




		TITLE <b>Authorized Firearms</b>	
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## 10.4.1 Authorized Firearms

### 10.4.1.1 Policy

It is the policy of the Attleboro Police Department that only Attleboro Police Department issued firearms and ammunition, or firearms specifically authorized by the Chief of Police, be used for on-duty purposes by all certified personnel employed by the Attleboro Police Department.

Civilian personnel are prohibited from possessing non-issued firearms, regardless of any permit, at any time they are performing duties associated with their employment, unless authorized by the Chief of Police.

Officers will carry on-duty, including road jobs and details, only firearms that have been issued by the Department or approved by the Chief of Police.

Officers may not use or carry personal firearms on-duty, unless authorized by the Chief of Police.

Department firearms are issued equipment for which each Officer is ultimately responsible. Officers will never loan the weapon or allow it to be used by unauthorized persons.

### 10.4.1.2 Certification

Officers shall demonstrate proficiency with authorized weapons:

- By achieving minimum qualifying scores on a course prescribed by the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council
- Attaining and demonstrating a knowledge of the laws concerning the use of authorized weapons and knowledge of the Attleboro Police Department's policy on the Use of Force, Less than Lethal force and Deadly Force, and
- Are familiar with recognized safe-handling procedures for the use of these weapons.

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## 10.4.1 Authorized Firearms, Continued

### 10.4.1.3 In this section

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### 10.4.1.4 Firearms License

All police officers are required to have an active License to Carry (LTC) issued under M.G.L. c 140 § 131, unless otherwise authorized by the Chief of Police.

### 10.4.1.5 Authorized Firearms

The following firearms are authorized by the Chief of Police and may be carried while in the status indicated to the right of the authorized weapon.

<b>Authorized Weapons</b>	<b>Duty Status</b>
Glock Model 17 semiautomatic pistol (9mm) Glock Model 21 semiautomatic pistol (.45cal) Glock Model 22 semiautomatic pistol (.40mm) Glock Model 30 semiautomatic pistol (.45 compact)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On-duty</li><li>• Off-duty</li><li>• Road Jobs</li></ul>
Colt AR-15 rifles (.223).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On-duty</li></ul>
Smith and Wesson M & P 15T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On-duty</li></ul>
Bushmaster AR15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On-duty</li></ul>
Any other specific tactical rifle(s) expressly approved by the Chief of Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On-duty</li></ul>

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## 10.4.1 Authorized Firearms, Continued

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### 10.4.1.6 Authorized Ammunition

The following ammunition is authorized to be used with the applicable firearms:

Authorized Ammunition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Winchester Ammo 223 REM 64 GR Ranger Power-Point (Hollow Point)</li><li>• Winchester 45 Automatic +P 230 gr. Ranger T-Series (Hollow Point)</li><li>• Winchester 9mm Luger + P 124 gr. Ranger T-Series (Hollow Point)</li><li>• Winchester 40 cal 180 gr. Ranger T-Series (Hollow Point)</li><li>• Federal .223 629 Bonded SP</li><li>• Federal 40 cal 165g tactical HP</li><li>• Federal .223 699 BTHP match</li><li>• Winchester .223 cal 55 gr FMJ</li><li>• Winchester .223 cal 65 gr jacketed soft point</li><li>• Federal .308 cal. 168 gr JHP [match]</li><li>• Winchester .223 cal 65 gr tactical round</li></ul>

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### 10.4.1.7 Personal Ammunition

Personal ammunition is not authorized to be used or carried on-duty with any Department Firearm, unless authorized by the Chief of Police. Officers are allowed to use personal ammunition if they are practice shooting at the range.

**Lead ammo is not to be used in any Department Glock firearm. Only jacketed ammo is authorized. Glocks have polygonal rifling, and lead bullets (bullets without a jacket) will cause serious problems.**

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### 10.4.1.8 Off-Duty Carrying Department Firearms

Officers may carry Department issued firearms off-duty, but it is not mandatory. If officers carry Department firearms off-duty they shall:

1. have on their person their Department Police Identification Card issued by the current police chief; unless otherwise authorized by the Chief of Police.

Badge: It is recommended that officers have a police badge while carrying the firearm, but it is not required.

LTC: It is recommended that officers have their LTC while carrying the firearm, but it is not required.

Impairment: Members are forbidden to use police authority or carry firearms when they are impaired, by any reason that would impact their judgment and performance.

Alcohol: Officers shall not consume alcohol or be under the influence of illegal drugs while carrying a firearm off duty.

