

PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
 COLONEL  
 HEADQUARTERS  
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 CHIEF OF POLICE  
 PROVIDENCE POLICE

TYPE OF ORDER	NUMBER/SERIES	ISSUE DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
General Order	310.01	4/3/2023	4/4/2023
SUBJECT TITLE		PREVIOUSLY ISSUED DATES	
Department-Issued/Authorized Weapons		9/30/2022; 6/22/2021; <b>Rescinded and reissued on 6/22/2021; Revised on 4/25/2021; 10/28//2019; 10/17/2018; 2/6/2017; 8/7/2015; 6/5/2014; 3/28/2014; Supersedes: G.O. #15 Series 2006; G.O. #22 Series 2001; G.O #33 Series 2000; Amends: PPD Rules &amp; Regulations Part II, Section 202, Paragraph 202.1</b>	
REFERENCE		RE-EVALUATION DATE	
CALEA 4.1.4; 4.2.4; 4.3.1 – 4.3.4		10/25/2024	
SUBJECT AREA		DISTRIBUTION	
Law Enforcement Operations		All Sworn Personnel	

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to define Department-issued and Department-authorized lethal and less-lethal weapons and ammunition for both on-duty and off-duty use, and to address weapons qualification and training standards.

**POLICY**

It is the policy of the Providence Police Department to specify the caliber, type of ammunition, and lethal and less-lethal weapons for on-duty and off-duty use and to provide adequate training in the use of such weapons.

Only Department-issued or Department-authorized weapons shall be carried by officers whenever they are either on-duty or off-duty. All agency personnel who are authorized to carry lethal and less-lethal weapons shall be issued either physical or electronic copies of, and instructed in, all applicable policies relating to weapons usage and use of force prior to being authorized to carry such weapons.

Furthermore, only agency personnel who successfully demonstrate proficiency in the use of an agency-authorized weapon shall be approved to carry/use such weapon.

**DISCUSSION**

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

Department-issued: Any weapon, ammunition, magazine, grip, sight, etc., that is obtained by the Department and distributed to its sworn officers.

Department-authorized: Any privately-owned weapon, ammunition, magazine, grip, sight, etc., that has been authorized by the Department for use by its sworn officers.

Department-Certified Weapons Instructor: A sworn Department officer who is under the direct supervision of the Weapons Bureau Commanding Officer (WBCO) and who is certified as an instructor in the specific type of weapon and/or use of force at issue.

## PROCEDURE

### I. LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS AND WEAPONLESS CONTROL TECHNIQUES

- A. Only the following Department-issued less-lethal weapons are authorized to be carried on-duty by officers who have been trained by certified weapons instructors within the Department Weapons Bureau:
  - 1. Expandable Baton, PR24, and wooden riot baton.
  - 2. Oleoresin Capsicum Spray (OC).
  - 3. Conducted Electrical Weapons (CEWs).
  - 4. Less-lethal munitions and 40mm launcher (LLMs).
- B. Weapons training for expandable baton, PR24 (when used at the discretion of the WBCO), and wooden riot baton shall be conducted at least biennially and in accordance with this order and with General Order 310.06 *Police Batons*.
- C. Weapons training for Oleoresin Capsicum Spray (OC) shall be conducted at least biennially and in accordance with this order and with General Order 310.03 *Oleoresin Capsicum Sprays*.
- D. Weapons training for Conducted Electrical Weapons (CEWs) shall be conducted at least annually and in accordance with this order and with General Order 310.04 *Conducted Electrical Weapons*.
- E. Weapons training for Less Lethal Munitions (LLMs) shall be conducted at least annually and in accordance with this order and with General Order 310.05 *Less-Lethal Munitions and 40mm Launcher*.
- F. Training for weaponless control techniques shall occur at least biennially.

