



City of Ridgecrest
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DEPARTMENT

AB 481 Annual Military Equipment Use Report - 2024

Presented by: Chief of Police Mario Ysit



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Purpose of AB 481

- Enhance transparency in funding, acquisition, and use of military equipment by law enforcement.
- Requires a governing body approval and community engagement.
- Enacted through California Government Code Sections 7070-7075.



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Community Engagement Requirement

- Annual report must be posted on the department website
- Community meeting required within 30 days of report submission
- Public Q&A regarding use and policies of military equipment



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Definition of Military Equipment

- Includes items not traditionally associated with the military.
- Examples: Unmanned vehicles, armored rescue vehicles, command/control vehicles, pepper balls, less lethal shotguns, etc.



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Ridgecrest PD Equipment Categories

- RPD Equipment falls under 6 of 15 AB 481 categories:
- Category 1: UAVs
- Category 2: Armored Vehicles
- Category 5: Command & Control Vehicles
- Category 10: Specialized Firearms & Ammunition
- Category 12: Diversionary Devices & Chemical Agents
- Category 14: Kinetic Energy Weapons



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Key Deployments in 2024



BEARCAT ARV: 17
deployments:
9 for WST operations, 2
in mutual aid, 8 for
community events

LSDDs (Flashbangs): 16
deployments:
8 operational, 8 training

Less Lethal Shotguns: 30
converted, 150 rounds
used in training



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Firearms and Ammunition

- AR-15 patrol rifles issued to each officer.
- All officers trained under California POST standards.
- 15,000 rounds of .223 ammunition used in 2024 for training.



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Command and Control Vehicles

- • 2007 Weekend Warrior 5th Wheel Trailer (Command Post)
- • 2023 Toyota Tundra 4WD (Dual-use Detective & Critical Incident)



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Less Lethal Equipment

- 40mm, Remington 870s
- Multiple projectile types: Sponge rounds, rubber balls, pepper balls, CS/OC gas
- Used in tactical operations and crowd control



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Inventory Cost Summary

- BEARCAT ARV: FY23 Purchase – Yearly Maintenance - \$500.00
- Converted Shotguns: \$13,290
- Ammunition: \$7,000
- Less Lethal Ammunition: \$1,620.00
- LSDDs - \$4,300.00
- Chemical Agents: Non purchased in 2024
- Interior Drone x 2 - \$4200.00



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Moving Forward Into...2025



- Purchase of Exterior Drone's
Cost: \$22,000
- Upgrade of patrol rifle to
Troy Industries PDWs via
trade of old inventory
Cost: \$94,000



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City Council Actions Required

- Approval from City Council for the continued use of equipment per AB 481



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Community Input and Discussion