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## 10.4.1 Authorized Firearms, Continued

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### 10.4.1.9 Carrying Personal Firearms Off- Duty

Officers may carry personal firearms while off duty if they are properly licensed to carry said weapon(s) and are not acting as an agent of the Attleboro Police Department, unless authorized by the Chief of Police. If an officer obtains an LTC the Police Department will not restrict the type of personal handgun carried off-duty by that police officer, unless otherwise directed or restricted by the Chief of Police.

However, if the officer is involved in an off-duty incident where they are acting in an official capacity as a police officer, he/she must adhere to this Department's policies and procedures. If any Officer engages in any type of law enforcement action with a firearm, including issued or non-issued firearms, he shall report such incident to the Chief of Police immediately.

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### 10.4.1.10 Civilian Clothes

While in civilian dress, the firearm will remain concealed at all times unless within the facilities of the Department, or unless otherwise authorized by the Chief of Police

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### 10.4.1.11 Pointing Firearms at Persons

All firearms shall be treated as if the firearm is loaded. Firearms shall never be pointed at any person unless it is authorized by department policy or under the color of law.

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## 10.4.2 Issuing of Department Firearms

(1.3.9)

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### 10.4.2.1 Department Armorer

The Chief of Police will select a person to be the Department Armorer and Assistant(s) Department Armorer(s). The Department Armorer is responsible for the issuance, storage, tracking, recovery and all applicable records for Department Firearms and ammunition. The Department Armorer shall keep up to date records for all range qualification scores, range rosters, firearms maintenance and firearm issuance records.

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### 10.4.2.2 Issuing Firearms by the Department Armorer

Prior to the issuance and/or authorization of the Department's authorized firearm, the Department Armorer shall:

- Identify the firearm
  - See that it meets established criteria
  - Examine the firearm to ensure good working order and safety
  - Ensure that officers show proficiency on an approved course under his direction
  - Provide every officer with a copy of the department's Use of Force policy and Authorized Weapons policy.
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### 10.4.2.3 Records

The Department Armorer will record and file:

- The firearm:
    - Type
    - Description
    - Identifying model
    - Serial number, and
    - Owner or assignee
  - The name of the official approving the weapon
  - The date of approval
  - The course fired
  - The scores used for qualification, and
  - The date of the firearm's policy review.
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### 10.4.2.4 Firearms Inspections

Firearms should be examined:

- routinely by the officer assigned to the weapon;
- prior to the yearly qualification by the firearms instructor; and
- at times the patrol supervisor shall inspect firearms during roll call.

Firearms that are determined to be unsafe or malfunctioning shall be turned in to the Department Armorer who shall return it to the factory for repair or replacement. The Department Armorer will issue a replacement firearm while the malfunctioning firearm is being serviced.

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## 10.4.3 Department Firearms Special Instructions

(1.3.9)

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### 10.4.3.1 Care of Firearms

All officers shall be responsible for the safe handling of their firearms at all times. Officers shall keep their firearms clean and in good working condition. Officers are required to clean and inspect their firearms after shooting at the range. Officers shall review proper shooting fundamentals and be required to qualify in the use of firearms.

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### 10.4.3.2 Theft or Missing Firearms

Officers shall report any missing or stolen firearm to the Chief of Police forthwith. Officers shall report the recovery of any stolen or missing firearm to the Chief of Police forthwith.

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### 10.4.3.3 Security and Storage

All officers will ensure the security of their firearms at all times, both on and off duty. Officers shall lawfully store Department issued Firearms. Weapons will be secured in such a manner as to prevent theft & unauthorized/accidental use and in compliance with M.G.L. c 140 § 131C and M.G.L. c 140 § 131L, unless authorized by the Chief of Police.

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### 10.4.3.4 Line of Duty Injury

Officers classified or currently on a Line of Duty injury may not carry a Department issued firearm, unless otherwise authorized by the Chief of Police.

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### 10.4.3.5 Weapons Mounted Lighting Systems

Weapons Mounted Lighting Systems (WMLS) is a lighting system that is designed to be attached to a weapon via the use of a rail, clamp or other specifically designed attachment system.

