



CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE REPORT

January 1, 2025-December 31, 2025



Chief Billy Aldridge

1460 Humboldt Rd

Chico, CA 95928

<https://chico.ca.us/police-department>



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Background

On September 30, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481), on the acquisition and use of military equipment. This bill is codified in law under California Government Code Section 7070-7075 and establishes specific requirements of law enforcement agencies that seek to acquire, fund, or use equipment that the law has identified as “military equipment.”

Law enforcement agencies are required to obtain approval of the applicable governing body (City Council), by adopting a military equipment use policy. The Department is required to seek City Council approval of their military equipment use procedure by ordinance at a regular open meeting prior to taking certain actions relating to the funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment, as defined.

The ordinance is subject to the annual City Council review to determine whether, based on an annual military equipment use report, the standards set forth in the approving ordinance have been met. The City Council may renew the authorizing ordinance, disapprove authorization for particular military equipment where standards have not been met, or require modifications to the military equipment use policy to address any non-compliance with standards.

The law also requires publication of the military equipment use policy and the annual military equipment use report on the Department’s website. The military equipment use policy must be posted on the Department’s website at least 30 days prior to the Council meeting where the policy will be considered.

Introduction

As required by Government Code 7072, City Ordinance and Chico Police Department Policy 709, the Chico Police Department must prepare an annual report on the use of each type of military equipment approved in the Policy over the last year.

This Annual Military Equipment Use Report outlines a summary of military equipment usage guidelines, inventory, fiscal impact, complaints, and reported concerns from **January 1, 2025-December 31, 2025.**



Executive Summary

With the year 2025 complete, the Chico Police Department has prepared its statutorily mandated report on our use of Military Equipment. This equipment is vital to executing our goal of resolving incidents as safely as possible, ensuring safe outcomes for the public, officers, and those suspected of criminal activity. The listed equipment is designated “military equipment” because it is so defined in Government Code section 7070. It does not mean that this equipment is necessarily used by the military or made for military use. Most of the equipment that falls under this definition is commercially available equipment specifically designed for law enforcement or civilian use.

In 2025, the Chico Police Department deployed “military equipment” in 154 incidents; the overwhelming majority of these were deployments of our unmanned aerial vehicles (drones). New Federal regulations will require a transition to American-made drones. Moving forward, the Department will replace end-of-life, damaged, or malfunctioning drones with American-made equipment. The first of these was purchased in 2025 after one of our drones crashed during a training exercise and required replacement.

This past year, we also worked to resolve some of the findings of the inspections made in 2024. Training was provided to managers, supervisors, and line-level staff who work with military equipment on reporting, acquisition requirements, and proper inventory practices. Reporting processes were established, and inspections were conducted to ensure accurate reporting and accounting of the equipment and its use.

Again, as in years past, the Chico Police Department did not acquire any equipment from the military through the Defense Logistics Agency’s Law Enforcement Support Officer (LESO) 1033 program.

Last year, we sought and received approval for additions to our inventory of military equipment. However, funding was not approved for all equipment, and we will seek approval for some of that equipment this year. We will also seek approval for adding inventory to other equipment for maintenance and growth needs.

The goal for having this equipment available to the Police Department remains the same: to resolve situations as safely as possible and, when needing to use force, to have the ability to do so in the safest way possible while exercising respect for human rights, human dignity, and the sanctity of every human life.



Summary and Quantity of Military Equipment

The following constitutes a list of military equipment possessed by the Department according to equipment type during calendar year 2025:

1. Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial or ground vehicles (UAS/Drones/Robots)
(Quantity: 20 drones /2 robots /4 remote control cars)
2. Armored personnel carriers/vehicles
(Quantity: 1)
3. High Mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles (HMMWV), commonly referred to as Humvees
(Quantity: 0)
4. Tracked armored vehicles that provide ballistic protection
(Quantity: 0)
5. Command and control vehicles that are either built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units
(Quantity: 0)
6. Weaponized aircraft, vessels, or vehicles of any kind
(Quantity: 0)
7. Battering rams, slugs, and breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature(not including items designed to remove a lock, or a handheld ram designed to be operated by one person
(Quantity: 2)
8. Firearms of .50 caliber or greater (not including standard issue shotguns)
(Quantity: 0)
9. Ammunition of .50 caliber or greater (not including standard issue shotgun ammunition)
(Quantity: 0)
10. Specialized firearms and ammunition of less than .50 caliber, including assault weapons as defined in Sec 30510 and 30515 of the Penal Code (not including standard issue service weapons and ammunition of less than .50 caliber that are issued to officers, agents, or other LEA personnel)
(Firearms: 80)
(Ammunition: Consumable item)



