on its back that would prevent the unintentional loss of the pouch.

c. Plain Clothes. Employees on duty in plain clothes who carry a magazine pouch shall have the pouch located on their person in such a manner so as not to interfere with the drawing of the firearm. The magazine pouch shall:

(1) Be constructed of 6- to 7-ounce top-grain leather or equivalent synthetic material or ballistic nylon material and be constructed to accommodate one or two magazines only.

(2) Be designed and constructed specifically for the primary or supplemental firearm magazines.

(3) Be in the black or brown color range and smooth finished.

(4) Have all visible metal snaps or rivets in the black or brown color range.

(5) Have a belt loop, clip, or slots on its back that would prevent the unintentional loss of the pouch.

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ANNEX A

LIST OF AUTHORIZED ON DUTY HOLSTERS AND ATTACHMENTS FOR SMITH & WESSON MODEL MILITARY & POLICE .40 CALIBER PISTOLS

LIST OF AUTHORIZED ON DUTY HOLSTERS AND ATTACHMENTS

AKER LEATHER PRODUCTS

Model 118 Blue Line Drop Loop
Model 119 Blue Line High Ride Loop
Model 114 Nightguard Low Ride
Model 115 Nightguard High Ride

SAFARILAND

Level II SLS Holster—NO LIGHT

6280-219-481OBL right-handed
6280-219-482OBL left-handed
7280-219-481 right-handed (state-issued holster)
7280-219-482 left-handed (state-issued holster)

Level II SLS Holster—WITH LIGHT

7280-2192-481 right-handed
7280-2192-482 left-handed

Level III ALS Holster—NO LIGHT

6360-219-481OBL right-handed
6360-219-482OBL left-handed
7360-219-481 right-handed
7360-219-482 left-handed

Level III ALS Holster—WITH LIGHT

6360-2192-481OBL right-handed
6360-2192-482OBL left-handed
7360-2192-481 right-handed
7360-2192-482 left-handed

Level III Triple Threat—NO LIGHT

070-619-481OBL right-handed
070-619-481OBL left-handed

ANNEX A

LIST OF AUTHORIZED ON DUTY HOLSTERS AND ATTACHMENTS FOR SMITH & WESSON MODEL MILITARY & POLICE .40 CALIBER PISTOLS (continued)

NOTE: The OBL designation for Safariland holsters is the CHP-approved folded polymer shank with set screws for secure attachment to the duty belt. Holsters with a thermoformed nylon resin shank with 2 inch to 2 1/4 inch belt loops are also authorized for on duty use.

TED BLOCKER

SW400 4 inch drop, no light
SW400L 4 inch drop, with light

SW402 4 inch drop, level 2 thumb break, no light
SW402L 4 inch drop, level 2 thumb break, with light

SW600 6 inch drop, no light
SW600L 6 inch drop, with light

SW602 6 inch drop, level 2 thumb break, no light
SW602L 6 inch drop, level 2 thumb break, with light

SW Shank belt loop with bent shank only (straight shank is not authorized).

NOTE: The state-issued holster will fit on the SW Shank. Holster screws that attach the holster to the shank shall be installed with no more than one drop of blue Loctite® or similar thread-locking compound.

LIST OF AUTHORIZED HOLSTER ATTACHMENTS

SAFARILAND QLS (Quick Locking System)

Model 6004-19 Quick Locking System Holster Fork (QLS 19)
Model 6004-22 Quick Locking System—Receiver Plate (QLS 22)

SAFARILAND VUBL (Vertical Universal Belt Loop)

Model VUBL-1-2-2

SAFARILAND QUBL (Quick Locking System + Vertical Universal Belt Loop)

Model QUBL-1-2-2

ANNEX B

REQUIREMENTS FOR PLAIN CLOTHES ON DUTY HOLSTERS FOR SMITH & WESSON MODEL MILITARY & POLICE .40 CALIBER PISTOLS

REQUIREMENTS FOR PLAIN CLOTHES ON-DUTY HOLSTERS

Authorized plain clothes on-duty holsters are required to have the following features:

Black or brown in color (to include carbon fiber, basket weave, matte black, or any other finish that is professional in appearance).

Have a positive locking device which will prevent the weapon from coming out of the holster without the conscious decision of the officer to draw the weapon.

The holster must be of such a design that the trigger and trigger guard are covered to prevent accidental firing of the pistol while in the holster.

These criteria are established with the intent that the weapon will be carried concealed at all times.

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