

DIRECTIVE 4.3 WEAPONS AND TRAINING

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Rescinds: (Issue 04/18/2024)	CALEA Standards Referenced: 4.3.1; 4.3.2; 4.3.3; 4.3.4 & 4.3.5
Pages: 11	Ohio Standard 1
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This directive consists of the following sections:

- 4.3.1 Authorization: Weapons and Ammunition**
- 4.3.2 Demonstrating Proficiency with Weapons**
- 4.3.3 Annual/Biennial Proficiency Training**
- 4.3.4 Prerequisite to Carrying Lethal/Less Lethal Weapons**
- 4.3.5 Firearms Range**

POLICY AND PROCEDURE:

4.3.1 Authorization: Weapons and Ammunition

Only those weapons and ammunition that meet the police department's authorized specifications as approved by the Chief of Police will be used by officers in law enforcement responsibilities.

Authorized Lethal Weapons

Officers on duty will carry the department issued firearm. Officers who are in an on-duty status may also carry a department approved secondary firearm.

Officers off duty may carry their department issued firearm or a firearm that does not conflict with any federal, state, local law, ordinance or resolution.

Officers while carrying a firearm off duty must have on their person or at hand proper identification, including department issued badge and identification card.

No officer shall carry any firearm while under the influence of alcohol and/or drug that would impair the officer's performance.

Firearm Specifications

- o Department Firearms
 - o Issued personal firearm shall be a Glock Gen 5 Model 45 – 9mm.

- Patrol rifle shall be an AR-15 style 5.56 NATO and/or .223 calibers.
- Secondary Firearm
 - Secondary firearms may be an approved revolver or semi-auto pistol of 38 special, 380 auto, 40 S&W, 45 auto or 9mm (9x19) caliber. The secondary weapon must be approved by a Department Firearms Instructor utilizing the Request to Utilize Secondary Firearm form.

Authorized Less Lethal Weapons

Officers may only use less lethal weapons within the scope of their employment and authority to use such weapons and then only with the degree of force necessary to affect the officers' lawful objective. Officers are prohibited from carrying or using any less lethal weapon other than those approved by the Chief of Police. Officers may only use less-lethal weapons they have been trained to use by a department certified instructor.

Expandable Baton

The current approved and issued expandable baton is an expandable baton of metal construction. The department will issue each officer an expandable baton. Uniformed officers shall carry on their duty belt the issued expandable baton in the issued baton holder.

Chemical Agent (spray)

The department will issue each officer an approved chemical agent spray for use. Uniformed officers shall carry on their duty belt the issued chemical agent container within the department issued chemical agent holder.

Larger quantities of chemical agents may be stored in each patrol supervisor's vehicle for use in large disturbances.

Chemical Agent (gas)

CS (2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile) munitions will be properly stored and secured in a magazine located in a supervisor's vehicle and/or a magazine located in the armory. Only officers trained, shall be able to handle/deploy CS munitions.

Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW)

The department issues approved CEWs for use. Only properly functioning and charged CEWs are to be carried. Trained uniformed officers, working road patrol, will carry a CEW (X26P or Taser 10).

Less Lethal Impact Munitions Shotgun

The department issues approved less lethal impact munitions shotguns. Only properly functioning less lethal impact munitions shotguns will be carried by trained officers.

Noise Flash Diversionary Device (NFDD) (includes ariel)

NFDDs will be properly stored in a magazine located in the rear of the sergeant and corporal vehicles. Only officers trained on the handling/deployment of NFDDs shall be able to utilize them.

[Authorized Ammunition](#)

Only department approved and issued ammunition will be used in any firearm carried by an officer in either an on duty or off duty status.

