



Santa Ana Unified School District Police Department

Military Equipment Use and Inventory Report

Pursuant to California Government Code §7070

Reporting Period: FY 2021–2025

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Santa Ana Unified School District Police Department

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I. Introduction

In accordance with **California Government Code §7070**, the **Santa Ana Unified School District Police Department (SAUSD PD)** provides this comprehensive report detailing the department’s possession, use, and oversight of equipment defined under the statute as “military equipment.”

This report is intended to ensure **transparency, accountability, and community awareness** while reinforcing the department’s commitment to the responsible stewardship of all specialized tools necessary to protect life and safety.

The SAUSD Police Department exists to protect over 40,000 students, educators, and staff across the District’s schools. To fulfill this mission, the department must maintain the ability to respond rapidly and effectively to **active shooter incidents, armed suspects, and critical emergencies**. Certain specialized equipment—including patrol rifles and less-lethal options—provides officers the means to safely intervene in life-threatening events and prevent loss of life.

Note: To date, the Santa Ana Unified School District Police Department has not previously produced or published an annual Military Equipment Use Report as required by California Government Code §7072. This report serves both as a transparent accounting of current equipment and usage practices, and submission to bring the department into full compliance with state reporting requirements.

II. Need for a School Police Department to Possess the Listed Equipment

School police departments operate in unique environments where immediate response is essential. In the event of an active shooter, seconds can determine survival outcomes. Local municipal police response times—though professional and swift—are inherently delayed by distance and jurisdictional coordination.

The possession of equipment such as **M4 patrol rifles**, **less-lethal bean bag shotguns**, and **command vehicles** allows SAUSD PD officers to:

- Immediately engage and neutralize life-threatening threats on school campuses.
- De-escalate violent situations through the use of less-lethal tools.
- Maintain command and control during complex or multi-site critical incidents.

This capability ensures that the district’s police officers can protect students and staff until additional support arrives, bridging the crucial gap between the onset of violence and external agency response.

III. Equipment Inventory

Equipment Type	Quantity	Purpose
M4 Patrol Rifles	28	Precision engagement of active shooter or armed assailant threats; defensive use only.
12-Gauge Less-Lethal Shotguns	3	Deployment of flexible impact munitions (bean bag rounds) for non-lethal incapacitation.
Command Vehicles	2	Mobile command and control platforms for field supervision and critical incident coordination.

*All equipment listed above is stored, maintained, and deployed under strict departmental policy in accordance with California Government Code §7070 and SAUSD PD Policy §707.

IV. Equipment Summary and Justification

Equipment Type	Description, Capabilities, and Authorized Uses	Expected Benefits	Training and Certification
M4 Rifles (Patrol Rifles)	Semi-automatic rifles chambered in 5.56mm NATO, equipped with standard or optical sights. Designed for precision engagement in active shooter or armed assailant incidents.	Enables rapid, accurate response to heavily armed threats, ensuring protection of students and staff in large campus environments.	Only POST-certified officers may deploy. Annual qualification and scenario-based training required.
Ammunition (5.56mm)	Duty ammunition compatible with patrol rifles. Securely stored, inventoried, and deployed by trained personnel.	Ensures readiness for high-threat incidents requiring precise and controlled response.	Included in rifle operator training and annual qualifications.
Less-Lethal Munitions (12-Gauge Bean Bag Rounds)	Flexible impact rounds deployed from 12-gauge shotguns for non-lethal incapacitation.	Provides officers with safe, non-lethal options to subdue resistive or dangerous subjects, reducing the need for deadly force.	Annual less-lethal certification required.
Command Vehicles	Marked police SUVs used by supervisors to oversee operations, transport critical gear, and coordinate incident response.	Provides on-scene command capability for tactical coordination and rapid deployment of personnel and resources.	Supervisors trained in ICS and tactical coordination.
Firearms Supplies	Includes optics, maintenance kits, and secure storage components for department-issued firearms.	Ensures safety, reliability, and serviceability of issued weapons.	Training includes safe storage and handling.

V. Summary of Equipment Use

Command vehicles are used daily by supervisors to direct field operations, transport personnel, and maintain readiness for emergencies.

Prior to this reporting period, the department did not separately track deployments of patrol rifles or less-lethal bean bag shotguns. To strengthen accountability and transparency, the department has **implemented a directive** requiring that all **deployments of patrol rifles and less-lethal bean bag shotguns be documented within the call-for-service record**.

VI. Summary of Outcomes

To date, **no patrol rifle or less-lethal bean bag shotgun** has been discharged outside of training. In each instance where this equipment was deployed in the field, its presence resulted in **de-escalation and peaceful resolution** without the need for firearm discharge.

