
202.05 Other Equipment

Duty Belt Equipment for Uniformed Officers:

All duty belt gear will be the black basket weave design. Duty belt gear may be manufactured of leather or simulated leather. Duty belt will include the following:

- Magazine Pouch: officers issued the authorized pistol shall wear an approved magazine pouch mounted on the duty belt in a manner and location that is authorized by the Range.
- Handcuff Pouch: pouch or loop, mounted on duty belt.
- Flashlight Pouch (Optional): mounted on duty belt.
- Baton Holder: mounted on the duty belt.
- Strap key (Optional): mounted on the duty belt.
- Holster: only those holsters currently approved by the Range are authorized. All officers are required to use a level 2 or higher retention holster as approved by the Range. Holsters will be worn as the manufacturer designed.
- Shoulder strap: worn with blouse coat only. Black, leather with buckle. Used with “D” rings to attach to duty belt.
- Duty belt: Original design belt buckles or department approved historical replica belt buckle may be worn with the duty belt.
- Aerosol Subject Restraint (ASR) Pouch.
- Knife Pouch (Optional).
- Electronic Control Device (ECD) Holster: May be worn by ECD-certified officers only.

Badge:

The badge and hat wreath are the property of the Department and the City of Saint Paul. Badges and hat wreaths will be turned in upon resignation, leave of absence, or termination.

Employees who have lost their badge or hat wreath will contact the Inspections Unit for replacement and will complete a report indicating the circumstances of such loss.

- Badge color/design is dependent upon rank/assignment.
- Badge will be worn on the portion of the uniform (shirt or outerwear, except for raincoat) that has been specially prepared to support the badge.
- Cloth badge patches may be worn on outer garments in place of the metal badge.

High Visibility Personal Protective Equipment:

(See [General Order 640.01: Traffic Direction and Control Procedures](#))

All patrol operations personnel are issued a reflective (traffic) vest. The vests shall be worn in accordance with [Minnesota Rule 5207.0100 \(2009\)](#) which states: “Each employee exposed to or working adjacent to moving motor vehicles as part of the employee's assigned job shall be provided with and required to wear a high visibility warning vest or other high visibility garment.”

Firearms:

(See [General Order 247.02: Firearms Proficiency Program](#))

- The main on-duty firearm authorized for use will be the department-issued pistol. Modifications to either the pistol or grip are not permitted without prior authorization from the training unit commander.
- Handguns will be carried fully loaded in an approved holster.
- All officers will carry a minimum of one additional fully loaded magazine. All magazines must be loaded with department-issued duty ammunition.
- Officers assigned to headquarters may remove their duty belts while in the building, except the desk officer and watch commander shall be armed.
- For tactical situations, officers may use other firearms authorized by the chief of police.
- If an officer chooses to carry a secondary weapon while on-duty they must demonstrate proficiency, safety and knowledge of this weapon at the range. (See [General Order 247.02: Firearms Proficiency Program](#))
- If officers so choose, they may carry their on-duty firearm, or other, while off-duty. Said weapon will remain concealed at all times. (See [General Order 247.02 Firearms Proficiency Program](#))
- Any officer wishing to carry or continue to carry a backup on-duty gun must notify their immediate supervisor. The supervisor will maintain a record of this and include the notification in the officer's unit file.
- Any officer found carrying a backup gun on-duty who has not made this notification will be considered insubordinate and subject to disciplinary actions. All other policies regarding backup guns remain in place.

Plainclothes Officers:

- All department-issued handguns and any handgun carried while on-duty must be carried in a holster designed for that handgun. Officers wishing to carry a handgun without a holster may only do so with the permission of their unit commander.
- Plainclothes officers must carry the duty handgun in a range-approved concealable holster.
- Plainclothes officers must carry the department-issued handgun unless specifically authorized by the Chief of Police.
- Plainclothes officers will carry their firearm in a concealed manner when away from the Headquarters building.
- Plainclothes officers must carry a badge, handcuffs, a method of communication (e.g. cellular phone, department-radio, or both), and a less-lethal weapon (i.e. ASR, ECD, or baton). An exception to this may be made for officers operating in an undercover capacity.

Ammunition:

The department will furnish the necessary rounds for the authorized handgun. The furnished rounds are the only ammunition approved for use while on duty. Attempts at, or alteration of, the furnished ammunition is prohibited. Fresh ammunition will be issued on a timely basis by the Range.

Officers will provide their own ammunition for any secondary or off-duty weapon they possess and carry. Any officer who carries a backup firearm on-duty or off-duty firearm will use only un-tampered ammunition that is approved by the department.

Handcuffs:

Handcuffs must include a double locking device. Sworn personnel must carry a handcuff key.

Batons:

The expandable baton and holder shall be worn on the officer's duty belt. All uniformed officers will be responsible for having an expandable baton in their possession while on duty.

The rigid baton may only be worn as a part of the Mobile Field Force uniform or when authorized by the Deputy Chief of Operations. A rigid baton carrier ring may be purchased and worn on the duty belt. This carrier ring is subject to the approval of the Deputy Chief of Operations.

Electronic Control Device and Holster:

Officers certified in the electronic control device (ECD) will only carry the department-approved electronic control device and holster while on-duty or while working an authorized off-duty employment.

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