

Hattiesburg Police

Weapons Specification Guide

Discussion: The intention of this document is to set guidelines for the types of weapons that are owned by individuals that may be used by Department personnel. The Department fully recognizes and respects 2nd amendment rights and does not wish to infringe on personal choice in individual firearms purchases relating to recreation, hunting, home defense or personal protection. The weapons addressed in this document fall into the category of Department issued and non-issued personal weapons to be used as a secondary arm related to enforcement activity. Department policy is found in AOM Chapter 1 regarding approval, training, qualification and carry.

Only agency personnel demonstrating proficiency in the use of agency authorized weapons are approved to carry such weapons.

1. Non-lethal weapons

- A. On duty carry and use of non-lethal weapons other than those issued by the Department is prohibited.
- B. This policy is referring to those items marketed and designed for the purpose of filling the role of non-lethal weapons. Nothing in this policy should prohibit an officer in an "fight for life" situation from using available objects to defend oneself or save another.
- C. Batons:
 - 1. Friction-lock expandable with metal shaft limited to 21 inches in length. Grip surface may be metal with a machined or synthetic material for a gripping surface as supplied by the manufacturer. Batons will be used as ordered and issued by the department. No aftermarket or add on accessories are permitted such as lighting devices, donuts, balls or other accessories
 - 2. Crowd Control Batons shall be plain solid in design composed of wood or high impact synthetic material and a nylon or leather thong for control. The baton shall be free of any alteration such as grip enhancement or weighting.
- D. Chemical agents:
 - 1. Individual issue: A CS/OC (Orthochlorobenzalmalononitrile / Oleoresin Capsicum) solution in a non-toxic, non-flammable pressurized delivery vehicle. Delivery vehicle to be rated at 2 oz

by weight of contents and deliver the agent as an aerosol in a liquid stream manner.

2. Canister - Extraction: A CS/OC solution in a non-toxic, non-flammable pressurized delivery system. The delivery vehicle to be rated at least 3oz not more than 5oz by weight of contents. Delivery vehicle to be designed to deliver its contents for area control and with attachments to allow insertion of contents into rooms and vehicles for extraction.
3. Canister - Hand Deployable: A hand launched canister with a delayed fuse which upon detonation causes a rapid but not explosive deployment of contents. Contents to be CS gas or such derivatives commonly referred to as "tear gas".
4. Canister - Launched: A shoulder fired 37mm launching system that allows for the delivery of a rapid gas dispersal projectile at distances greater than hand delivery canisters. Effective deployment range is 25 to 150 yards. Projectiles may disperse contents in an aerosol, powder or liquid form.

2. Long Guns

- A. Only long guns issued by the department are allowed for on-duty carry.
- B. Shotguns
 1. Shotguns must be 12 gauge, may be pump or self loading (semi automatic), single shot any configuration of double barrel are prohibited.
 2. Accessories and attachments include slings (Leather or Nylon), flashlight mounts, reserve ammo mounts and iron sights.
 3. Glow in the dark (Tritium) sights is acceptable, but night vision and other scoped optical sights, including laser or dot not provided by the department are prohibited.
 4. Magazine extensions must not exceed the barrel length or hold more than 8 rounds.
 5. Barrel must be smooth bore choked to be cylinder, modified or full length not to exceed 20 inches. Screw-in choke tubes are not permitted.

6. Stocks will be of the traditional solid style wood, nylon or other composite material. Folding or pistol grips only are not allowed, however a pistol grip incorporated as a solid shoulder stock is allowed.
7. The Department will issue authorized ammo for carry and use. Self-purchase ammo may be used for individual practice.

C. Rifles

1. Rifles are carried only by persons that have completed a patrol rifle course as taught by department instructors or off site in a Department approved course.
2. Rifles will be AR-15 / M-16 Style, .223 caliber, in a “stock” configuration as sold to the public. Automatic or select fire is prohibited.
3. Twenty and thirty round magazines are authorized. “Banding” of more than two magazines together is not authorized as a carry method.
4. Sights will be of the iron type adjustable for windage and elevation and may be the dim light tritium variety. Scopes, night vision, laser, dot, or other optical enhancement sights not provided by the department are prohibited.
5. Accessories include slings (Nylon or Leather) and mounts for flashlights.
6. Only ammo supplied by the Department will be carried or used. Self-purchase ammo may be used for individual practice.