Summary and Quantity of Military Equipment (Continued)

11. Any firearm or firearm accessory that is designed to launch explosive projectiles
(Quantity: 4)

12. "Flashbang" grenades and explosive breaching tools, "tear gas" and "pepper balls",
excluding standard, service-issued handheld pepper spray
(Consumable item)

13. Taser shockwave, microwave weapons, water cannons, and the Long Range Acoustic
Device (LRAD)
(Quantity: 1)

14. Projectile launch platforms and their associated munition: 40mm projectile launchers,
"bean bag", rubber bullet, and specialty impact munition (SIM) weapons
(Quantity: 55)
(Munitions: Consumable Item)

15. Any other equipment as determined by a governing body or a state agency to require
additional oversight.
(Quantity: 0)



Military Equipment Use

This section outlines the military equipment usage for January 2025 - December 2025 by Chico Police Department. Certain items of military equipment, particularly consumables (ammunition, diversionary devices, pepper balls, chemical agents, etc.) are used throughout the year on a regular basis for training in order to maintain proficiency. Training usage is NOT captured in this section. This section only provides data for the OPERATIONAL USE of military equipment listed within this annual report. The mere possession of the equipment does not warrant its use for every incident. The following is the data for military equipment usage by category for this reporting period:

1. Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial or ground vehicles (UAS/Drones/Robots)

A) Unmanned Aerial Systems, also commonly referred to as "drones" were utilized a total of **439** times during this reporting period.

Authorized uses (drones):

- Collection of evidence in the form of aerial photography/video in support of an investigation (i.e., shooting scenes, homicide scenes.)
- Support of SWAT and Patrol during high risk, tactical or other public safety life-preservation missions (i.e., interior visual assessments of structures or outdoor areas to gain intelligence prior to officers entering a dwelling or contacting a potentially armed, or resistive subject that may be hiding).
- Conduct aerial searches for missing persons.
- Provide aerial observation to assist in managing natural disasters (i.e., fires, floods).
- Response to report of an armed subject.

B) Remotely piloted ground vehicle, also commonly referred to as "robots" were utilized a total of **4** times during this reporting period.

Authorized uses (robots):

- Response to report of an armed subject

2. Armored personnel carrier/vehicle (BearCat G2)

The Bearcat G2 (armored vehicle) was utilized a total of **6** times during this reporting period.

Authorized uses:

- Service of a high risk search warrant
- Response to report of an armed subject
- Apprehension of barricaded subject



10. Specialized firearms and ammunition of less than .50 caliber, including assault weapons as defined in Sec 30510 and 30515 of the Penal Code (not including standard issue service weapons and ammunition of less than .50 caliber that are issued to officers, agents, or other LEA personnel)

Specialized firearms and ammunition less than .50 caliber were utilized a total of **27** times during this reporting period.

Authorized uses:

- Search for wanted subjects
- Apprehension of armed subject

12. "Flashbang" grenades and explosive breaching tools, "tear gas" and "pepper balls", excluding standard, service-issued handheld pepper spray

A) Non-Flammable Distraction/Diversionsary Device ("Flashbangs") were utilized a total of **12** times during this reporting period.

Authorized uses:

- High-Risk Search Warrant
- Rescue Operations

B) Pepperballs were utilized a total of **41** times during this reporting period.

Authorized uses:

- Barricaded Arrestable Subject



13. Taser shockwave, microwave weapons, water cannons, and the Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD)

The Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD) was utilized a total of **2** times during this reporting period.

Authorized uses:

- Service of a high-risk search warrant

14. Projectile launch platforms and their associated munition: 40mm projectile launchers, "bean bag", rubber bullet, and specialty impact munition (SIM) weapons

37mm/40mm less lethal launchers were utilized a total of **1** time during this reporting period.

Authorized uses:

- Response to the report of an armed subject

Less-lethal shotgun bean bag rounds were used **7** times.

Authorized uses:

- Response to the report of an armed subject
- Apprehension of an armed barricaded subject



Summary of Complaints or Concerns

Chico Police Department is committed to responding to complaints, concerns and/or questions received through any of the above methods in a timely manner.

There were 0 formal complaints, or officer involved shootings related to the use of military equipment as investigated by Chico Police Department's Professional Standards Unit during this reporting period.