### II. ON-DUTY FIREARMS

- A. The following Department-issued firearms are authorized to be carried on-duty:
1. Smith & Wesson .40 caliber Model M&P 40 M2.0 semi-automatic handgun.
    - a. The Smith & Wesson .40 caliber Model M&P 40 M2.0 is the Department-issued duty handgun for all members.
    - b. Members shall carry the Department-issued duty handgun at all times when on-duty, including court, special details and assignments.
      - i. As circumstances dictate, members may be exempt from this requirement in certain undercover operations.
      - ii. If a court prohibits members from possessing firearms inside a court building, officers are allowed to temporarily store their duty handguns in the designated storage area provided by the court.
      - iii. No officer shall carry a handgun other than the Department-issued duty handgun when on-duty, unless the handgun is vetted by the Weapons Bureau Commanding Officer (the "WBCO") and subsequently approved by the Chief of Police.
      - iv. "Back-up" handguns are prohibited without the approval of the WBCO and the Chief of Police.
    - c. The Department-issued duty handgun shall only be carried in a Department-authorized holster, whether or not the weapon is being carried on-duty or off-duty.
  2. Mossberg 590 12-gauge pump-action shotgun.
  3. Colt AR-15 A3 Tactical 5.56mm rifle.
  4. Remington 700 .308 caliber rifle.
  5. Heckler & Koch HK91 .308 caliber rifle.
  6. Colt M-4 Commando 5.56mm rifle.
  7. Heckler & Koch MP5 9mm rifle.
  8. Colt 6921 5.56mm rifle (or similar rifle, as approved by the WBCO).
  9. Colt M-4 6933 carbine.

### **III. SPECIAL RESPONSE UNIT (SRU) .45 CALIBER OR 9MM EXEMPTION**

- A. Members of the Department's Special Response Unit (SRU) shall be permitted to purchase and carry on-duty a .45 caliber or a 9mm handgun as selected by the WBCO and approved by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
  - 1. SRU members who choose to carry a .45 caliber or a 9mm handgun shall only be permitted to carry the weapon after they have demonstrated an acceptable level of proficiency as determined by the WBCO and applicable RI state law.
  - 2. Eligibility for this exemption is conditional upon the member maintaining an active status within the SRU, including the successful attendance and completion of all required trainings as mandated by the WBCO, as well as maintaining good standing within the Department.
  - 3. Weapons covered under this exemption shall be registered with, and inspected and approved by, the Weapons Bureau.
- B. The Department shall provide a suitable duty and tactical holster for the weapon.
- C. Members shall only carry/use Department-authorized ammunition in the weapon at all times.
- D. The weapon shall not be altered in any manner and shall be maintained within factory specifications.

### **IV. PERSONALLY- OWNED RIFLE PROGRAM**

- A. Officers who are members of the Special Response Unit (SRU) and/or the Rifle / Shotgun Team may be allowed to deploy Department-authorized personally-owned rifles while on duty.
  - 1. Officers must successfully complete all training and qualifications, as outlined in the Department's three (3) day POST-certified Patrol Rifle Course, prior to being eligible to receive authorization from the WBCO and the Chief of Police to deploy their personally-owned rifles while on- duty.
  - 2. Participation in this program is voluntary and continued participation is at the discretion of the Chief of Police.
- B. Personally- owned rifles intended for on-duty use must fall within the following parameters and must be Department- authorized prior to deployment:
  - 1. An AR-15 based system of .223 caliber / 5.56mm.

2. Manufactured by one of the following authorized manufacturers:
    - a. Arma-Lite.
    - b. Colt.
    - c. Stag Manufacturing.
    - d. Fabrique National.
    - e. Smith & Wesson.
    - f. Sig Sauer.
    - g. Remington.
    - h. Other manufacturers may be approved by the WBCO on a case-by-case basis.
  3. Semi-automatic (no fully automatic or burst capabilities).
  4. A barrel length of not less than 16 inches.
  5. A fixed or collapsible stock.
  6. An attached tactical sling.
  7. Equipped with weapon mounted light.
  8. Outfitted with an iron sight, and may possess an approved optical sight.
- C. Internal rifle modifications to the weapon are not permitted.
- D. External rifle modifications, including but not limited to silencers and suppressors, laser sighting systems, and bipods, must be authorized by the WBCO prior to performance of the modification, and shall comply with Department policies, rules, regulations, and all applicable local, state and federal laws.
- E. On-Duty Usage Parameters.
1. Personally-owned rifles may be introduced into the following conditions or circumstances:
    - a. For a perimeter/containment situation involving a hostage and/or barricaded subject.
    - b. Situations involving armed suspects.
    - c. High-risk/Felony traffic stops.