This outcome reflects the department's emphasis on **measured, disciplined response** and its commitment to minimizing the use of force.

VII. Summary of Complaints

To date, the Santa Ana Unified School District Police Department has received **no complaints** related to the use, deployment, or possession of the equipment defined under this report.

VIII. Fiscal Impact

During the five-year reporting period, **no new military-defined equipment was purchased.** All expenditures are attributed to the purchase of duty ammunition, less-lethal munitions, and regular maintenance costs.

Category	FY 2021–22	FY 2022–23	FY 2023–24	FY 2024–25	FY 2025–26 (Projected)
Ammunition (.223/5.56)	17,000 Rds – \$8,419.00	8,000 Rds – \$4,418.00	12,200 Rds – \$6,215.80	12,500 Rds – \$7,035.00	0 – \$0
Less-Lethal (Bean Bag)	0 – \$0	150 – \$892.50	1,500 – \$9,035.00	0 – \$0	0 – \$0
Firearms Supplies	\$4,349.38	\$3,143.27	\$3,404.21	\$4,377.90	\$513.64
Vehicle Maintenance (Units #475, #506)	No Record	\$1,551.20	\$660.74	\$1,206.61	\$0

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IX. Governance, Oversight, and Accountability

The SAUSD Police Department maintains strict oversight over the use, deployment, and storage of all listed equipment through:

- **Annual Reporting:** Required by California Government Code §7072.
 - **Internal Review:** Supervisory review of all equipment deployments.
 - **Training Compliance:** Ongoing certification audits for qualified operators.
 - **Public Transparency:** Board of Education review and community posting of this report.
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X. Commitment to Transparency and Community Safety

The SAUSD Police Department remains steadfast in its mission to protect the Santa Ana Unified School District community with integrity, professionalism, and accountability.

This report reaffirms the department's **commitment to transparency**, responsible use of resources, and dedication to the **safety and trust** of the community it serves. Equipment designated under Government Code §7070 will continue to be reviewed annually to ensure necessity, compliance, and community confidence.

XI. Future Purchases and Procurement Plan

Current posture: The Santa Ana Unified School District Police Department does **not** plan to expand the total number of patrol rifles in service. Any replacement acquisitions of M4 patrol rifles will be strictly limited to the replacement of inoperable or unserviceable rifles. At present, three (3) department-issued patrol rifles have been identified as inoperable and will be replaced as necessary; these replacements are intended to maintain the current inventory level (no net increase).

Planned acquisitions (less-lethal focus):

To broaden and modernize the department's less-lethal options, SAUSD PD plans to procure additional less-lethal systems, specifically:

- Additional 12-gauge less-lethal shotguns (bean-bag capable), and
- Pepperball launchers/equipment (projectile impact irritant systems) to augment de-escalation options available to officers.

Rationale: The planned purchases prioritize tools that reduce the likelihood of lethal force and increase the department's ability to safely resolve confrontations. Expanding less-lethal capability supports the department's stated mission to preserve life while providing officers with intermediate force options that may reduce injury to suspects, students, staff, and officers.

Procurement, training, and oversight:

- All acquisitions will follow applicable district procurement policies, competitive bidding requirements where applicable, and state law.
- New equipment will be added to the department inventory and tracked under existing serial/asset control procedures.
- Any officer authorized to deploy new systems (e.g., pepper ball launchers) will receive documented training and annual certification before deployment. Training curricula and use-of-force policy updates related to new equipment will be completed prior to issuing or authorizing operational use.
- Any deployment of newly procured equipment will be documented in the call-for-service record and reviewed through existing supervisory and internal-audit processes.

Fiscal considerations and reporting:

- Purchases will be budgeted within future fiscal cycles. Costs associated with procurement, training, munitions, and maintenance will be recorded and disclosed in subsequent annual military equipment use reports and Board of Education notifications as required by California Government Code §7070–§7072.
- The department anticipates that planned purchases will be modest and targeted; no capital plan for large-scale expansion of “military equipment” is currently being pursued.

Community transparency:

SAUSD PD will continue to disclose planned acquisitions and provide the Board of Education and public with updates, including equipment purpose, quantities, training plans, and fiscal impacts, in a timely manner consistent with state law and district policy.

XII. Commitment to Transparency and Community Safety

The SAUSD Police Department remains steadfast in its mission to protect the Santa Ana Unified School District community with integrity, professionalism, and accountability.

This report reaffirms the department’s commitment to transparency, responsible use of resources, and dedication to the safety and trust of the community it serves. Equipment designated under Government Code §7070 will continue to be reviewed annually to ensure necessity, compliance, and community confidence.