

# Monterey County District Attorney's Office



Military Equipment Use Policy

November 2023

# AB 481



- Assembly Bill 481 was authored to address the funding, acquisition and use of military equipment by law enforcement.
- It requires Law Enforcement agencies to obtain the approval of this Board of its military equipment use policy through adoption of the policy by ordinance.

# AB 481



- The Policy must be posted on its website for 30 days prior to introduction and adoption of the ordinance.
- AB 481 also requires agencies submit annual reports to this Board regarding the use of the equipment, any complaints received, and other similar information.

# AB 481



- The governing body shall only approve a military equipment use policy pursuant to this chapter if it determines all of the following:
  - (A) The military equipment is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
  - (B) The proposed military equipment use policy will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties.
  - (C) If purchasing the equipment, the equipment is reasonably cost effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
  - (D) Prior military equipment use complied with the military equipment use policy that was in effect at the time, or if prior uses did not comply with the accompanying military equipment use policy, corrective action has been taken to remedy nonconforming uses and ensure future compliance.

# Equipment Covered in Policy



- Drones/UAVs
- Rifles

# Drones and Robots



- Currently have 1 drone
- This is a consumer-level, publicly available device
- Used by Investigators for
  - Crime scene mapping and aerial photography
  - Search warrant overwatch
- Devices are:
  - Skydio 2



# Patrol Rifles



- Currently have 8 Colt M4 Rifles
  - Rifles provide stable, accurate shooting platform required to safeguard bystanders and officers in the event of a shooting.
  - Used by investigators during high-risk events such as search warrant service, response to active shooter events
  - Events where suspect has or is expected to have firearms, a hostage, body armor or other threats



# Controlling Polices



- Lexipol 203 – Training
- Lexipol 300 – Use of Force
- Lexipol 304 – Firearms
- Lexipol 306 – Investigator Response to Calls
- Lexipol 605 – Unmanned Aerial System Operations
- Lexipol 1010 – Personnel Complaints
- Lexipol 705 – Military Equipment Use Policy



# Questions or Complaints regarding Equipment

- Lexipol 1010 – Personnel Complaints governs responding to complaints received from the community.
  - These will be tracked and included in the annual report



# Annual Report



- The annual report will be submitted to the Board in November of 2023 and published on the District Attorney's website and social media sites.
- Within 30 days of submitting and publicly releasing the annual report, the Bureau shall hold at least one well-publicized and conveniently located community engagement meeting, at which the Bureau should discuss the report and respond to public questions regarding the funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment. This will be via social media on our public-facing sites.