

WINDERMERE POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER



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| Effective Date: October 22, 2019 | <input type="checkbox"/> Rescinds <input type="checkbox"/> Amends <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Policy | Number: 8.5 |
| SUBJECT: Police Rifles | | Print Date: 10/22/19 |
| Distribution: All Personnel | Accreditation Standards: | |

This order consists of the following:

1. Purpose
2. Policy
3. Definitions
4. Procedures

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines governing the possession of authorized rifles carried by authorized members of the Windermere Police Department and to ensure they are properly trained in their use.

2. Policy

It shall be the policy of the Windermere Police Department that all authorized members be properly trained and demonstrate competent proficiency in the use of rifles. Only agency approved rifles and ammunition are authorized in the performance of duty.

3. Definitions

- A. Authorized Member – Those personnel authorized to carry and use firearms in the line of duty.
- B. Firearms Training – A course that includes weapons familiarization and mandatory annual firearms qualifications on an agency approved course.
- C. Mandatory Training – Training required by Federal or State guidelines and / or the agency.
- D. Off-Duty – The period of time when the agency is not paying the officer.

- E. Primary Firearm – The .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol issued to all authorized officers by the agency.
- F. Secondary Firearm – Any firearm, other than the primary firearm, issued or approved by the Chief of Police for use while on or off duty.
- G. Sworn Member – Sworn law enforcement officers of the Windermere Police Department.

4. Procedures

- A. The carrying of firearms while on duty is restricted to authorized personnel who have successfully completed the basic training as required under the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) regulations and who have maintained the required proficiency through in-service training.
- B. While on duty, authorized personnel shall carry their issued rifle in their agency vehicle in a department approved and installed rifle rack.
 - 1. Uniformed and plain clothes sworn personnel shall carry a minimum of two (2) fully loaded rifle magazines, each with twenty-eight (28) rounds, in addition to one (1) magazine seated in the rifle with the bolt forward, the weapon on safe, and no round in the chamber.
 - 2. The issued rifle shall be immediately available for deployment and carried when responding to calls where firearms have been reported or at the discretion of the officer.
- C. Inspections
 - 1. All firearms shall be inspected and approved by a qualified firearms instructor or certified Armorer prior to carrying.
 - 2. In addition, all authorized members shall submit their firearm to safety inspections upon request by a supervisor, firearms instructor, Armorer, or the Professional Standards Detective or designee.
 - 3. All department-issued firearms shall be inspected by an Armorer at least once each calendar year.
- D. Damages or Repairs
 - 1. The proper care of firearms issued to an officer is the responsibility of the officer to whom they are assigned. A firearm lost, stolen or damaged in the line of duty shall be repaired or replaced by the department unless the officer was found to be negligent in the care of the firearm.

2. Negligence may result in replacement costs and/or disciplinary action up to and including termination.
3. Any damages or repairs should be reported and completed by the Armorer.

E. Rifle Qualification

1. All authorized officers are required to qualify with all department-issued rifles and ammunition prior to carrying or use, as well as annual proficiency as required by the department or other authority.
2. Officers should be allowed no more than two (2) attempts to qualify on the same day unless circumstances dictate otherwise as decided by the senior firearms instructor present.

F. Storage of Department Issued Rifles

1. Issued rifles shall be stored by the officers they are issued to in a safe and secure location while on or off duty.
2. While off duty, a rifle shall be secured and locked in an authorized mount and out of public view.
3. While on duty, a rifle may be left in plain sight if secured and locked in an authorized mount.
4. Any vehicle left at the police department for temporary storage shall be parked in the agency's secured parking lot. Rifles shall be secured and locked in an authorized mount.
5. When off duty, agency rifles shall be secured and locked in an installed weapons mount and out of public view. The vehicle's spare key and safe key shall not be stored inside the vehicle. If the officer parks their vehicle in an area that is not their home, all weapons shall be removed from the vehicle.
6. While in the officer's residence, firearms shall be stored so that they are not accessible to unauthorized persons or children, in accordance with the provisions set forth in Florida Statute (FS) 790.174.

G. Rifle Modifications

Employees are not authorized to make any modifications to agency owned firearms. Any maintenance issues shall be brought to the attention of the agency's Armorer or supervisor immediately.

- H. Authorized Firearms
 - 1. Primary Firearm
 - a. Glock .40 caliber Model 22
 - 2. Secondary Firearms
 - a. M4 or AR15/16 variance rifle
 - b. Department owned 12 gauge shotgun with pump action
- I. Department Approved Ammunition
 - 1. Handguns: Law enforcement/Self Defense Grade
 - 2. Rifles: .223 soft point; 5.56 NATO
 - 3. Shotgun: 12 gauge 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch double 00 buck shot
12 gauge 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch rifled slug
- J. Members assigned to carry a rifle shall have easy access to a first aid kit, extra magazines with ammunition, and their patrol Go Bag, in the event their rifle is deployed. These items shall be stored near the rifle for easy access.


Chief David A. Ogden