

	KENOSHA POLICE DEPARTMENT			
	POLICY AND PROCEDURE			
	41.6 Auxiliary Weapons - Rifles			
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I. PURPOSE

There may be situations that require specialized weapons in order to allow officers the ability to contain, control and resolve those situations.

The purpose of this policy is to provide the officers of the Kenosha Police Department with guidelines in the deployment and use of rifles by field officers. The policy will provide guidelines on the qualifications required carrying, deploying and using the rifle.

II. POLICY

The Kenosha Police Department has authorized the deployment of rifles and ammunition to specially trained officers and supervisors. These specially trained officers will be deployed as Auxiliary Weapons' Officers. The deployment of these officers is intended to minimize the risk of death or serious bodily injury to officers as well as members of the community.

The rifle may be deployed and used to assist officers who respond to incidents involving a suspect(s) who is believed to be armed with or who is believed to be armed and situated in a distant or fortified location which affords the suspect(s) a tactically superior position. The rifle is usually restricted to spontaneous events that must be contained to allow other specialized units' time to respond and take control of the situation. The Shift Commander may authorize their deployment on a pre-planned basis for security during high-risk emergency events. In every event, the use of the rifle shall be in accordance with the Department's Use of Force Policy.

III. DEFINITIONS

AUXILIARY WEAPONS OFFICER:

An officer specially trained and authorized to carry and use a Kenosha Police Department rifle.

CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR:

An officer who has successfully completed a State of Wisconsin Law Enforcement Training and Standards approved Firearms/Rifle Instructor training course.

DEPLOYMENT:

The removal of the rifle from its secure location and made ready to engage an aggressor.

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USE:

The act of discharging the rifle at the suspect when the suspect poses an immediate and imminent danger of death or great bodily harm to the officer or another person.

AUXILIARY WEAPONS COORDINATOR:

The Chief of Police will designate the Auxiliary Weapons Coordinator. The Auxiliary Weapons Coordinator will be responsible for the administrative needs of the unit to include, but not limited to, training, equipment and logistics. The Auxiliary Weapons Coordinator will maintain a written log of all equipment to include the serial number of firearms and to who they are assigned.

IV. PROCEDURE:

A. Deployment Criteria.

The rifle shall only be deployed or used by an Auxiliary Weapons Officer. The deployment and use shall be in accordance with this Policy and the Use of Force Policy such as during a spontaneous field incident, or when there is reason to believe a suspect is:

1. Wearing protective body armor.
2. Armed with or has immediate access to a weapon(s) which could cause death or great bodily injury.
3. Armed and situated in a distant or fortified location which affords the suspect(s) a tactically superior position, in which the deployment of the rifle reasonably appears necessary to neutralize the threat posed by the suspect(s).
4. Engaged in activities or situations that have a high probability that the suspect(s) may be armed and dangerous, such as bank robberies, high-risk felony stops or weapons calls.

When an Auxiliary Weapons Officer encounters an immediate life-threatening situation which meets the deployment criteria, the officer may deploy and use the rifle without prior supervisory approval. When this occurs, the officer deploying the rifle shall report it to a supervisor as soon as practical. The act of deploying the rifle alone does not require written documentation.

Once the threat has been resolved or responsibility for control of the incident has been turned over to a specialized unit, the rifle shall be re-secured or redeployed under the control of that specialized unit.

B. Request for a Rifle or Notification of Deployment of the Rifle.

When a rifle is required, the officer shall notify Dispatch of the request for the rifle(s) and give their unit number and location. Additionally, the requesting unit shall determine the urgency of the situation and request the appropriate response by an Auxiliary Weapons Officer(s).

The request shall be cancelled if the circumstances no longer warrant the deployment of the rifle.

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C. Dispatch Responsibility.

Upon receiving notification of a deployment or a request for a rifle, communications personnel shall:

1. Broadcast to all units the deployment or request for a rifle and the location of the request.
2. Assign the call to an Auxiliary Weapons Officer.
3. Assign a supervisor to respond.
4. Restrict radio traffic to "emergency communications only" until the incident is resolved or the other units are moved to another frequency.

D. Responsibilities of Auxiliary Weapons Officer.

1. Ensure that the rifle is properly maintained and functional at all times.
2. When not on duty, the rifle shall be secured in the Public Safety Building. This does not apply to current members of the Kenosha County Tactical Response Team.
3. Maintain the rifle in a secure and legal manner when transporting it to and from training sessions.
4. While on duty, the rifle and ammunition will be secured in the trunk of the police vehicle or secured in a gunlock if the squad is so equipped.
5. Respond to the request for the deployment of a rifle.
6. Ensure that each situation meets the deployment criteria.
7. When the rifle is used at an incident without prior supervisory approval (Exigent Circumstances), the deploying officer shall report it to a supervisor as soon as practical. The act of deploying the rifle alone does not require written documentation.

E. Supervisor Responsibilities.

A supervisor shall respond to each rifle deployment or request to:

1. Determine if the rifle deployment is appropriate.
2. Take command of the incident and determine if the incident is within the capability of the unit(s) at the scene or request a specialized tactical unit.
3. Ensure that all rifles are re-secured once the incident is resolved.
4. Ensure that the incident is properly documented.

F. Shift Commanders Responsibilities.

Each Shift Commander shall:

1. Indicate who the Auxiliary Weapons Officers are on the daily work sheet so dispatch is aware of which units to send on a rifle request.
2. Have a supervisor dispatched to all rifle deployments or requests.
3. Evaluate all rifle deployments to ensure consistency with this policy.
4. Maintain a record of all rifles issued to their shift personnel and ensure that the weapons are properly stored and maintained.

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5. Ensure that all deployments of the rifles are in conformance with Department Policies.

V. TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

A. SUPERVISORS.

All supervisors will:

1. Be trained in the Auxiliary Weapons Policy and the Use of Force Policy.
2. Receive training in the deployment and capabilities of the rifle.

B. AUXILIARY WEAPONS OFFICERS.

All Auxiliary Weapons officers will:

1. Be trained by a Certified Instructor in the care, function and use of the rifles.
2. Demonstrate proficiency with their assigned rifle during initial training.
3. Receive training and demonstrate understanding in the Auxiliary Weapons Policy and the Use of Force Policy of the Kenosha Police Department semi-annually.
4. Demonstrate proficiency with their assigned rifles.
 - a. Failure to qualify during a semi-annual qualification will result in suspension of certification to carry, deploy or use the rifle until the next semi-annual qualification or until the officer receives additional training and successfully qualifies.
 - b. Failure to qualify during two successive semi-annual qualifications will result in termination of certification to carry, deploy or use the rifle until the officer applies for and completes the basic training in (a) above.
 - c. Return the assigned weapon to the Auxiliary Weapons Coordinator for storage or reissue if their rifle certification is terminated.
 - d. Any additional accessories attached to the rifle, such as specialized optics, etc., must be approved by the Auxiliary Weapons Coordinator.
 - e. Any specialized weapon or rifle assigned to Kenosha Police Department personnel serving on the Kenosha County Tactical Response Team must also abide by this policy.
 - f. An auxiliary weapons officer who is also a member of the Kenosha County Tactical Response Team is not required to attend semi-annual qualifications listed under 4(a). The officer will attend the training as directed by the Kenosha County Tactical Response Team.