- d. Armed robberies/hold-ups.
- e. Situations when the officer has a reasonable expectation that there is the potential for an armed subject encounter.
  - i. Personally-owned rifles shall not be considered, relied upon, or included in the pre-planning or execution of any high- risk operation, unless the officer wielding the weapon is a member of the Special Response Unit (SRU) AND both the officer and the SRU are an integral part of the operation's pre-planning and execution.
- f. Upon the request of a Department supervisor.

F. Other Conditions and Restrictions.

- 1. Rifles are subject to inspection by the WBCO, Chief of Police, or their respective designees, at any time.
- 2. All other conditions imposed upon Department-issued/authorized firearms, as stipulated by Department policies, rules, regulations, and local, state, and federal laws, shall apply.

**V. OFF-DUTY FIREARMS**

- A. Officers of the Providence Police Department are authorized, but not obligated, to carry handguns when off-duty.
- B. Off-duty firearms may be of either revolver or semi-automatic types, and are subject to the following caliber restrictions:
  - 1. .22 caliber.
  - 2. .25 caliber.
  - 3. .32 caliber.
  - 4. .380 caliber.
  - 5. .38/.357 caliber.
  - 6. .45 caliber.
  - 7. 9mm.
  - 8. .40 caliber.
- C. Officers who elect to carry a handgun when off-duty shall, at a minimum, comply with Providence Police Department Rules & Regulations Part II,

Section 202, "Weapons, Badge and Identification Card", Paragraph 202.1, hereby amended, as follows:

202.1 CARRYING FIREARM & POLICE IDENTIFICATION WHILE OFF-DUTY:

1. *A sworn officer may carry a firearm while off-duty in accordance with Chapter 11-47 of the Rhode Island General Laws (RIGLs) and all applicable Department written directives.*
  2. *It shall not be necessary that a sworn officer who chooses to carry a firearm off-duty carry his/her service weapon. However, any weapon that an officer chooses to carry must be inspected by, authorized by, and registered with the Weapons Bureau Commanding Officer (WBCO) subsequent to the member successfully demonstrating proficiency (including proper manipulation of the weapon and completing and passing a Department-administered qualification course) with the weapon as determined by the WBCO and in accordance with all applicable RIGLs.*
  3. *Any weapon authorized by the Department for off-duty use may only be used by the officer to whom said authorization has been given, with the exception of any inspection deemed necessary by, and performed by, the WBCO or his designee.*
  4. *Any sworn officer who chooses to carry a firearm while off-duty must at all times have his/her proper police identification with him/her.*
  5. *Any sworn officer who chooses to carry a firearm while off-duty shall be responsible for the custody, safekeeping, proper care, proper use, and serviceability of that weapon at all times. Culpable negligence or loss may be cause for Department punitive measures. In serious cases, such malfeasance shall incur the liability for prosecution in the criminal courts.*
- D. Off-duty handguns shall be carried in a manner that renders them concealed from view within a holster or similar device, specifically designed for the model handgun being carried and approved for use by the WBCO.
- E. The handguns and ammunition that officers wish to carry when off-duty must be presented to a certified firearms instructor from within the Department's Weapons Bureau during annual Department firearms training sessions. The firearms instructor shall inspect both the handgun

and ammunition for acceptability, serviceability, and functionality, and shall authorize the handguns and ammunition for off-duty use if all eligibility requirements are met {see this policy and (VII)(B), below, for further information and restrictions). Unless provisions are otherwise made at the discretion of the WBCO, annual qualifications with all authorized off-duty handguns shall be performed at this time.

