

# SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## MILITARY EQUIPMENT ANNUAL REPORT (2024)

### BACKGROUND

On April 19, 2022, the Santa Barbara City Council approved the Santa Barbara Police Department (SBPD) specialized ("military") equipment policy and inventory list. Pursuant to Assembly Bill 481 and Government Code §7072(a), an annual report is required for as long as the equipment is available for use by the SBPD. The following summary outlines the use of this specialized equipment in 2024:

### EQUIPMENT USE SUMMARY<sup>1</sup>

1. **Robot:** A remotely controlled unmanned machine that operates on the ground, which is utilized to enhance the safety of the community and officers.
  - There were no operational uses of the iRobot 110 FirstLook.<sup>2</sup>
2. **Unmanned Aerial System (UAS):** An unmanned aircraft of any type that is capable of sustaining directed flight, whether preprogrammed or remotely controlled (commonly referred to as an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), and all supporting or attached systems designed for gathering information through imaging, recording or any other means.
  - There were thirty-four (34) operational uses of the Unmanned Aerial System (UAS).
3. **Armored Vehicles:** Commercially produced wheeled armored personnel vehicle utilized for law enforcement purposes.
  - The Lenco Bearcat was used in six (6) operations.
4. **Mobile Incident Command Vehicle (MIC):** A vehicle used mobile office that provides shelter, access to Department computer and communication systems during extended events.
  - The Mobile Incident Command Vehicle was used in one (1) operation.
5. **40 MM Launchers and Rounds:** 40MM Launchers are utilized by Department personnel as a less lethal tool to launch impact rounds, and for delivery of chemical agents.
  - There were no operational uses of the 40 MM Launcher.

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<sup>1</sup> Government Code §7072(a)(l)

<sup>2</sup> Operation as defined in this report means utilized during call for service or specialty team activation due to a critical incident or emergency. It does not include training.

**6. Less Lethal Shotgun:** Less Lethal Shotgun is used to deploy the less lethal 12-gauge Safariland 3027 Drag-Stabilized round.

- There were no operational uses of the Less Lethal Shotgun.

**7. Distraction Devices:** A device used to distract dangerous persons.

- There were no operational uses of Distraction Devices.

**8. Rifles:** Guns that are fired from shoulder level, having a long spirally grooved barrel intended to make bullets spin and thereby have greater accuracy over a long distance.

- There were no operational Rifle uses.

**9. Chemical Agents and Smoke Canisters:** Canisters that contain chemical agents that are released when deployed. The chemical agent “CS” is commonly referred to as tear gas. “OC” refers to oleoresin capsicum, commonly referred to as pepper spray.

- There were no operational uses of Chemical Agents or Smoke Canisters.

**10. PepperBall Launcher:** A device that discharges irritant projectiles.

- There was one (1) operational use of the PepperBall Launcher.

**11. Breaching Shotgun:** Firearm which is used to force entry into doors and other materials.

- There were no operational uses of the Breaching Shotgun.

## **SUMMARY**

- There were no complaints or concerns received regarding this equipment.<sup>3</sup>
- There were no reported violations of Santa Barbara Police Department Policy §707 – Governing Body Specific Equipment.<sup>4</sup>
- Costs associated with this equipment are outlined in Lexipol Policy §707- Governing Body Specific Equipment, within the “SBPD Military Equipment Inventory,” and incorporated here by reference.<sup>5</sup>
- Quantities of this equipment are outlined in Lexipol Policy §707- Governing Body Specific Equipment, within the “SBPD Military Equipment Inventory,” and incorporated here by reference.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Government Code §7072(a)(2)

<sup>4</sup> Government Code §7072(a)(3)

<sup>5</sup> Government Code §7072(a)(4)

<sup>6</sup> Government Code §7072(a)(5)

- The Santa Barbara Police Department intends to acquire ten (10) Colt M4 Carbine Rifles. The Colt M4 Carbine Rifles will replace an equal quantity of older rifles which will be retired out of inventory or used as backup weapon systems.<sup>7</sup>
- The Santa Barbara Police Department intends to maintain sufficient stock of certain military equipment for training standards and operational readiness. The agency will routinely order replacement stock to maintain the levels of equipment enumerated in Lexipol Policy §707– Governing Body Specific Equipment, within the “SBPD Military Equipment Inventory.”<sup>7</sup>

X *Charles Katsapis*

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Charles Katsapis  
Commander

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<sup>7</sup> Government Code §7072(a)(6)