3. Handguns

- A. The primary duty gun will be the Department issued weapon any other handgun is considered secondary. While a secondary handgun (non-issued personal firearm) is permitted, members will not report to duty, call outs, or other calls to duty with the secondary handgun serving in the capacity of the primary handgun.
- B. Secondary handguns shall not be less than .35 caliber, not greater than .45 caliber and limited to ammo purchased and issued by the Department. The department will not provide practice ammo for secondary weapons.
- C. The gun’s action may be either revolver or self-loading semi automatic.

- D. Sights may be fixed or adjustable with alignment aids such as bars, dots or tritium. Scopes, night vision, or other optical enhancement sights are prohibited.
- E. After market “accessories” or “enhancements” are seemingly endless along with gunsmith services (Professional and Hobbyist) thus, customization could present legal issues. The Department endorses the philosophy that less is better and the handgun should be in the form designed and produced by the manufacture.
 - 1. Safeties will not be pinned, removed or otherwise deactivated. Alterations to accommodate left hand shooters or to allow a better fit in the shooters hand for the manual activation of safety devices are allowed.
 - 2. Triggers may be replaced with factory replacements of different size to accommodate length of pull or other fit issues. Interactive parts may be smoothed, but trigger pull weights will not be lightened below manufacture recommendations. Glock pistols will not be fitted with a connector less than the 5lb connector.
 - 3. Stock or grips of non-issued personal weapons may be altered or replaced to allow for fitting to the shooters hand. “After market” slip-on grips may be used to improve the feel and handling characteristics of department issued handguns. Grips that are attached with adhesive are considered permanent and are prohibited on department owned weapons. Stocks shall be plain in appearance and absent of any message and artwork with the exception of the manufacture’s logo.
 - 4. Recoil spring guide rods may be short or full length, but will not be weighted, contain liquid, ball bearings or otherwise marketed as recoil reduction devices.
 - 5. Decals or other personalization is not permitted unless approved by the Chief of Police for use by the entire department.
 - 6. No gunsmith work will be done on a department owned weapon by anyone other than a department armorer, representative of the manufacture or a gunsmith contracted by the department.

4. Automatic/Select Fire

- A. Use is limited to appropriately trained tactical team members during missions in circumstances that merit the use of an automatic/select fire weapon.
- B. Hand held automatic weapons are the Glock model 18 in 9mm caliber.
- C. Select fire weapons are shoulder mounted, roller-locked delayed blowback, gas operated, short barreled (18 inches or shorter) with an ambidextrous manual control capable of selecting single shots, three shot burst or fully automatic fire.
 - 1. Collapsible shoulder stock
 - 2. Adjustable iron sights as supplied by the manufacture.
 - 3. Magazines may be “banded” (not more than two) to facilitate rapid magazine changes.
 - 4. Capable of suppressed fire.
 - 5. Accessories or attachments may include slings, flashlights, laser or other sighting devices as provided by the department.

5. Ammo

- A. Only ammo supplied by the Department will be used in the primary or secondary non-issued personal firearms in the performance of duty. Duty Ammo shall be 1st quality factory manufactured by recognized US ammo manufactures such as Winchester, Federal, Hornady, Remington or CCI/Speer. Second quality or remanufactured ammo may be used for practice/training.
 - 1. Duty ammo may be either open cavity (hollow point) or soft point designed to expand upon impact.
 - 2. Ammo may exceed standard industry pressure ratings designated as +P. Magnum and other high or over pressure rounds commonly designated as +P+ are prohibited.
 - 3. Bullets designed or marketed as frangible upon impact are prohibited.
 - 4. Solid projectile non expanding ammo is authorized for practice only.

B. Shotgun will consist of 12-gauge slug and buckshot as purchased by the Department in the following designations.

1. Slug – 1oz lead foster or sabot design
2. Buckshot #00

C. Rifle ammo will be as purchased by the department in partition, hollow point or soft point designed to expand upon impact.

1. .223 caliber weighing not less than 55 grains and not more than 77 grains.
2. .308 caliber weighing not less than 150 grains and not more than 180 grains.

D. Handguns will be limited to the caliber and types of ammo purchased by the Department. The department makes every effort to purchase ammo for secondary firearms that is of the same style and make as that purchased for department issued primary firearms. Available handgun ammo by caliber and bullet weight:

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| 1. | .380 | 80 to 105gr |
| 2. | .38 | 125 to 158gr |
| 3. | 9mm | 115 to 147gr |
| 4. | .40 | 155 to 200gr |
| 5. | .45 | 185 to 230gr |