



Policy Revision Request

Requestor Name Jason Ferrera Emp # 6967

This revision applies to Existing Policy - 803 04-29-24

If new, recommended section _____

This revision is necessary to comply with State Law (Tex. Occ. Code § 1701.355 (a))

Whom does this revision affect? Department

\$ unknown, but this will cut down on the amount of repair parts purchased for shotguns breaking down from repeated wear and tear (41 checks).
Approximately 20 shotguns break each year and parts are very hard to come by.

This revision has an unbudgeted financial impact of _____

Brief reason for the revision:

Removing the nighttime qualifications requirement from policy. State law does not require a nighttime qualification. It only states for officers to qualify once every year. With the issuance of MRDS (miniature red dot sight) and WMLs (weapon mounted lights), officers are able to properly aim their handguns and illuminate potential threats in any lighting conditions they might encounter. With these advances in technology low light qualification courses are no longer necessary.

Updating Department Issued Shotgun Policy. The changes will eliminate portions of the pre shift shotgun check, which has the potential of cutting down on accidental discharges and the subsequent IA cases that follow them.

Document the changes or additions to the policy below. Please include the specific policy number. ~~Red strikethroughs~~ are used for deletions and blue underlined for text insertions. Please email completed forms to APDPolicy@austintexas.gov. Use this email for any related questions or issues for policy.

803 Duty Firearms

803.3.3 DEPARTMENT ISSUED SHOTGUNS

~~Shotguns are assigned to most marked police units and to individual officers as needed.~~
Department shotguns can be assigned to individual officers who request one by contacting the Firearms Training Unit. Each substation PCO will keep 25 department shotguns on hand in case of emergency use and/or temporary use if an officer(s) department issued shotgun is in need of repair. Officers who check out a shotgun from PCO because their issued shotgun is unavailable will return it at the end of shift.

(a) At the beginning of each shift, officers are responsible for ensuring there is no shell in the chamber, the hammer is not cocked, and the weapon is secure until it is being readied for imminent use.

(b) All officers (of every rank) must qualify with the shotgun annually on a course designated by the Firearms Training Unit.

~~(b)~~(c) Department shotguns will be loaded to magazine capacity (four or six rounds) with authorized 00 buckshot.

1-3– *No Changes*

803.4.1 ANNUAL QUALIFICATION

(a) *No Changes*

(b) *No Changes*

~~(c) Nightfire Qualification Requirements~~

~~1. Officers who routinely work all or part of a normal shift under low light or night low light conditions must qualify on the nightfire course.~~

~~2. Officers who routinely work Law Enforcement Related Secondary Employment (LERE) during low light or night conditions must qualify on the nightfire course.~~

~~3. Officers that qualify on the nightfire course do not have to qualify during the day.~~

~~4. Officers transferring from a day shift to an evening or night shift must qualify as soon as practicable but no later than 28 days of receiving their 28-day notice of transfer. For those instances where an officer does not receive a 28-day notice of transfer, they must qualify as soon as practicable but no later than 28 days of receiving their transfer date. This includes temporary transfers that are 28 days or longer as well as permanent transfers.~~

(c) Qualification Scheduling

1. Annual qualification will normally be done during the first quarter of the calendar year. Scheduling and signup will be done through ~~TRAIN~~ the department's learning management system (LMS).

803.4.3 REMEDIAL FIREARMS TRAINING

Remedial firearms training is specifically for APD personnel who have failed to qualify with an approved weapon.

(a) Classes will be designed by the firearms range staff and conducted as soon as practical after an officer is placed on remedial status.

~~(c) After completion of each remedial training class, the officer attending the class will fire in a qualification relay. If due to their assignment the officer is required to pass a low light qualification course, the officer must pass a low light qualification course prior to returning to duty.~~