Ammunition Specifications

- Department Firearms Ammunition
 - 9mm Federal HST2 147 grain.
 - 5.56 NATO and/or .223 62 grain Speer Gold Dot.
- Department Less Lethal Impact Munitions
 - 12 gauge ALS 1212T Triton Bean Bag (less lethal impact munitions)
- Secondary Firearms Ammunition
 - 9mm (9x19) 147 grain Gold Dot Hollow Point;
 - 380 auto 90 grain Gold Dot Hollow Point;
 - 40 cal. 180 grain Gold Dot Hollow Point;
 - 45 auto 230 grain Gold Dot Hollow Point;
 - 38 special +P caliber 135 grain Gold Dot Hollow Point;
 - 10 mm 200 grain
- Training Ammunition
 - 9mm any available grain and brand
 - .223 any available grain and brand
 - 12 gauge Drag Stabilized Shells (less lethal impact munitions)
- Outside Department Training Ammunition
 - 9mm any available grain and brand
 - .223 any available grain and brand

Euthanizing Animals – Authorized Weapons & Ammunition

The following steps shall be followed:

- Request permission from shift supervisor to euthanize a sick/injured animal;

- Euthanize the animal in a safe manner and direction;
- Complete an incident report to include the following information: Supervisor granting permission, type of weapon and number of rounds used.

The handgun will be used to euthanize large animals such as deer that are sick or injured. A .22 rifle should be used on smaller animals such as raccoons.

Should the animal euthanized be small, such as a raccoon, officers will place carcass in a plastic garbage bag and with the permission of the homeowner, can dispose of the carcass at their residence. However, if the homeowner is not comfortable with disposing of the carcass at their residence, it can be transported to Day Heights Veterinary Clinic (5628 Wolfpen Pleasant Hill Road, Milford, OH 45150). If during business hours, the officer will contact staff informing them of carcass and ask where to place it. After hours, the officer is to place the bag at the rear of the building next to the rear door. Somewhere on the outside of the bag, the officer needs to identify it as being from Miami Township Police Department.

The Miami Township Service Department (MTSD) will **ONLY** remove deer carcasses that are in the right of way of a Miami Township Road. Once the officer has dispatched a deer, they will contact Clermont County Communication Center to notify MTSD for removal and the carcass. Should the deer carcass be located in the right of way, not deemed as Miami Township, the officer will contact Clermont County Communication Center who will notify the appropriate authorities for its removal; the Clermont County Engineer's Officer for a County roadway and Ohio Department of Transportation for a State roadway. If the deer carcass is discovered at a residence and/or business, they will need to make their own arrangements for removal. The officer may assist the homeowner in relocating the carcass to the right of way which will allow the appropriate entity to remove it at no expense to the homeowner.

[Review, Inspection & Approval of Weapons](#)

Department Owned Firearms

Every department owned firearm shall be inspected by a department firearms armorer upon original receipt of the firearm, before placing the firearm in an operational readiness status. The inspection shall be made to determine if the firearm meets department specifications, is safe and in good working order. The armorer completing the inspection shall complete the Firearms Inspection Report form.

After issuance or being placed in an operational readiness status, department owned firearms shall be inspected by a department firearms armorer annually. This annual inspection shall be made to ensure maintenance and care guidelines have been followed and that the weapon is safe and in good working order. The armorer completing the inspection shall complete the Firearms Inspection Report form.

Secondary Firearms

A firearm that an officer requests to utilize as a secondary firearm must meet the department's established requirements for such firearms. Prior to use in any capacity, the officer shall complete a Request to Utilize Secondary Firearm form. The secondary firearm shall be inspected by a department firearms armorer to determine that the firearm meets department specifications, is safe and in good working order. This inspection shall be documented on the request form.

After the initial inspection and approval by the Chief of Police, a department firearms armorer shall inspect approved secondary weapons annually. This annual inspection shall be made to ensure maintenance and care guidelines have been followed and that the weapon is safe and in good working order. This inspection shall occur at the annual qualification and be documented on the Firearms Qualification Report form.