## **VI. AUTHORIZED FIREARM AMMUNITION**

- A. The following new, jacketed or semi-jacketed, hollow point, factory manufactured ammunition is authorized for use in Department-issued firearms, unless otherwise stated:
1. Winchester .40 caliber 165 grain SXT.
  2. Winchester 9mm 124 grain +P SXT.
  3. Winchester .45 caliber 230 grain SXT.
  4. Federal Premium .308 caliber 168 grain BTHP.
  5. Winchester 12 gauge 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  00 Buck RA1200.
  6. Winchester 12 gauge 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  1oz. Low Recoil Slug RA12RS15.
  7. Winchester 5.56mm Silver Tip Ballistic 55 grain.
  8. Winchester 5.56mm M855 Green Tip Penetrator FMJ 62 grain.
  9. Winchester 12 gauge 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  1 oz. Segmented Rifle Slug RA12RS15S.
  10. Department-issued firearms, whether carried or possessed either on-duty or off-duty, shall only be loaded with Department-issued ammunition.
    - a. Off-duty ammunition is not restricted to the above manufacturers, unless it is being used in the Department-issued handgun. However, only new, jacketed or semi-jacketed, hollow point, factory manufactured ammunition is authorized for use in private handguns that are Department-authorized to be carried off-duty.
    - b. This provision does not apply to off-duty recreational shooting of private handguns.

## **VII. FIREARMS QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING**

- A. Department-issued duty handgun and SRU-exempted .45 caliber firearms.



1. Officers shall be permitted to carry and use a Department-issued duty handgun and/or SRU-exempted firearms only after they have received Department permission and have qualified and demonstrated proficiency with such firearm in the presence of a Weapons Bureau firearms instructor who is certified in the use of such firearm.
2. An officer's handgun and ammunition must be presented to a certified firearms instructor from within the Department's Weapons Bureau during Department firearms qualification and training sessions, which shall occur at least annually. The firearms instructor shall inspect both the handgun and ammunition for serviceability and functionality.
3. Firearms qualification session lesson plans shall include, but not be limited to, a review of use of force and weapons/ force-related policies, off duty encounters, and identification issues.
4. Scheduling will be based on the maximum amount of officers that can be trained safely at one time.
5. It is the responsibility of Division Commanding Officers to ensure that all officers under their command attend scheduled qualification sessions, and that this is accomplished within the timeframes stipulated by the WBCO.
6. If an officer cannot attend his/her scheduled training date, it is the officer's responsibility to ensure that they are rescheduled for and attend the training within the timeframes stipulated by the WBCO.
7. Any officer who fails to respond for his/her scheduled training and/or who fails to reschedule and attend training during an allotted training period shall be placed on administrative duty.
8. Weapons qualification sessions shall be administered rain or shine, unless specifically stated otherwise by the WBCO on a case-by-case basis.
9. All officers must bring their duty flashlight, as well as any of the following equipment that they may have been issued by the Department, to the range when attending a qualification session. Any officers who fail to do so will not be allowed to participate in the training and shall be required to reschedule within the timeframes stipulated by the WBCO:
  - a. Firearm.
  - b. Holster.

- c. Magazine pouch.
  - d. Three (3) magazines loaded with ammunition.
  - e. Black PPE duffel bag.
  - f. Gas mask with filter.
  - g. PPE Suit / gloves.
  - h. Helmet / Visor (shield).
  - i. Ballistic vest.
10. During training, officers shall fire a predetermined course which shall incorporate various tactical and situational training scenarios.
11. Officers must qualify with their duty handgun by attaining a minimum score of 70% on a qualification course that conforms to at least the minimum standards required by RI General Law § 11-47-15.3, "Commission on law enforcement standards and training":

*(a) In lieu of the provisions of §§ 11-47-15.1, 11-47-15.2 and 11-47-17, each law enforcement department of this state and its political subdivisions may, on an annual basis, submit to the commission on law enforcement standards and training, referred to in this section as the "commission", a proposal for the training and qualification of their officers on all firearms which they are authorized to carry or use in the performance of their official duties.*

*(b) Each proposal shall include training and qualification in the following areas:*

- (1) Decision shooting;*
- (2) Reduced light shooting;*
- (3) Moving targets;*
- (4) Use of cover;*
- (5) Non-dominant hand shooting;*
- (6) Alternate position shooting;*
- (7) Reloading drills;*
- (8) Malfunction drills.*

