

Policy 313

Shotguns, Duty Rifles and Submachine Guns

313.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to more effectively and accurately address the increasing level of fire power and body armor utilized by criminal suspects, the Butte County District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation will make shotguns, rifles and/or submachine guns available to qualified investigators as an additional and more immediate tactical resource.

313.11 DEFINITION DUTY RIFLE AND SUBMACHINE GUN

A duty rifle or submachine gun is a weapon which is authorized for on duty deployment by the Butte County District Attorney's Office, by properly trained and qualified investigators as a supplemental resource to their duty handgun. No personally owned rifles may be carried for duty unless preapproved by the Chief Investigator and inspected by the range master.

313.12 SHOTGUN, RIFLE, AND SUBMACHINE GUN MAINTENANCE

The range master shall inspect rifles and submachine guns on an annual basis. Each investigator carrying a shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun shall be required to field strip and clean the firearm as needed.

Each investigator shall be responsible for promptly reporting any damage or malfunction of an assigned shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun. Each shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun shall be subject to inspection by a supervisor or the range master at any time. No modification shall be made to any shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun without prior authorization from the range master.

313.13 TRAINING

Investigators shall not carry or utilize a shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun unless they have successfully completed training approved by the Chief Investigator. Investigators shall thereafter qualify with the shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun annually. Any investigator who fails to qualify with the shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun will no longer be authorized to carry the firearm until successfully passing a qualification course.

313.14 DEPLOYMENT OF THE SHOTGUN, RIFLE, OR SUBMACHINE GUN

Investigators may deploy a shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun in any circumstance where the Investigator can articulate a reasonable expectation that the shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun may be needed. Examples of some general guidelines for deploying the shotgun, rifle or submachine gun may include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Situations where the investigator reasonably anticipates an armed encounter
- 2) When an investigator is faced with a situation that may require the delivery of accurate and effective fire, especially at longer ranges
- 3) Situations where an investigator reasonably expects the need to meet or exceed a

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suspect's firepower

- 4) When an investigator reasonably believes that a suspect may be wearing body armor
- 5) When authorized or requested by a supervisor

313.15 DISCHARGE OF A SHOTGUN, RIFLE, OR SUBMACHINE GUN

The discharge of a shotgun, rifle, or submachine gun shall be governed by Policy Manual § 300 the Bureau's Use of Force Policy.

313.16 DEPLOYMENT READY SHOTGUN, RIFLE, AND SUBMACHINE GUN

Rifles and Submachine Guns:

An investigator carrying a rifle or submachine gun in a vehicle shall maintain the weapon in the "deployment ready" state, until the weapon is deployed. A rifle or submachine gun is considered "deployment ready" when it meets the following conditions:

- The chamber is empty
- The bolt is forward with the hammer down
- There is a fully loaded magazine in the weapon
- The dust cover is closed
- The weapon is stored in the locked vehicle or trunk

Shotguns:

An investigator carrying a shotgun in a vehicle shall maintain the weapon in the "deployment ready" state, until the weapon is deployed. A shotgun is considered "deployment ready" when it meets the following conditions:

- The chamber is empty
- The hammer is down
- The safety is on
- The magazine tube is fully loaded
- The weapon is stored in the locked vehicle or trunk