Less Lethal Weapons

- CEW's are inspected upon initial issuance and by officers at the beginning of each shift.
- Less Lethal Impact Munitions Shotguns are inspected upon initial issuance and annually by a department shotgun armorer.
- Expandable batons and chemical agent spray are inspected upon issuance and during each Less Lethal Weapon qualification.
- CS (2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile) munitions are inspected upon issuance by a trained munitions handler. The magazines in which the devices are stored will be checked weekly by either a supervisor or munitions handler to determine whether there has been unauthorized entry or attempted entry into the magazine(s).
- Noise Flash Diversionary Devices are inspected upon initial issuance by a trained munitions handler. The magazines in which the devices are stored will be checked weekly by either a supervisor or munitions handler to determine whether there has been unauthorized entry or attempted entry into the magazine(s).

Removal of Unsafe Weapons

Any department owned firearm found to be in an unsafe condition shall be immediately seized. A report concerning the circumstances shall be made and forwarded to the Patrol Division Supervisor.

Any secondary firearm found to be in an unsafe condition shall immediately have revoke the authorization to utilize the firearm. A report concerning the circumstances shall be made and forwarded to the Chief of Police who shall rescind the secondary firearm authorization form.

No weapon, which is removed from use because of an unsafe condition, shall be returned to use until which time the unsafe condition has been corrected and a firearms armorer has inspected, test fired and approved the weapon for use. This re-inspection shall be documented on the Firearms Inspection Report form.

Any less lethal weapon found to not be functioning properly shall immediately be removed from service by the officer discovering the malfunction. A report concerning the circumstances shall

be made and forwarded to the Patrol Division Supervisor. No less lethal weapon removed from service shall be returned to use until the weapon is repaired or replaced.

[Record of Agency Approved Weapons](#)

Department Owned Weapons

A designated firearm/less lethal weapon instructor shall maintain a master list of Department owned and approved lethal and less lethal weapons.

The designated firearm/less lethal weapon instructor shall forward to the Support Services Supervisor, the make, model, serial number and location of the weapon or to whom the weapon was issued. The Support Services Supervisor shall update the agency owned property listing.

Secondary Firearms

Upon approval of a secondary firearm, the Request to Utilize Secondary Weapon form shall be forwarded to the Training Coordinator, who shall place the secondary firearm approval form in the officers Weapons & Qualification training file.

[Storage of Agency Authorized Firearms](#)

Department authorized firearms are to be secured at all times. This includes when the weapon is on the officers' person, while in transport and at home and in the locker room (locked in a locker).

Department issued less lethal impact munitions shotguns and AR-15's are to be secured in their assigned vehicle utilizing the locking gun mounts (when applicable).

Department firearms that are not issued are to be stored and secured in the department's armory.

[Storage of CS \(2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile\) munitions and Noise Flash Diversionary Device \(NFDD\)](#)

CS munitions and NFDDs shall be stored in a magazine located in the rear of the sergeant and corporal vehicles. Any additional NFDDs and CS munitions will be stored in a magazine located in the armory.

4.3.2 Demonstrating Proficiency with Weapons

Each officer will display understanding and proficiency through qualification and testing annually (firearms, CEW, less lethal impact munitions shotgun, CS (2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile) munitions – if assigned, noise flash diversionary device (NFDD) – if assigned, or biennially (expandable baton & chemical agent) under the department use of force directive to be authorized to carry or use any firearm or less lethal weapon.

In addition to any other qualification for proficiency, each officer must achieve a minimum of score of 90 percent on a written test that covers the police department's directives on the use of force. This written exam will be administered no less than once each year in conjunction with use of force training and proficiency qualification.

All sworn personnel, upon hiring and during the Field Training Program will display understanding and proficiency through qualification and testing under the department use of force directive to be authorized to carry or use any firearm or less lethal weapon.

Firearms Proficiency

Annually, each officer will qualify with all department issued firearms (if assigned) and approved secondary firearms. The firearm qualification course will be drawn up by the department firearms instructors and will be approved by the Chief of Police. Qualification courses shall require the officer to use the weapons in the same manner as they are accustomed to using them. No less than once each year the course of fire will at a minimum meet the State of Ohio minimum firearms qualification guidelines.