Pursuant to California Government Code §7070(d){7}, members of the public may register complaints or concerns or submit questions about the use of each specific type of military equipment in this policy by any of the following means:

1. Via email to: internalaffairs@chicoca.gov
2. Via phone call to: 530-897-5851
3. Via mail sent to: Chico Police Department - Professional Standards Unit, 1460 Humboldt Rd, Chico, CA 95928



Internal Inspections, Policy Violations, and Reponses

Inspections were conducted, including inventory checks, in person checks and a review of acquisitions of military equipment, pursuant to Chico Police Department policy.

Improved processes have resulted in more accurate reporting and inventory documentation.

Discrepancies or changes from last year are noted below.

Equipment Inspected: Unmanned Aerial Systems

Results:

- The UAS Team purchased and acquired the approved proposed acquisitions presented in 2024. Specifically, a third DJI Matrice M30T drone and (2) DJI Neo drones, the acquisitions are reflected in the inventories reported.
- Subsequently, one of the (3) DJI Matrice drones was damaged beyond repair when it crashed during a training flight. The UAS Team is in the process of replacing the drone. This replacement will keep the inventory at the approved inventory of (3) of these drones. However, the Skidio X10 will replace the damaged DJI Matrice. The X10 is the most comparable drone to the DJI Matrice, which is also USA-made and approved for Government use. The DJI Matrice is a Chinese-made product, and Federal Regulations have prohibited the future use of Chinese-made products. Due to these regulatory changes, we will look to American-made products for the replacement of current inventory.

Action Taken:

- The additional equipment has been documented in the new inventory.

Equipment Inspected: 37mm/40mm Launchers and Munitions

Results:

- A Defense Technology 40mm 4 Tactical Shot Launcher- An additional launcher was approved in 2024 as a proposed acquisition in 2025. This launcher was purchased.

Action Taken:

- The additional launcher was documented in the new inventory.



Internal Inspections, Policy Violations, and Reponses (Continued)

Equipment Inspected: Rifles and Munitions

Results:

- Sionics SAR-15 Patrol Rifle- In 2024, the Department was approved for the purchase of 15 additional rifles. However, funding was only available for the purchase of one additional rifle.
- Master Piece Arms MPA LE/BA- In 2024, the Department was approved for the purchase of (2) of these rifles to replace existing aging rifles. Due to changes in cost, only one Master Piece Arms rifle was purchased. The two aging rifles (Remington 700) are being kept in inventory until funding is available for the second MPA precision rifle.

Action Taken:

- Changes documented in new inventory.

Equipment Inspected: Robots

Results:

- Boston Dynamics Agile Mobile Robot-The Department obtained approval to explore potential costs and funding sources (grants) to determine the feasibility of obtaining a Boston Dynamics Agile Mobile Robot (Spot-dog robot). Due to the associated costs of maintaining and operating the robot, the project was abandoned.

Actions Taken:

- Project abandoned.



Internal Inspections, Policy Violations, and Reponses (Continued)

Equipment Inspected:

NFDD (Flashbangs), Explosive Breaching Tools, "Tear Gas" and "PepperBall" Launchers and Munitions

Results:

- PepperBall Launchers, NFDDs, Tear Gas, and Pepperball munitions - Previous Inventory and Quantity reporting were snapshots of a moment in time, inspections. To more closely align with the intent of the report, moving forward, these Consumables will be reported as the Quantities Sought. These quantities will be reported in the inventory section of the Policy. These quantities will reflect the total quantities desired for the Department's training and operational needs.

Actions taken:

- Quantities sought detailed in Inventory section of the Military Equipment Use Policy.



Fiscal Impact

The following details the fiscal impact of military equipment as it pertains to acquisition, maintenance and other ongoing costs, for calendar year 2025. Additionally, the funding source for those funds is identified. None of this equipment has personnel assigned to it full-time. Use of this equipment is part of the ancillary duties for specific personnel, as such personnel costs are not included in these figures. Associated training costs are detailed separately within this report.