*(c) A minimum number of one hundred (100) rounds shall be fired by each officer during the training and qualification.*

*(d) Qualification shall be no less than twenty percent (20%) nor more than fifty percent (50%) of the total rounds fired. A minimum qualifying score shall be sixty-six percent (66%) of the rounds fired during the qualification phase.*

*(e) The commission shall review each proposal and, within fourteen (14) days, notify the department, in writing, whether the proposal is accepted or rejected. In the case of rejection, the commission shall make recommendations to the department which, if implemented, would make the proposal acceptable. Upon receipt of this notification, the department shall have fourteen (14) days to submit a new proposal that is acceptable to the commission.*

*(f) In the event that a department neglects to submit a proposal to the commission or fails to submit a proposal that is approved by the commission, the officers of that department shall be required to fulfill the requirements for qualification as set out in § 11-47-15.1, 11-47-15.2, 11-47-17 or 11-47-17.1.*

*(g) All law enforcement officers of this state and its political subdivisions whose permanent appointment shall take place after July 1, 1997, will be required to qualify under the provisions of this section with all weapons which they are authorized to carry or use in the execution of their official duties.*

*(h) Any law enforcement officer of this state and its political subdivisions whose permanent appointment took place prior to July 1, 1997, may elect to qualify under the applicable provisions of § 11-47-15.1, 11-47-15.2, 11-47-17 or 11-47-17.1.*

Any officer who fails to qualify will be afforded remedial training at the end of their qualification session. If still unable to successfully complete the qualification requirements after two additional attempts, the officer shall be immediately placed on administrative duty.

- a. Written notification of an officer's inability to qualify shall be made immediately by the Weapons Bureau to the officer's Division Commanding Officer.
- b. At the conclusion of the scheduled qualification period, any officer who has not successfully qualified, regardless of Division or Bureau:

- i. Shall be placed on administrative, plain clothes duty and, barring any other developments, shall remain in this capacity until the qualification requirements are met.
  - ii. Shall not be allowed to work any supplemental Department duties.
  - iii. Shall not carry a firearm while on duty, and may not carry the Department-issued duty handgun when off-duty.
- c. Providence Police Academy recruits are held to the same qualification standards as sworn officers. Any recruit who fails to qualify with the Department-issued duty handgun during the prescribed 80-hour Providence Police Academy firearms training course shall be provided with continued remedial training before to the completion of the course.

If the recruit is unable to successfully meet or exceed the qualification standards after their third attempt, the recruit, at the discretion of the Chief of Police, may be given additional remedial training to assure the proficiency of the individual in the passing the qualification standards. However, the Chief of Police reserves the right to dismiss the recruit from the Academy class without having graduated and without having attained sworn Providence Police Officer status.

- 12. If an officer has still not qualified after a period of one month following the date of the failed qualification, he/she shall receive retraining as provided in accordance with initial police academy training. Any officer who subsequently fails to exhibit proficiency and is therefore unable to perform his/her policing duties, may receive disciplinary action up to and including termination, as determined by the Chief of Police and/or the Commissioner of Public Safety.
- 13. Any officer who is either injured on duty (IOD) or suspended for a period greater than twelve months; all officers who are returning from military leave; and ANY officer who has missed his/her qualification training must successfully complete remedial training and a qualification course with their Department-issued duty handgun prior to returning back to full duty.
  - a. Additionally, any member of the Department who shall be absent from duty for a period greater than eight weeks shall surrender their Department-issued duty handgun, magazines, ammunition and radio to the Weapons Bureau for storage/safekeeping within the Department Armory. This

requirement includes personnel being deployed for military duty, out injured, sick or on an extended furlough.

- i. In the case of a suspension, the aforementioned equipment shall be surrendered to either the officer's Division Commander/designee or to the Office of Professional Responsibility, who/which shall then ensure that the equipment is turned-over to the Weapons Bureau for storage/safekeeping within the Department Armory.

14. Any officer who is assigned light duty, and as a result has missed the firearm training dates, will be required to re-qualify with their Department-issued duty handgun prior to returning to full duty.
15. Due to the possibility of exposure to lead contaminants, officers of this Department who are pregnant will not be allowed to train at the range. Pregnant officers shall be responsible for proper notification to the Department prior to responding to the range.
16. All qualification trainings shall follow a documented lesson plan, as prescribed by the WBCO.

