



Inyo County Sheriff's Office
Military Equipment Annual Report 2023-2024
June 30, 2024

On June 21, 2022, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors passed and adopted Inyo County Ordinance 1280 under California Assembly Bill No. 481 (AB 481), which codified Chapter 12.8 to Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, commencing with section 7070. The legislative intent behind AB 481 was to increase the public transparency by which California law enforcement agencies fund, acquire, and use “military equipment.”

Ordinance 1280 requires the Sheriff's Office to obtain Board of Supervisors approval before taking specific actions relating to the funding, acquisition, and/or use of equipment defined by the ordinance as “military equipment.” The term “military equipment,” as used in Ordinance 1280, does not necessarily indicate equipment used by the military. The majority of the equipment defined by this ordinance and possessed by the Sheriff's Office is employed by most law enforcement agencies across the country to enhance citizen and officer safety. In addition, California Government Code Section 7072 requires the Sheriff's Office to submit an annual military equipment report to the Board of Supervisors each year for as long as the military equipment is available for use.

The Sheriff's Office shall make each annual military equipment report publicly available on the department website for as long as the military equipment is available for use and hold a community engagement meeting within 30 days of posting the report to the department website. The report shall include the following information for the immediately preceding year:

1. A summary of how the military equipment was used and the purpose for its use.
2. A summary of any complaints or concerns received concerning the military equipment.
3. The results of any internal audits, and information about violations of the Sheriff's Office Military Equipment Policy 704, and any actions taken in response.
4. The total annual cost for each type of military equipment and the source of funds to cover such expenses.
5. The quantity possessed for each type of military equipment.
6. Whether there is intent to acquire additional military equipment in the next year, and if so, the quantity sought for each type of equipment.

This report shall cover the period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

Command-and-Control Vehicles

- The Sheriff's Office has two (2) command and control vehicles, a Radio Truck and a Command Post Trailer. These vehicles are deployed during critical incidents, search and rescue operations, and pre-staged events to transport specialized equipment, provide a mobile office, shelter, and access to Sheriff's Office computer systems.

- Usage

- o The Radio Truck was deployed to one (1) Sheriff's Special Enforcement Detail (SED) incident in an allied agency jurisdiction.

- Equipment Costs

- o Approximately \$851.00 was spent on new tires.

- o There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.

- o There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

Robots (Unmanned, Remotely Piloted, Powered Ground Vehicles)

- The Sheriff's Office has two (2) unmanned ground vehicles (robot). This equipment is utilized by the Sheriff's SED team to remotely gain visual/audio data, carry equipment, open doors, facilitate disposal of hazardous devices, and clear buildings without exposing deputies to hazardous situations. They may be deployed during high-risk situations such as searches for wanted subjects, barricaded subjects, and hostage rescues. They may also be used to inspect hazardous materials, possible explosive devices, and other hazardous situations.

- Usage

- o The Robot was used two (2) times during Sheriff's SED Operations. Both involved the search of residences of violent suspects in the service of search warrants.

- Equipment Costs

- o There were no new costs related to this equipment.

- o There were no training costs as the training for this equipment is Sheriff's SED team training.

- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.

- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)

- The Sheriff's Office has four (4) Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). This equipment is utilized by the Sheriff's SED team to remotely gain visual/audio data, carry equipment, open doors, facilitate disposal of hazardous devices, and clear buildings without exposing deputies to hazardous situations. They may be deployed for search and rescue operations to assist personnel in rescuing

individuals in dangerous conditions and locating missing persons. They may be deployed during high-risk situations such as searches for wanted subjects, barricaded subjects, and hostage rescues. They may also be used to inspect hazardous materials, possible explosive devices, and other hazardous situations.

- Usage

- o Seven (7) times for crime scene documentation.
- o Six (6) times for calls for service related to Sheriff's SED Operations.
- o Fourteen (14) times for calls for service in Sheriff's Patrol Operations.
- o Two (2) times for Search and Rescue Operations.

- Equipment Costs

- o Approximately \$858.00 was spent for maintenance during FY 23-24.
- o There were no training costs for training for this equipment.

- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.

- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

Night Vision Optics

- The Sheriff's Office has eleven (11) Night Vision Optics. The optics are issued to members of the Sheriff's SED team and are utilized during times of darkness. Their intent is to enhance night-time vision during situations that may place members at risk.

- Usage

- o The optics are issued to Sheriff's SED members. The optics are deployed whenever Sheriff's SED members are deployed. This includes regular calls for service, planned operations, other patrol functions, and during training.

- Equipment Costs

- o \$3,300.00 was spent through the Department of the Navy leasing contract.
- o There were no training costs as the training for this equipment is Sheriff's SED team training.

- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.

- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

Rifles

- The Sheriff's Office has forty-six (46) .223 caliber rifles and one (1) .308 caliber rifle. These are precision weapons intended to address a deadly threat with more accuracy from a greater distance

than a handgun, such as an encounter with an armed barricaded suspect. They also provide greater penetration of soft body armor than a handgun.

