

EL DORADO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Deputy Probation Officers- Field

FROM: Brian Rjchart, Chief Probation Officer

DATE: October 26, 2015

RE: Standing Order: Load Bearing Vests- Field Probation Officers

This Standing Order authorizes the use of a Load Bearing Vest while conducting department supervision/enforcement activities, and will remain in effect until related Procedures/Policy is updated. Although funding is not currently available for the department to purchase this equipment, officers are authorized to purchase a vest on their own. Funding for these items will be requested in FY2015/2016, but it is not known at this time if this will be approved.

Field Probation Officers have the option to utilize a Richard Cowell Tactical Armor Carrier Vest or a Safariland Tactical Assault Carrier with Modular Webbing (MOLLE) style vest. Officers choosing to use a Richard Cowell vest must have the design template approved by either Lead Firearms Instructor Dolcini or Rangemaster Kramer prior to purchase to ensure there are no conflicts with the placement of pouches as the pouches for this specific vest are permanently affixed. The Richard Cowell vest template can be viewed at www.richardcowell.com (click "Armor Carriers" and then "download vest template"). Officers choosing to use a Safariland Molle style vest may purchase the vest at any vendor offering the product (i.e. Galls or L.A. Police Gear, etc.) and must only purchase approved Molle pouches to attach to the vest. The approved Molle style pouches are as follows:

Protech Tactical:

TP10A	Sidearm Double Mag Pouch
TP17A	Double Handcuff Pouch
TP17	Single Handcuff Pouch
TP13	MK3/MK4 Aerosol Pouch
TP21A	Universal Radio Pouch

Tactical Tailor:

10093-2	Admin Pouch
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Both styles of vests must be black in color, and must have at a minimum, ID placards clearly identifying "PROBATION" on the front and back of the vest as well as a Velcro badge, all of which may be obtained through the respective department armory officer in each division. The vests may not be used to carry any safety equipment not currently authorized by the department, and shall not be utilized to carry a firearm.

A special thanks to all the staff in the South Lake Tahoe and Shingle Springs offices who participated in the testing and evaluation process to determine if these vests would be appropriate for our department's use.