



ERIE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Written Directives

Number: 020.004

Title: Rifles		Pages: 2
Effective Date: 07/16/14	Review Date: 06/01/20	Amended Date: 05/31/19

POLICY:

The Erie Police Department authorizes the use of .223 caliber / 5.56 mm rifles to be carried by certain officers in their normal duty assignment. Written Directive 020.001 Firearms lists the approved utility firearms allowed.

DEFINITIONS:

RIFLE: A shoulder-mounted firearm with spiral grooves in the bore to be used by officers in their normal duty assignment. A duty rifle is typically .223 / 5.56 cal.

PROCEDURES:

I. GENERAL

- A. The authorization to carry a utility weapon is a privilege and can be revoked at any time, for any reason, by a Commander, Deputy Chief or Chief of Police.
- B. Blatant violations of this policy will result in revocation of the privilege to carry a utility weapon.
- C. The utility weapon may be carried in the trunk or rear hatch area of the police vehicle. The rifle will be in a case with the chamber empty, bolt forward, magazine in the firearm, and the safety on.
- D. Utility weapons may also be carried in a vehicle weapon rack designed to fit that specific firearm. Carrying a utility weapon in a vehicle rack not designed for that specific weapon is not authorized.

II. ELIGIBILITY TO CARRY

- A. Officers must have exhibited proficiency with their duty weapon for a minimum of six months prior to being allowed to carry a utility weapon or sooner if authorized by the Chain of Command.
- B. Officers must have obtained a competent or higher rating on their six month evaluation and be approved through the chain of command.
- C. Officers must attend and pass a mandatory training course to be conducted by a certified rifle instructor. If the course is instructed by other than Erie Police instructors, a copy of the training certificate must be provided to the Erie Police Department Firearms Sergeant.

CACP STANDARD 60.14

- D. Annual utility weapon and handgun proficiency shooting courses must be satisfactorily completed.
- E. Officers will be removed from the rifle program and approval to deploy such weapon will be rescinded under the following conditions:

1. If an officer does not qualify with a handgun or the rifle during a 14-month period; or
2. If an officer deploys the weapon at an incident where the weapon's usage was not justified.

III. DEPLOYMENT OF RIFLES

Officers would only deploy the rifle under the following circumstances:

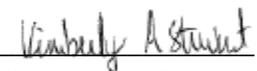
1. At the direction of their supervisor; or
2. When an officer can clearly articulate a need in which the deployment of a handgun might not be sufficient to neutralize the threat, or greater precautionary measures are deemed appropriate.

RULES:

NONE

REFERENCES:

Denver Police Department Utility Weapons Program 105.09, June 3, 2014


Kimberly A. Stewart
Chief of Police