

STOCKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER

**IMPACT PROJECTILE WEAPON SYSTEMS**  
**SUBJECT**

DATE: AUGUST 10, 2020

NO: Q-1m

FROM: CHIEF ERIC JONES

TO: ALL PERSONNEL

INDEX: REMINGTON 870 DEDICATED  
IMPACT PROJECTILE WEAPON SYSTEM  
40MM SINGLE LAUNCHER WEAPON SYSTEM

**I. POLICY**

It is the policy of the Stockton Police Department to utilize Impact Projectile Weapon Systems whenever sshould give a verbal warning, when feasible, before using force, whether lethal or less-lethal.

**II. DEFINITION OF TERMS**

- A. Impact Projectile Weapon Systems – Intermediate force options designed to resolve potentially dangerous situations by striking a subject with one or more flexible or non-flexible projectiles specifically designed to be fired from either 12-gauge or 40mm weapon systems, with the goal of gaining the subject’s compliance and the cessation of their hostile behavior. Use of an Impact Projectile Weapon System is not intended as a substitute for a firearm used exclusively for the application of lethal force.
- B. Impact Projectile Munitions – Those munitions specifically designed to be either hand delivered (in the case of sting ball grenades or diversionary devices), or fired from an Impact Projectile Weapon System (12-gauge and 40mm). Impact Projectile Munitions are not designed to inflict lethal injury; however, a potential exists that lethal injury can be inflicted as a result of their use.

**III. PROCEDURE**

A. Use of Impact Projectile Weapon Systems

- 1. Situations for the use of a Less Lethal Weapon System may include, but are not limited to:
  - a. To gain control over subjects that are armed, actively resisting, and appear violent or threaten significant aggressive action when such use can be accomplished with a reasonable degree of safety to collateral citizens and officers.

When there is reasonable cause to believe the subject presents a potentially-deadly threat to themselves, the public, or involved police officers, and other use of force options are not appropriate or cannot safely be deployed.

- (1) Examples: A subject threatening to light something on fire, or someone who is within reach of a weapon and takes action to arm themselves.

- b. To quell a civil disturbance which has become violent, and a serious threat of harm to the public exists.
- 2. Impact Projectile Weapons Systems are not intended to be used as substitutes for dealy force options. Where subjects are armed or believed to be armed with a firearm, officer safety concerns dictate extreme caution if the deployment of an Impact Projectile Weapon System is being considered.
- 3. Impact Projectile Weapon Systems and their designated Impact Projectile Munitions will only be used by personnel who have been trained, and who are currently qualified, in their use.
- 4. Only Impact Projectile Munitions approved by the Chief of Police will be used.

5. The decision to use Impact Projectile Munitions can be made by the Incident Commander, SWAT Team Commander, Acting SWAT Team Commander, Mobile Field Force Commander, Watch Commander, SWAT Sergeant, Mobile Field Force Sergeant, Patrol Sergeant, or personnel trained and qualified in the weapons' use.
6. Use of an Impact Projectile Weapon System and Impact Projectile Munitions can be lethal. Personnel shall consider this fact when aiming and using applicable weapons.
7. Any officer armed with an Impact Projectile System shall have a minimum of one officer designated to use lethal force, should the need arise. This officer will be designated by the supervisor or commander authorizing use of the Less Lethal Weapon System.

B. Medical Treatment

1. Any impact from an Impact Projectile Weapon System projectile requires immediate medical examination. Specific attention should be made to identify broken bones, internal bleeding, or organ damage. All other medical procedures for impact/blunt trauma injuries should be followed.

C. Investigation/Notification/Protocol

1. Photographs of any person struck with a round from an Impact Projectile Weapon System shall be taken. The flesh area struck will be visible in the photographs.
2. In the event Impact Projectile Weapon Systems are used, the Watch Commander and a Field Operations Captain will be notified immediately. The Field Operations Captain will notify:
  - a. The Deputy Chief of Field Operations
  - b. The Legal Advisor
  - c. If death or serious injury occurs, Protocol shall be invoked.