Less Lethal Weapon Proficiency

Annually, each officer authorized to carry a CEW, less lethal impact munitions shotgun, CS (2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile) munitions – if assigned, and noise flash diversionary device (NFDD) – if assigned will demonstrate proficiency with it/them.

Biennially, each officer will demonstrate proficiency with the less lethal weapons: expandable baton & chemical agent spray.

The less lethal proficiency requirements will be drawn up by certified less lethal weapon instructors and will be approved by the Chief of Police.

4.3.3 Annual/Biennial Proficiency Training

Annually, each officer will qualify with all department issued firearms (if assigned) and approved secondary firearms.

Annually, each officer authorized to carry a CEW, less lethal impact munitions shotgun, CS (2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile) munitions – if assigned, and noise flash diversionary device (NFDD) – if assigned will demonstrate proficiency with the it/them.

Biennially, each officer will qualify with the less lethal weapons: expandable baton and chemical agent spray. This qualification includes testing in weaponless control techniques.

A certified weapons or tactics instructor shall monitor firearm, less lethal weapons and weaponless control techniques testing and proficiency.

The results of all firearms, less lethal weapons and weaponless control techniques proficiency and testing shall be in writing and the results shall be filed with the department training coordinator.

Officers who fail any of the following shall not be authorized to carry such weapon until which time they have successfully completed a course of remedial training under the instruction of a certified weapons or tactics instructor:

- Firearms
 - Failure to obtain a qualifying score with all issued & secondary firearms;
 - Failure to pass the written test as provided in this directive;
 - Failure to display proficiency in the handling and care of firearms;
 - Failure to attend an annual qualification and testing.
- Less Lethal Weapons
 - Failure to obtain a passing score with less lethal weapon proficiency testing;
 - Failure to pass the written test as provided in this directive;
 - Failure to attend an annual (CEW, less lethal impact munitions shotgun, CS (2-chlorobenzalmalonitrile) munitions – if assigned, noise flash diversionary device (NFDD) – if assigned or biennial (expandable baton and chemical agent spray) qualification and testing.

Firearms Remedial Training

Remedial training will be provided to any officer that is unable to qualify with an authorized weapon. If an officer fails to qualify on the first attempt, the certified instructor(s) will give the officer basic remedial training concerning the issues noted by them. If the officer fails to qualify on the second attempt, the certified instructor(s) will provide a more individualized, in-depth, remedial training session for the officer. If the officer fails to qualify on the third attempt, the certified instructor will make written notification to the Patrol Division Supervisor with a recommendation for medical evaluation, additional training, recession of privilege to carry the weapon or disciplinary action. The Patrol Division Supervisor shall, within forty-eight hours of being notified of such a deficiency, review each officer's individual circumstances, and make a written report as to the most appropriate course of action to be taken. The Patrol Division Supervisor shall guide his/her action and decision toward bringing the deficient officer into compliance with the department's weapon directive requirements.

Retired Officer Annual Application/Qualification

Miami Township Police Department offers an annual qualification process for retired Miami Township officers. The Range Master or his retired designee will make an annual notification to retired officers which will include range location, date, and time for qualification.

Retired Miami Township officers will complete all necessary paperwork required for qualification. The retired officers' documentation will be maintained with department firearm records.

4.3.4 Prerequisite to Carrying Lethal/Less Lethal Weapons

Each officer will display understanding and proficiency through qualification and testing during the field training program and thereafter, annually (firearms, CEW, less lethal impact munitions

shotgun, CS (2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile) munitions – if assigned, noise flash diversionary device (NFDD) – if assigned or biennially (expandable baton, chemical agent spray & weaponless control techniques) under the department use of force and use of deadly force directive and policy statements to be authorized to carry or use any firearm or less lethal weapon.

A receipt showing that an officer has access to, has read and understands the police department's use of force and use of deadly force directive and policy statements will be signed by the officer and maintained by the training coordinator as indicated.

- Upon initial employment;
- Upon any revised issuance of this directive.