- a. Only WMLS approved by the Chief of Police shall be used on department firearms.
  - b. Only employees that are authorized by the Chief of Police may utilize a WMLS.
  - c. Employees utilizing a WMLS shall have a functioning handheld light system on their person.
  - d. A WMLS shall never be utilized as a flashlight; it is a dedicated part of the weapon system. If the weapon is removed from the holster by the officer, it must be done according to Department policy. Violation of any policy may result in disciplinary action.
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### 10.4.3 Department Firearms Special Instructions, Continued

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**10.4.3.6 Laser Sighting Systems** Laser sighting systems may be used on firearms specifically approved by the Chief of Police. Each officer must be individually approved by the Chief of Police in writing and the following conditions must be followed:

- Laser sights must be purchased by the individual officer;
- Laser sights may only be installed on Department weapons under the direction of the Department Armorer and approval of the Chief of Police;
- Prior to carrying a laser sight-equipped weapon, members must complete an approved laser familiarization course and qualify with the laser-equipped weapon;
- Only Department-approved lasers may be installed on Department-owned weapons;
- Laser sights are an additional tool to be used under certain circumstances. Laser sighting systems are not a substitute for basic firearms proficiency skills. Members using laser-sighting systems will still be required to achieve passing scores on the Department's qualification course without the use of a laser.

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**10.4.3.7 Altering Firearms** No member, recruit, reserve, or auxiliary officer will repair or alter any part of his/her Department-issued firearm or ammunition, unless specifically authorized by the Department Armorer or the Chief of Police.

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## 10.4.4 Annual Training *(1.3.10, 1.3.11)*

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### 10.4.4.1 Policy

The officers of The Attleboro Police Department will, at minimum, annually receive training on the Department's Use of Force policy and demonstrate proficiency with the Department's authorized weapons. *(1.3.12)*

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### 10.4.4.2 Qualification

Qualification shall be under the direction of certified firearms instructors according to the Massachusetts Police Training Committee requirements.

All officers are expected to qualify on a course and with a score in accordance with MPTC standards (80% or higher).

The Range Master (Department Armorer or Assistant Armorer) will record all scores and forward a copy of the scores to the Chief of Police and the Department Training Officer.

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### 10.4.4.3 Failure to Qualify

If an officer cannot qualify during the initial course, he/she will be given an additional period of individual instruction and practice (remedial training).

Should the officer still fail to qualify, arrangements will be made with the MPTC to provide special instruction through training programs when and if available.

If an officer still does not qualify after remedial training, then a decision will be made as to whether, in the interest of public safety, his/her usefulness as a police officer has expired.

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## 10.4.5 Carrying out-of State

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**10.4.5.1  
Out-of-State** Unless on regular police duty, Department issued firearms will not be taken out of state by any off-duty officer without prior authorization from the Chief of Police.

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**10.4.5.2  
Out of State  
Travel** All sworn employees requesting permission from the Chief of Police to transport or possess an Attleboro Police Department issued firearm outside the Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall submit a memorandum to the Chief of Police, through the chain of command, requesting permission to carry their Department issued firearm out of state, or on board an aircraft.

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**10.4.5.3  
Flying While  
Armed** Officers who are required to travel by air with an Attleboro Police Department issued firearm shall adhere to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Law Enforcement Officer Flying Armed guidelines.

Officers shall abide by the rules and procedures as specified by the TSA Law Enforcement Officer Flying Armed guidelines when authorized to board an aircraft

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## 10.4.6 Back-up Firearms

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### 10.4.6.1 Back-up Firearms

Officers may carry back-up weapons while on regular duty if the weapon has been approved in writing by the Chief of Police and under the following conditions:

- Back-up firearms, which provides an officer with a back-up firearm in the case of his/her primary sidearm being unavailable or when circumstances reasonably preclude or restrict its use, are optional.
- The carrying of a back-up firearm is permitted whenever an officer is working in a law enforcement capacity in uniform or in plain clothes.
- Only one firearm may be carried for back-up purposes.
- An officer who chooses to carry a back-up handgun is responsible for its purchase, cost of repairs, maintenance, and ammunition.
- The back-up firearm may have an operational laser sighting system, if approved by the Chief of Police and inspected by the Department Armorer.
- A back-up firearm shall not be carried in a law enforcement capacity unless approved by the Chief of Police.
- Officers must complete an approved MPTC qualification course with their back-up firearm each year.
- Officers carrying back-up firearms must secure them whenever they are required to secure their primary weapon.
- All back-up firearms must be securely holstered.
- Back-up firearm holsters must be inspected by the Department Armorer and approved by the Chief of Police.
- Back-up firearms shall not be used as a primary firearm.

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### 10.4.6.2 Back-up Firearm

In the event an officer uses his/her back-up firearm in the line of duty, the firearm will be submitted to the on-scene supervisor as part of the routine review of an officer involved shooting.

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### 10.4.6.3 Ammunition for Back-up Firearm

Before any ammunition is used, deployed or carried with the approved back-up firearm, it must first be approved and inspected, in-person, by the Department Armorer.

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