D. Training

1. All SWAT Team members, Mobile Field Force Team members, Patrol Supervisors, and other personnel designated by the Chief of Police, shall be trained in the use of the Impact Projectile Weapon System and their designated Impact Projectile Munitions.
2. Introductory training shall consist of:
  - a. The approved course material, to include classroom lecture and practical exercises covering Impact Projectile Weapon System and Impact Projectile Muniton design, operation, nomenclature, and applicable Stockton Police Department Policy.
  - b. At the completion of the introductory training session, and on a semi-annual basis, all assigned personnel must pass a live-fire practical firearm qualification on all applicable Impact Projectile Weapon Systems, with a minimum score of 70%.
  - c. In-service refresher training will be conducted on a semi-annual basis, and will consist of approved Impact Projectile course material, to include classroom lecture and practical exercises covering Less System and Impact Projectile Muniton design, operation, nomenclature, and applicable Stockton Police Department Policy.
  - d. At the completion of the in-service refresher training session, all assigned personnel must pass a live-fire practical firearm qualification on all applicable Impact Projectile Weapon Systems, with a minimum score of 70%.
  - e. Maintenance of the lesson plans for each training course will be conducted by qualified personnel (see subsection (h), below), and retained by the Department Rangemaster, to include attendance rosters.

- f. The Department Rangemaster shall ensure that all authorized personnel receive the necessary training in, and qualify with, all applicable Impact Projectile Weapon Systems and Impact Projectile Munitions.
  - g. Training instruction will be the responsibility of qualified personnel who have attained a California POST Firearms Instructor certification, as well as an Impact Projectile Weapon / Impact Munition Instructor certification.
- E. Storage and Maintenance of Impact Projectile Weapon Systems and Impact Projectile Munitions
- 1. Impact Projectile Weapon Systems and the dedicated Impact Projectile Munitions assigned to the SWAT Team will be stored at the discretion of the SWAT Commander.
  - 2. Impact Projectile Weapon Systems and the dedicated Impact Projectile Munitions assigned to the Mobile Field Force Team will be stored at the discretion of the Mobile Field Force Commander.
  - 3. Impact Projectile Weapon Systems and the dedicated Impact Projectile Munitions assigned to the Field Operations Division will be stored as follows:
    - a. Remington 870 shotguns dedicated to be used as Impact Projectile Weapon Systems, along with their dedicated Impact Projectile Munitions, will be stored in their designated equipment lockers. Any dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System needing to be withdrawn from service will be taken to the Range immediately. AT NO TIME will a dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System be stored in the lockers used to store Remington 870 shotguns designated for lethal force applications.
    - b. All Impact Projectile Weapon Systems, along with their dedicated Impact Projectile Munitions, assigned to the Field Operations Division will be stored at the discretion of the Field Operations Division Captain.
    - c. All Impact Projectile Weapon Systems will be maintained and inspected by Department personnel holding a current armorer certification for the specific Impact Projectile Weapon System.
    - d. An annual inspection will be conducted on each Impact Projectile Weapon System by Department personnel holding a current armorer certification for the specific Impact Projectile Weapon System.

IV. **LESS LETHAL WEAPON SYSTEMS**

- A. Dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System
- 1. Specifications:
    - a. Dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon Systems are Remington 870 12-gauge pump-action shotguns which have been repurposed for specific use as Impact Projectile Weapon Systems firing Impact Projectile Munitions. These weapons are equipped with bright orange colored stocks and forends, will be assigned to the vehicles of specific Patrol Supervisors, and will be loaded with approved and dedicated Impact Projectile Munitions.
    - b. Storage:
      - (1) When fielded, the dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System will be stored in its assigned vehicle's shotgun rack, with the weapon's safety engaged, action locked forward, an empty chamber, and its magazine tube loaded with four (4) rounds of Impact Projectile Munitions. The weapon's side mounted ammunition carrier will be loaded with an additional five (5) rounds of Impact Projectile Munitions. When not in its assigned patrol vehicle or at the Range for maintenance, the dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System will be stored in a compartmentalized and separate weapon rack in the Equipment

Room, separated from all Remington 870 weapons dedicated for lethal force applications.