4.3.5 Firearms Range

Purpose Range Utilized

The Miami Township Police Department utilizes various firearms range locations. The purpose of utilizing the firearms range is to provide firearms training to sworn or retired officers of the Miami Township Police Department. The firearms range will be used for approved law enforcement training and qualifications. The firearms range will first be approved by a firearms instructor to determine any range restrictions before the start of any training. Law enforcement personnel or authorized participants of the training are the only individuals allowed on the range during any of these events.

Safety Procedures and Range Rules

Range rules may vary depending on the managing entity. However, documented safety procedures and range rules will be reviewed with all participants prior to any training event. The department's Firearms Instructors oversee range discipline. Officers failing to comply with the rules of the range could be requested by the department Firearms Instructor(s) to leave the range and be subject to disciplinary action. Standard safety procedures utilized by departmental firearms instructors include:

- Eye and ear protection are mandatory and will be worn at all times when on the range.
- Body armor will be worn by all shooters on the line, but otherwise, at the discretion of the Range Master/Firearms Instructor while the firearms range is in use.
- Handle all firearms as if they were loaded.
- Keep your firearm pointed downrange.
- Weapons will not be loaded until the command to load is given by the Range Master or Firearms Instructor.
- No person shall advance forward of the firing line until the line has been declared clear and safe by a range officer.
- The firing line will be considered safe by the range officer when all weapons are unloaded or holstered.
- Carelessness and horseplay are prohibited
- Keep your finger out of the trigger guard until you are ready to fire.
- Shooters will only shoot from designated areas.

- Shooters will only use ammunition and targets authorized by policy and the training section.
- All injuries will be reported to the firearms instructor or supervisor on duty.
- Cease fire should be called by ANYONE who observes an unsafe condition.

Range Supervisor

The range will be under the exclusive control of the Firearm Instructor(s). All members attending will follow the directions of the Firearm Instructor(s). The instructor(s) will maintain a roster of all members attending the range and will submit the roster to the Training Coordinator after each range date. The Firearm Instructor(s) have the responsibility of making periodic inspections, at least once a year, of all duty weapons carried by officers of this department to verify proper operation. The Firearm Instructor(s)/Armorer has the authority to deem any department-issued or privately owned firearm unfit for service. The member will be responsible for all repairs to his/her privately-owned firearm. It will not be returned to service until inspected and approved by the Armorer. The Firearm Instructor(s) has the responsibility for ensuring each member meets the minimum requirements during training shoots, and on at least a yearly basis, can demonstrate proficiency in the care, cleaning, and safety of all firearms the member is authorized to carry.

The Firearm Instructor(s) shall complete and submit to the Chief of Police and Training Coordinator documentation of the training courses provided. Documentation shall include a lesson plan of the training provided and a list of each member who completes the training. The Firearm Instructor(s) should keep accurate records of all training, qualifications, repairs, maintenance, or other records as directed by the Chief of Police and/or Training Coordinator.

Authorized Weapons, Ammunition, Targets and Equipment

Only Miami Township Police Department approved weapons, targets, ammunition, and equipment will be used during any firearms qualifications and training.

Required Safety Equipment

All personnel on the range shall wear hearing protection. All shooters on the line shall wear hearing and eye protection, as well as a ballistic vest. A first aid kit, fire extinguisher, portable radio, and cell phone will remain readily accessible at all times while there is training at the range. Any injuries sustained during training at the range shall be immediately reported to the Firearm Instructor(s) or range staff. Written notification will then be provided to supervisory personnel.

Training and Certification Requirements for Range Instructors

All personnel working in the capacity of a Firearms Instructor shall complete the appropriate training to be a certified Firearms Instructor. Firearms Instructors shall receive emergency medical response training and/or first aid training.

Storage of Ammunition and Weapons

All personnel are responsible for the weapons and ammunition issued to them. Firearms and ammunition shall be worn or stored appropriately and safely at all times. All authorized ammunition being stored at the Department must be secured (padlocked) in a police officer's assigned locker or be stored in the armory.