



WHITTIER POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Aviv Bar, Chief of Police

Memorandum

Date: January 23, 2024
To: City Council;
Brian Saeki, City Manager
From: Aviv Bar, Chief of Police
Subject: Annual Report Related to Police Department Use of Military Equipment as required by Government Code § 7072

In March 2022, the Police Department drafted a Military Equipment policy, as required by California Government Code § 7070-7075.

Ordinance No. 31347 was adopted by the City Council on May 16, 2022, approving the Police Department's Military Equipment policy.

California Government Code § 7072 requires the Police Department submit to the City Council an annual report that includes:

- A summary of how the military equipment was used and the purpose of its use.
- A summary of any complaints or concerns received concerning the military equipment.
- The results of any internal audits, any information about violations of the military equipment use policy, and any actions taken in response.
- The total annual cost for each type of military equipment, including acquisition, personnel, training, transportation, maintenance, storage, upgrade, and other ongoing expenses, and from what source funds will be provided for the military equipment in the calendar year following submission of the annual military equipment report.
- The quantity possessed for each type of military equipment.
- If the Department intends to acquire additional military equipment in the next year, the quantity sought for each type of military equipment.

In order to address some of the above topics, specifically on-hand quantities and ongoing costs, the Police Department updated the Military Equipment policy and Military Equipment Inventory on July 20, 2023. The updated policy and inventory are attached to this report.

The remaining topics are outlined below.

Summary of Use:

- 2015 Armored Group Vehicle The BATT®-X (Ballistic Armored Tactical Transport®): used to transport SWAT operators during SWAT training and operations.

- Unmanned Aircraft systems (UAS) were used for suspect(s) and evidence searches in field deployment and training.
- Colt AR-15/M4: deployed on occasion by patrol and SWAT officers in order to gain compliance from potentially armed individuals.
- Robots: devices were deployed during a SWAT, patrol, and training operation.
- Various distraction devices, Gas canisters, and 40MM sponge rounds were used for the required annual training and certification of SWAT, SORT, and Patrol officers.
- Less Lethal Shotguns: were deployed and used in patrol operations and training.
- Pepper Ball Launchers: were deployed and used in patrol operations and training.

Complaints/Concerns: The Police Department did not receive any complaints, concerns, or questions related to the Department's ownership or use of military equipment.

Audit: All military equipment used was in compliance with state and federal laws and department policy. There were no known incidents of misuse or policy violations.

Acquisition: Over the past 12 months, the following items were approved for purchase pursuant to California Government Code § 7070-7075 and were added to the military equipment inventory:

- Transcend Robotics Vantage robot: Transcend Vantage robot is the only automatic stair and obstacle climbing robot compatible with our safe indoor Hot Gas Delivery System.
- Transcend Robotics Mini Vantage: Mini Vantage Rapid and affordable reconnaissance. The Mini Vantage Robot delivers the most capabilities for the price, including 8-inch automatic obstacle climbing, 2-hour runtime with swappable batteries, and up to 250ft communications NLOS.
- SIGYN MK1 micro-Robot: SIGYN from *SKY-HERO* is a 4-wheeled microrobot with the ability to operate almost silently, in complete darkness, and a GPS, Wi-Fi, and cellular-denied environment. Featuring multiple IR LEDs and dual day-night cameras with a 150-degree view, SIGYN provides a clear view in virtually any lighting conditions.
- Brinc Lemur 2 Aircraft (Drone) and accessories (batteries, controller, etc.): The LEMUR 2 has been proven in real-world callouts. It is a highly reliable, tactical tool that can help de-escalate dangerous situations and save lives. It is night vision capable, with a 31-minute flight time and 2-way communication deployable in 45 seconds.

- Skydio X2 color/Thermal (Drone): Skydio X2E Color/Thermal is the ultimate UAS solution for aerial situational awareness and search and rescue missions.
- Colt CR6933-EPR complete rifle w/MLOK system: The Carbine Rifle is capable of accurately stopping an armed subject at various distances. The Carbine Rifle is a lightweight, air-cooled, gas-operated, magazine-fed, shoulder-fired weapon designed for semi-automatic and selective fire. The Carbine Rifle does not have an expiration and will need to be serviced or replaced when the rifle fails or breaks. The .223 / 5.56 cartridge is used as a lethal option designed to stop a violent encounter. The projectile can penetrate soft body armor worn by armed subjects.

As required by law, a copy of this annual report, policy, and inventory list will be posted on the Police Department's website.