- c. All applicable personnel will qualify on an annual basis with the dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System. Patrol Supervisors will also qualify on a semi-annual basis with Remington 870 shotguns dedicated for lethal force applications. Patrol Supervisors will not be issued lethal 12-gauge ammunition.
- d. Reserve 12-gauge Impact Projectile Munitions assigned to the Field Operations Division will be stored at the discretion of the Field Operations Division Captain, but will not be accessible to sworn personnel below the rank of Sergeant.
- e. Pre-Shift Inspection and Loading of the Dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System:
  - (1) With the weapon's safety engaged and its muzzle pointed into a loading barrel (or the safest possible direction), remove any Impact Projectile Munitions from the weapon's magazine well using the shell latches.
  - (2) Once all Impact Projectile Munitions have been removed from the weapon's magazine, press upward on the action lock on the left (when viewed from the rear) side of the weapon's trigger guard and pull the forend to the rear, opening the weapon's action.
  - (3) Physically and visually inspect the weapon and its magazine tube to ensure it is unloaded and void of any ammunition.
  - (4) Visually inspect the four (4) rounds removed from the magazine, and five (5) rounds in the weapon's side mounted ammunition carrier. Ensure all nine (9) rounds are Impact Projectile Munitions, and that they are in serviceable condition.
    - i. Any rounds of Impact Projectile Munitions needing replacement will be logged and secured in the dedicated area of the Equipment Room, and will be replaced with new ammunition. All Impact Projectile Munitions needing replacement due to lack of serviceability will be taken to the Range for training use.
  - (5) To load the weapon, ensure the weapon's safety is engaged and the muzzle is pointed into a loading barrel (or the safest possible direction).
  - (6) Push the weapon's forend forward, locking it into place and closing the weapon's action.
  - (7) Insert four (4) rounds into the weapon's magazine tube, and ensure the five (5) rounds loaded into the weapon's side mounted ammunition carrier are secure, as well.
- f. Post-Shift Inspection and Unloading of the Dedicated Remington 870 Less Lethal Impact Projectile Weapon System
  - (1) With the weapon's safety engaged and its muzzle pointed into a loading barrel (or the safest possible direction), unload the weapon's magazine tube using the shell latches.
  - (2) Once the weapon's magazine tube has been unloaded, open the weapon's action and conduct a physical and visual inspection of the weapon's chamber and magazine tube to ensure it is void of any ammunition.
  - (3) Conduct an inspection of the four (4) Impact Projectile Munitions removed from the magazine tube, and the five (5) Impact Projectile Munitions secured in the weapon's side-mounted ammunition carrier, to ensure they are in serviceable condition.

- (4) Ensure all ammunition is removed from the Dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System and its side mounted ammunition carrier.
  - (5) Secure the weapon in its assigned rack in the Equipment Room.
- g. Pre-Deployment Inspection of the Dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System
- (1) Prior to deployment, all measures should be taken to ensure the dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapons System is loaded with Impact Projectile Munitions. To do so:
    - i. With the weapon's safety engaged and muzzle pointed in the safest possible direction, ensure the weapon is unloaded by physically inspecting the weapon's chamber and magazine tube.
    - ii. Verify that all four (4) rounds removed from the magazine tube are, in fact, Impact Projectile Munitions, and are in serviceable condition.
    - iii. Verify that all five (5) rounds secured in the weapon's side mounted ammunition carrier are, in fact, Impact Projectile Munitions, and are in serviceable condition.
    - iv. Open the weapon's action and physically and visually inspect the weapon to ensure there are no other forms of ammunition present in the weapon prior to deployment.
    - v. Keeping the weapon's safety engaged and the muzzle pointed in the safest possible direction, close the weapon's action by pushing the forend forward and load the four (4) rounds of Impact Projectile Munitions into the weapon's magazine tube.
    - vi. Conduct a check of the person who will be using the dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System to ensure they do not possess any lethal 12-gauge ammunition prior to deployment.
    - vii. Assign an officer to provide lethal force cover for each officer deploying the Dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System.
- h. Deployment of the dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System
- (1) Advise all personnel on scene via radio that the dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System is being deployed. Use of the term "bean bag shotgun" is acceptable and encouraged for this purpose.
  - (2) Should personnel encounter a situation where they are required to fire Impact Projectile Munitions at a subject, they should take every possible action to avoid striking the following areas:
    - i. Head
    - ii. Neck
    - iii. Heart
    - iv. Spine
    - v. Groin
  - (3) Prior to firing, personnel designated to use the dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System should, where feasible, repeatedly yell, "Bean Bag, Bean Bag, Bean Bag," either prior to or while firing the weapon. In doing so, other personnel on scene will be aware of the fact that an Impact Projectile Weapon System is being fired, not a lethal weapon, thus decreasing the possibility of personnel firing unnecessarily.

