

WEST PALM BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

III-12 SOFT BODY ARMOR

EFFECTIVE: 01/01/2005

CALEA Standards: 41.3.5, 41.3.6

CFA Standards: 17.11

I. POLICY: The West Palm Beach Police Department makes available protective vests for all sworn personnel assigned to uniform field duty and strongly urges all sworn personnel engaging in field duty or special duty to wear the issued or available soft body armor protective vests.

II. PROCEDURE:

A. Issuance of Soft Body Armor / Bullet Resistant Protective Vests.

1. All sworn personnel will be issued body armor protective vests.
2. The Quartermaster will maintain a supply of extra body armor for new hires, until their personal body armor has been received.
3. All sworn personnel are encouraged to wear the body armor while on duty and on overtime or other non-operational extra duty assignments.
4. All SWAT team members are issued special purpose body armor upon assignment to the unit and are required to wear that body armor at all times while engaged in SWAT operations.
5. All personnel engaged in pre-planned high risk situations (Search Warrants, Barricaded Subjects, etc.) are required to wear issued body armor protective vests.
6. Body armor will be worn by personnel at the request of his or her immediate supervisor when the supervisor feels circumstances dictate it should be worn.

B. Wearing of Body Armor:

1. All sworn personnel may wear a dark blue crew neck or a white v-neck tee shirt next to the body under the body armor and the uniform shirt.

C. Care and Maintenance:

1. All personnel issued body armor will be responsible for the care and maintenance of that armor.
2. If the body armor is damaged, the assigned personnel will report it immediately to the shift supervisor or designated commander.
 - a. The shift supervisor or designated commander will notify the Quartermaster by memo. The Quartermaster will issue a requisition order so the assigned personnel can obtain the necessary components and/or repair of the vest to return it to its original undamaged condition.

III. REFERENCE:

- SOP # IV-1 Special Investigative Operations
- SOP # IV-7 Search Warrants
- SOP # IV-25 SWAT Team Function.

Delsa R. Bush, Chief of Police

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History: SOP # change to III-12 on 01/01/2005; SOP # changed to 17.11 on 07/15/98
Old SOP # 6.620.001
Revision Dates: 09/16/2002, 07/15/98, 12/15/98, 12/15/1999, 09/16/2002, 01/01/2005

Job Title Task Files: Administrative Sgt. of Field Operations, SWAT Officers, Shift Commander