- Equipment Costs
 - o There were no equipment costs for FY23-24 on Rifles.
 - o There were no additional costs associated as additional training for this equipment was incorporated into existing training and range qualifications.
- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.
- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

Explosive Breaching Tools

- The Sheriff's Office has two (2) specialized 12-gauge shotguns that are utilized to breach doors and other locking components. This equipment is used by the Sheriff's SED team to breach doors, walls, and/or windows to provide a tactical advantage quickly and effectively during critical incidents.
- Usage
 - o There were no instances of 12-gauge breaching rounds or explosive materials being utilized during this period.
- Equipment Costs
 - o Approximately \$250 was spent to outfit two (2) existing 12-gauge shotguns from the Sheriff's Office inventory.
 - o Approximately \$831.25 was spent to purchase specialized 12-gauge rounds and explosive materials utilized to breach doors, windows, and other locking components.
- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.
- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

Suppressors

- The Sheriff's Office has fifteen (15) 5.56/.223 caliber rifle suppressors and one (1) .30 caliber rifle suppressor. Two (2) of the 5.56/.223 suppressors are currently damaged. The Sheriff's Office intends to transfer these two units back to the manufacturer in 2024, per prior agreement.

The suppressors are issued to members of the Sheriff's SED team to aid in sound and concussion suppression on their rifles. Their intent is to reduce decibel and concussive exposure to the rifle operators and anyone else in proximity.

- Usage:
 - o The suppressors are attached to Sheriff's SED member rifles. The suppressors are deployed whenever Sheriff's SED member rifles are deployed. This includes calls for service, planned operations, other patrol functions, and during training.

- Equipment Costs

- o There were no new costs related to this equipment.

- o There were no training costs as the training for this equipment is incorporated into existing Sheriff's SED team training.

- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.

- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

40 MM Launchers and Rounds

- The Sheriff's Office has four (4) 40mm single-launchers, forty-four (44) direct impact sponge 40mm rounds, twenty-four (24) direct impact OC rounds and thirty-two (32) direct impact CS rounds. The Sheriff's Office also has forty-six (46) Ferret 40mm liquid CS rounds and forty-six (46) Ferret 40mm liquid OC rounds. These launchers are less lethal tools designed to be used from a distance to compel potentially violent suspects to cease dangerous actions and/or comply with arrest.

- Usage

- o Zero (0) times a 40mm launcher was fired at a suspect.

- o Zero (0) times a 40mm chemical agent round was deployed.

- Equipment Costs

- o There were no new costs related to this equipment.

- o There were no training costs as the training for this equipment is incorporated into the existing department and Sheriff's SED team training.

- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.

- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

- The Sheriff's Office intends to purchase an additional three (3) 40mm launchers and approximately 150 direct impact 40mm rounds from the existing 2024-2025 fiscal budget. The additional 40mm launchers and rounds will be purchased for issuance to new employees and/or replacement of broken/damaged equipment. The actual number of 40mm launchers and rounds purchased will be provided in the 2024-2025 Military Equipment Annual Report.

Less Lethal Launchers and Munitions

- The Sheriff's Office currently has four (4) Tippmann launchers and three (3) FTC Pepper Ball launchers. The Sheriff's Office also has 4,500 Live projectiles and 8,250 Pepper Ball inert projectiles. These launchers are less lethal tools designed to be used from a distance to compel potentially violent suspects to cease dangerous actions and/or comply with arrest.

- Usage

- o Three (3) times a Pepper Ball less lethal launcher was fired at a subject(s) in the jail.

- Equipment Costs

- o There were no new costs related to this equipment.

- o There were no training costs as the training for this equipment is incorporated into existing Sheriff's SED and Jail SERT (Special Emergency Response Team) team training.

- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.

- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

- The Sheriff's SED and Jail SERT teams intend to purchase additional less lethal launchers and munitions from the 2024-2025 fiscal budget to meet needed inventory requirements. The actual number of lethal launchers and munitions purchased will be provided in the 2024-2025 Military Equipment Annual Report.

OC/ CS Grenades

- The Sheriff's Office currently has thirty-seven (37) OC grenades and forty-two (42) CS grenades. Grenades are devices to compel potentially violent suspects to cease dangerous actions and/or comply with arrest. They are used to deploy various types of less lethal or special-purpose munitions during crowd control, riot control, and other situations where less-lethal force is required. Sheriff's SED and Jail SERT teams utilize OC/CS grenades to provide a tactical advantage during critical incidents such as high-risk search warrants and/or arrests of armed and violent subjects.

- Usage

- o There were no instances of OC/CS Grenades utilized during this period.

- Equipment Costs

- o There were no new costs related to this equipment.

- o There were no training costs as the training for this equipment is incorporated into existing Sheriff's SED team training.

- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.

- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.

- There is no current intent to seek additional equipment in this category.

Distraction Devices (Noise Flash Diversionary Devices)

- The Sheriff's Office has twenty (20) low roll reloadable body distraction devices. Distraction devices produce a loud "bang" and white light to cause short-term physiological/psychological sensory overload. The Sheriff's SED team utilizes distraction devices to provide a tactical advantage during critical incidents such as high-risk search warrants, arrests of armed and violent subjects, and hostage rescues.

- Usage
 - o One (1) time during the service of a high-risk search warrant by Sheriff's SED.
- Equipment Costs
 - o The Sheriff's Office spent \$1,103.97 on reload fuses for the reloadable body distraction devices.
 - o There were no training costs as the training for this equipment is incorporated into existing Sheriff's SED team training.
- There were no complaints received regarding the use of this equipment.
- There were no discoveries of any inappropriate use of this equipment.
- The Sheriff's Office intends to purchase additional distraction devices from the 2024-2025 fiscal year budget to meet needed inventory requirements. The actual number of distraction devices purchased will be provided in the 2024-2025 Military Equipment Annual Report.

-End of Report-