

AB 481

Military Equipment Funding,
Acquisition, and Use Policy



Lieutenant Eamonn Allen

San Mateo County Sheriff's Office

AB 481 Requirements:

- Request governing body approval of:
 - Equipment usage policy, by way of ordinance;
 - Prior to any actions related to funding, acquisition, or use.
- Annual review of ordinance to examine efficacy of policy/equipment usage for renewal or modification.



Examples of Equipment Addressed by Policy



Lenco ARV

The Armored Rescue Vehicle has been deployed in a variety of situations to provide ballistic protection and cover for officer and civilian rescues, as well as tactical operations and high-risk security details.



Less Lethal Options

Less Lethal options such as CS gas and impact projectiles, along with their launchers, are used to bring violent encounters safely under control and prevent permanent injury or death to suspects and Deputies alike.



Unmanned Aerial Systems

Unmanned aerial systems allow for the rapid deployment of resources to search for missing endangered persons and suspects, intelligence gathering, or scene mapping. All deployments are strictly governed by FAA regulations and constitutional restrictions.

Annual Report to the Board

Annually, the Sheriff or their designee will report:



- 01 Summary of how military equipment (ME) was used.

- 02 Summary of complaints or concerns received regarding ME.

- 03 Results of internal audits, information about violations of ME use policy, and actions taken in response.

- 04 Total annual cost for each type of ME.

- 05 Quantity possessed of each type of ME.

- 06 If SMSO intends to acquire additional ME in next year, quantity sought for each type.

- 07 Within 30 days of submitting report, SMSO shall hold community engagement meeting to discuss report and answer questions. Report will also be published on SMSO website for public review.