#### B. Off-Duty Firearms.

1. To reiterate: All sworn officers may carry a firearm while off-duty when doing so is performed, at a minimum, in accordance with all applicable Department Rules and Regulations, and with all applicable state statutes, including those within Chapter 11-47 of the Rhode Island General Laws.
2. All firearms intended for off-duty carry/use by officers must be inspected, authorized and registered by a certified weapons instructor within the Department Weapons Bureau.
3. Officers must demonstrate proficiency with any private handgun intended for off-duty carry/use prior to receiving authorization to carry/use the weapon.
4. Officers who elect to carry a firearm off-duty other than their Department-issued duty handgun are required to qualify with that firearm.
  - a. Qualification shall take place at the Department firing range and under the supervision of a certified firearms instructor within the Department Weapons Bureau.
  - b. As a general rule, and at the discretion of the WBCO, no more than two (2) private off-duty firearms per officer shall be authorized by the WBCO.

- c. Officers are responsible for all costs associated with their Department-authorized off-duty firearms, including but not limited to, the purchase of holsters, ammunition, and any costs associated with qualifying with and maintaining the firearms.
  - d. Qualification courses shall be determined by the WBCO and shall conform to all applicable RI General Laws.
- C. All members of the units listed below and/or any Department members receiving specialized firearms training must satisfactorily qualify with their Department-issued firearms and with their Department-authorized/issued specialized firearms, as established by the Department:
- 1. Special Response Unit: Members of the Special Response Unit (SRU) must qualify “expert”, as established by the Department, with any and all weapons assigned to them, at least four (4) times yearly. Any member who cannot satisfactorily demonstrate their knowledge of and/or proficiency with, and/or qualify expert with, the aforementioned weapon(s) shall be temporarily removed from the team’s roster and de-authorized from deploying or using SRU-related weapons until this requirement is satisfied or until the WBCO permanently removes the officer for this or other cause.
  - 2. Rifle / Shotgun Team: Members of the Rifle / Shotgun Team must qualify “expert”, as established by the department, with their Department-authorized/issued rifle or shotgun and Department-issued/authorized on-duty handgun, at least four (4) times yearly. Any member who cannot satisfactorily demonstrate their knowledge of and/or proficiency with, and/or qualify expert with, the aforementioned weapon(s) shall be temporarily removed from the team’s roster and de-authorized from deploying or using SRU-related weapons until this requirement is satisfied or until the WBCO permanently removes the officer for this or other cause.
  - 3. Less-Lethal Munitions Team: Members of the Less-Lethal Munitions Team must demonstrate their knowledge and skill of their assigned less-lethal weapon to the Weapons Bureau annually. Any member who cannot satisfactorily demonstrate their knowledge of and/or proficiency with their Department-authorized less-lethal weapon will be removed from the Less-Lethal Munitions Team and prohibited from using the less-lethal weapon until all qualification requirements are satisfied or until the WBCO permanently removes the officer for this or other cause.

## **VIII. WEAPONS INSPECTIONS / MODIFICATIONS / REPAIRS / REMOVAL FROM SERVICE**

- A. All Department-issued/authorized weapons will be inspected by a qualified Department-certified weapons instructor within the Weapons Bureau prior to being issued/reissued and/or authorized for use in the field.
- B. When a Department-issued/authorized weapon fails inspection, the Weapons Bureau will take possession of the weapon and advise the officer of the failure. The officer will not utilize the weapon until deficiencies are corrected. The WBCO will provide an officer with a serviceable replacement weapon, to utilize for on-duty purposes, in the event of a failed inspection.
- C. When a personally-owned off-duty firearm fails inspection, the Weapons Bureau will notify the officer of the failure. The officer will not utilize the weapon until any deficiencies are corrected, and a notation shall be made in the Weapons Bureau database that the weapon is no longer authorized for use.
- D. Should any member believe a Department-issued/authorized weapon is unsuitable for use, defective, broken and/or in need of replacement or repair, the weapon shall be removed from service, the necessary repairs completed (at the officer's expense in the case of privately-owned weapons), and submitted for re-inspection and re-approval.
  - 1. All repairs made to Department-issued/authorized weapons, or to weapons that shall be submitted or re-submitted to the Weapon's Bureau for Department authorization, shall be performed by a repair facility that is certified to repair that particular weapon, as chosen by the WBCO.
- E. Any modifications to a Department-issued/authorized weapon must be approved by the WBCO prior to modification. Such modifications include, but are not limited to, flashlights, laser sights, scopes/sights/optics, modifications to the trigger mechanisms, and grips. Modifications shall be performed by a facility certified to make said modification to that particular weapon, as chosen by the WBCO, prior to the making of said modification.