- (4) When possible, the deployment of multiple Impact Projectile Weapon Systems assigned to personnel with overlapping areas of responsibility is encouraged, so long as lethal force cover can be afforded to personnel deploying the Impact Projectile Weapon System, and only when every action has been taken to ensure the Impact Projectile Weapon Systems are used within their performance thresholds.

i. Post-Deployment of the Dedicated Remington 870 Impact Projectile Weapon System

- (1) When the situation has stabilized and it is safe to do so, ensure the weapon's safety is engaged and its muzzle is pointed in the safest possible direction.
- (2) Using the weapon's shell latches, remove all Impact Projectile Munitions from the weapon's magazine tube.
- (3) Open the weapon's action and physically and visually inspect the weapon to ensure there is no ammunition in the weapon's chamber.
  - i. If there is a round loaded into the weapon's chamber, remove it safely.
- (4) Conduct a visual inspection of all remaining Impact Projectile Munitions to ensure their serviceability.
- (5) If no Less Lethal Impact Projectile Munitions were fired, reload the weapon's magazine tube, with the action closed, chamber empty, and weapon on safe. Ensure four (4) rounds of Impact Projectile Munitions are loaded into the magazine tube, and five (5) rounds of Impact Projectile Munitions are loaded into the weapon's side-mounted ammunition carrier.
  - i. If Impact Projectile Munitions were fired, the weapon needs to be dead lined and sent to the Range for maintenance. The discharge of Impact Projectile Munitions will be reported in accordance with General Order Q-1n (Use of Firearms).

C. 40mm Impact Projectile Weapon System

1. Specifications:

- a. The 40mm Impact Projectile Weapon System is a single-shot weapon with a barrel length of 12" or 14", and a trigger capable of being fired in both single and double-action.

2. Storage:

- a. All 40mm Less Lethal Impact Projectile Weapon Systems will be stored at the discretion of their assigned Unit Commander (i.e. SWAT Commander or Mobile Field Force Commander).

3. Pre-Deployment Inspection of the 40mm Impact Projectile Weapon System and Less Lethal Munitions

- a. With the weapon's muzzle pointed into a loading barrel (or in the safest possible direction), open the weapon's action.
- b. Conduct a physical and visual inspection of the weapon's barrel to ensure it is void of any Impact Projectile Munitions.
- c. Conduct a visual inspection of the assigned ammunition, to ensure it is of the proper type for the intended application, as well as to ensure that it is in a serviceable condition.

- d. Load as appropriate and in accordance with the established doctrine and practices of the SWAT Team or Mobile Field Force Team, and/or in accordance with orders from a SWAT Team or Mobile Field Force Team supervisor.
4. Deployment of the 40mm Less Lethal Impact Projectile Weapon System
- a. Assign an officer to provide lethal force cover for each officer deploying the 40mm Impact Projectile Weapon System.
  - b. Advise all personnel on scene via radio that the 40mm Impact Projectile Weapon System is being deployed. Use of the term "Impact Projectile 40 millimeter" is acceptable and encouraged for this purpose.
  - c. Should personnel encounter a situation where they are required to fire Less Lethal Munitions at a subject, they should take every possible action to avoid striking the following areas:
    - (1) Head
    - (2) Neck
    - (3) Heart
    - (4) Spine
    - (5) Groin
  - d. Prior to firing, personnel designated to use the 40mm Less Lethal Weapon System should, where feasible, repeatedly yell, "Impact Weapon, Impact Weapon, Impact Weapon," either prior to or while firing the weapon. In doing so, other personnel on scene will be aware of the fact that an Impact Projectile Weapon System is being fired, not a lethal weapon, thus decreasing the possibility of personnel firing unnecessarily.
  - e. When possible, the deployment of multiple Less Lethal Impact Projectile Weapon Systems assigned to personnel with overlapping areas of responsibility is encouraged, so long as lethal force cover can be afforded to personnel deploying the Impact Projectile Weapon System, and only when every action has been taken to ensure the Impact Projectile Weapon Systems are used within their performance thresholds.
5. Post-Deployment Inspection of the 40mm Impact Projectile Weapon System and Less Lethal Munitions
- a. Ensure the weapon's muzzle is pointed in the safest possible direction and open the weapon's action.
  - b. Remove any Impact Projectile Munitions from the weapon's barrel.
  - c. Visually inspect the weapon's barrel to ensure it is clear of any Impact Projectile Munitions.
  - d. Conduct an inspection of any Less Lethal Munitions removed from the weapon's barrel, as well as any additional Less Lethal Muniton, to ensure they are serviceable and in good condition.
  - e. Secure the weapon in accordance with the established doctrine and practices of the SWAT Team or Mobile Field Force Team.

**V. DISCHARGE OF IMPACT PROJECTILE WEAPONS**

- A. The reporting procedure for the discharge of all Impact Projectile Weapon Systems is governed by General Order Q-1n (Use of Firearms).