Military Equipment by Category - Calendar Year 2025

| | Category | 2025 Purchases and Ongoing Maintenance | 2025 Capital Projects for Future Replacement | Funding Source |
|----|---|--|--|--|
| 1 | Unmanned, Remotely Piloted, Powered Aerial or Ground Vehicles | \$23,476 | \$25,750 | Fund 001 - General Fund Fund 934 - Prefunding Equipment Fund 005 - Measure H |
| 2 | Vehicles or Armored Personnel Carriers - Bearcat | \$0 | \$0 | Fund 001 - General Fund |
| 3 | High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (Humvee) | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 4 | Tracked Armored Vehicles | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 5 | Command and Control Vehicles | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 6 | Weaponized Aircraft, Vessels, or Vehicles | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 7 | Battering Rams, Slugs, and Explosive Breaching Apparatuses | \$0 | \$0 | Fund 001 - General Fund |
| 8 | Firearms of .50 Caliber or Greater, Excluding Standard Issue Shotguns | \$0 | \$0 | Fund 001 - General Fund |
| 9 | Ammunition of .50 Caliber or Greater, Excluding Standard Issue Shotgun Ammunition | \$0 | \$0 | Fund 001 - General Fund |
| 10 | Specialized Firearms and Ammunition of Less Than .50 Caliber, Excluding Standard Issue Service Weapons and Ammunition | \$17,155 | \$0 | Fund 001 - General Fund |
| 11 | Firearm or Accessory to Launch Explosive Projectiles | \$0 | \$0 | Fund 001 - General Fund |
| 12 | Flashbang Grenades, Tear Gas, and Pepperballs, Excluding Standard Issue Handheld Pepper Spray | \$0 | \$0 | Fund 001 - General Fund |
| 13 | Taser Shockwave, Microwave Weapons, Water Cannons, and Long Range Acoustic Devices (LRAD) | \$0 | \$0 | Fund 001 - General Fund |
| 14 | 40MM Projectile Launchers, Bean Bag, Rubber Bullet and Specialty Impact Munition (SIM) Weapons | \$4,658 | \$0 | Fund 001 - General Fund |
| | TOTAL | \$45,289 | \$25,750 | |



Training Summary

The safe and proficient use of military equipment requires countless hours of initial and on-going training as well as required certifications. Most training for department personnel is conducted internally by department personnel to ensure adherence to law and policy. There are times when department personnel are sent to external training courses to enhance and supplement internal trainings and to obtain trainer certifications. Consumable and non-consumable equipment are used during training to ensure proficiency and competency during real-life emergencies.

The following is a breakdown of training costs associated with authorized military equipment. The personnel cost of training is captured in the department's general operating budget to include line-items in the Training Unit budget as well as individual department units who train to utilize authorized military equipment.

| Course Name | Number of Employees | Total Cost |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| MMBTH* Breacher | 2 | \$3170 |
| Less Lethal Instructor | 2 | \$896 |
| Rifle Marksmanship & Sniper | 1 | \$860 |
| SWAT Training | 1 | \$715 |
| Pepperball Armorer | 2 | \$1130 |
| SWAT Team Leader | 1 | \$690 |

***Manual, Mechanical, Ballistic, Thermal, and Hydraulic**



Projected Acquisitions for 2026

While some purchases and acquisitions can be anticipated, the unanticipated replacement of existing military equipment may be necessary due to damage beyond that of repair. Replacement of these items will be handled on a case-by-case basis, dependent on operational and departmental need, and will be in accordance with department policy and Government Code 7071.

Categories of consumables are as follows:

- Ammunition- all calibers
- Diversionary Devices
- Chemical Agents
- Specialty Munitions (40mm and Less Lethal Munitions)
- Pepperball projectiles

Non-consumable Military Equipment

Request for acquisition of non-consumable Military Equipment:

| Equipment | Quantity |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Skydio X10 Unmanned Aerial System | 3 |
| Pepperball FTC Pro Launcher | 6 |
| Police Patrol Rifles | 7 |
| Incident Command Vehicles | 3 |



CONCLUSION

This Annual Military Equipment Use Report is intended to adhere to the law and CPD policy and demonstrate our commitment to transparency by providing information to our community and elected officials. The equipment, resources, and training outlined in this report advance Chico Police Officers' efforts to protect our community and enhance the safety of our officers. We believe that responsible use of the equipment described in this report enhances our ability to deliver the highest level of professional, efficient and effective service when faced with critical incidents requiring a thoughtful law enforcement response.

General Contact information:

Office of Professional Standards

1. Via email to: internalaffairs@chicoca.gov
2. Via phone call to: 530-897-5851

For more information on CPD Military Equipment visit:

<https://chico.ca.us/documents/City-Services/Public-Safety/Police-Department/Annual-Military-Equipment-Use-Report>