## **IX. SAFE AND PROPER WEAPONS STORAGE AND TRANSPORT**

- A. Officers are responsible for the safe storage of Department-issued/authorized weapons in accordance with all applicable statutes, including RIGL 11-47-60.01, entitled "*Safe Storage*".
  - 1. Department-authorized weapons must be stored out of sight of, and in a manner that renders them inaccessible to, children or unauthorized persons, at all times.
  - 2. Officers who are permitted to store Department-issued weapons outside of the designated areas within the Department

are required to do so safely and responsibly. A lockbox or safe, designed for the secure storage of such weapons, which is bolted down and/or in a stationary and immovable manner within the officer's home, is required.

- B. When on-duty, officers shall only leave Department-issued/authorized weapons unattended when such weapons are placed in secured areas either approved by policy or identified within the Department as having been designated for that purpose.
  - 1. Department- issued/authorized shotguns, rifles, and less-lethal launchers deployed in the field may be temporarily stored/secured within a police vehicle, in either locked holders or the locked trunk of the vehicle, when said vehicle is in use by the officer authorized to carry/use the aforementioned firearms.
    - a. Police vehicles containing Department- issued/authorized weapons listed above shall not be left with any window open, door or trunk unlocked, or engine running when unattended by the officer responsible for said weapons.
    - b. The officer deploying any of the weapons listed above shall be responsible for the removal of said weapons from the police vehicle and for the subsequent securing of the weapon in the aforementioned designated areas.
  - 2. Officers who are required to disarm when entering the building or property of an outside agency (i.e., court, ACI, RITTS) shall ensure that their firearms are securely stored in areas designated for that purpose by the outside agency.
- C. Officers will relinquish their Department-issued weapons whenever ordered to do so by proper authority. Situations requiring the immediate relinquishing of these weapons include, but may not be limited to:
  - 1. Failure to successfully pass any required training.
  - 2. Suspension.
  - 3. A weapons discharge incident.
- D. Officers shall be responsible for acting in accordance with the entirety of Section 204, entitled "*Departmental Property*", of the Providence Police Department Rules & Regulations, Part II.

## **X. RECORDS AND REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**



- A. All lesson plans, trainings, remedial trainings, qualifications, and qualification scores of all officers shall be documented and maintained by the Weapons Bureau.
- B. The Weapons Bureau shall also maintain a registration database of all Department-authorized weapons, to include at a minimum (as applicable):
  - 1. Make and model of weapon.
  - 2. Caliber of weapon.
  - 3. Serial # of weapon.
  - 4. Date of assignment of weapon.
  - 5. Name of officer to whom weapon is registered.
  - 6. Status of weapon (i.e., active, in repair, unserviceable, removed from service).
  - 7. Date of inspection.
  - 8. Date of qualification/failure to qualify.
- C. The registration database shall be updated by the Weapons Bureau upon the completion of all weapons qualifications.
  - 1. The Weapons Bureau shall also record all weapons that are newly authorized, distributed, or de-commissioned between qualification periods, and shall ensure that an up-to-date registration database reflecting such changes is maintained at all times.
  - 2. Any deficiencies/issues shall be forwarded to the Chief of Police and brought to the attention of the Office of Professional Responsibility as soon as practicable.

APPROVED:



COLONEL OSCAR L. PEREZ  
CHIEF OF POLICE