

## **SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT ORDER**

**DATE/TIME:** OCTOBER 3, 2024 1335 HOURS  
**NUMBER:** OR 24-32  
**SUBJECT:** APPROVED PATROL DUTY HOLSTERS  
**SCOPE:** ALL MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT  
**DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE AFFECTED:** 1.05, 5.10

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**Portions of this document are deemed by the San Diego Police Department to be exempt from public disclosure because the public interest served by not disclosing the information clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosure, pursuant to California Government Code section 7922.000.**

This Department Order outlines approved duty holsters for Patrol Officers and Supervisors.

Effective immediately, the only authorized manufacturers of duty holsters for Patrol Officers and Supervisors are Safariland and Blackhawk.

### **Safariland approved models:**

- Safariland ALS holster – light bearing or non-light bearing
- Safariland SLS holster – light bearing or non-light bearing
- Safariland ALS / SLS holster – light bearing or non-light bearing

Safariland ALS and SLS holster examples:



### **Blackhawk approved models:**

- Blackhawk “T-Series” L2D – light bearing or non-light bearing
- Blackhawk “T-Series” L3D – light bearing or non-light bearing

Blackhawk “T-Series” holster examples:



**NOTHING may be attached to the patrol duty holster, i.e.: tourniquets / tourniquet cradles, cord-cuff restraints, etc. The holster shall not be modified with a combination of parts from different manufacturers. Officers who have a combination of an original duty holster and aftermarket accessories, i.e.: Safariland and G-Code, Blackhawk and Blade Tech, etc., shall immediately return their gear to original factory condition.**

Devices that allow the holster to be lowered, offset, or quickly detached and fastened to another mounting system are allowed if the device comes from the original holster manufacturer, and is specific to that holster. An example of such a device is the Safariland “Quick Locking System”, or QLS.

Modifications to original manufacturer designed equipment are not authorized. If there is any doubt as to whether a particular item meets Departmental specifications, or if a member wishes to recommend any modifications or additions to uniform apparel or equipment, they must first obtain approval of the Uniform Safety and Equipment Committee, which will obtain subsequent approval from the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

**Blackhawk “SERPA” model holsters for Patrol Officers, Detectives and Supervisors are no longer authorized.** The Firearms Training Unit has determined that the Blackhawk SERPA holster, and **ALL** auto-locking, trigger finger manipulated holsters are not approved for usage by Department personnel. These holsters are inconsistent with sound weapon manipulation practices and may increase the likelihood of a negligent discharge. **Officers, Detectives and Supervisors who currently possess a Blackhawk SERPA patrol holster, or a Blackhawk SERPA concealment holster, must replace it by December 31, 2024.**



SERPA “concealment”



SERPA duty holster

Other styles of Patrol duty holsters still in use such as the Safariland model 070 SSIII, Safariland “Top Gun”, and the Bianchi “AccuMold” series, may continue to be utilized as long as the holster is in good operational condition. The holster must be replaced once cracks, tears, or other obvious signs of extreme wear become apparent.

Officers and Supervisors who deploy a light bearing holster shall not use the holster without a light attached to their firearm, as doing so reduces the weapon retention capabilities of the holster and is an officer safety issue.

**Shoulder holsters and cross-draw type holsters are not authorized.**

Many holster options exist for investigative, non-uniformed assignments and off-duty carry; leather, formed nylon and Kydex are all acceptable materials.

**Supervisors shall ensure personnel are not deploying with unauthorized, or modified equipment while conducting the monthly firearm inspection.**

Department Procedures 1.05 and 5.10 will be amended to reflect this change.

If there are any questions regarding this Department Order, contact the Rangemaster, (**Redacted – record exempt**)

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Please read at squad conferences and give a copy to all personnel.