
Tactical Ballistic Vest Covers

604.1 USE OF TACTICAL BALLISTIC VEST COVERS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide detectives and patrol officers with guidelines for the use of tactical ballistic vest covers.

AUTHORIZED BALLISTIC VEST COVERS

The tactical ballistic vest cover authorized to be carried by members of the Barstow Police Department is the Blankenship Police Supply (BPS) Tactical Vest Cover.

USE AND DEPLOYMENT FOR PATROL OFFICERS

Officers who choose to utilize the BPS tactical vest cover on duty will wear it as follows:

- (a) The BPS vest cover will be worn at all times while on duty, unless utilizing the restrooms, or in any emergency situation requiring the officer to remove his/her vest cover. This does not include while the officer is at the station writing reports.
- (b) The BPS vest cover will be purchased at the officers expense.
- (c) The BPS vest cover may be worn with the Class B or Class C uniforms.

USE AND DEPLOYMENT FOR DETECTIVES

Generally, the use of tactical ballistic vest covers is required under the following circumstances:

- (a) Detectives shall only wear agency approved ballistic tactical vest covers.
- (b) Detectives shall wear the ballistic tactical vest covers when they are executing search or arrest warrants, conducting high risk parole or probation searches or when responding to any hazardous situation where ballistic coverage or additional equipment would be beneficial.
- (c) Detectives may be exempt from wearing the ballistic tactical vest cover when he/she is involved in undercover or plainclothes work where the wearing of the ballistic tactical vest cover may jeopardize the safety or effectiveness of the detective.
- (d) Detectives shall wear the ballistic tactical vest cover during all "Crime/Gang Sweeps" unless the detective is wearing the SMASH uniform that can accommodate ballistic protection and the use of the Body Worn Camera.

VEST DESIGN

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- (a) The word "Police" in white shall be affixed to the right front chest area.
- (b) The word "Police" in large white letters shall be affixed to the rear back area and shall be centered in that area.
- (c) Officer's or detective's first initial and last name shall be affixed to the right front chest area, above the word "Police".
- (d) The current approved Barstow Police Department embroidered cloth badge shall be affixed to the left front chest area.
- (e) The vest will be black in color.
- (f) No other patches or insignia may be affixed to the BPS vest covers without the authorization of the Chief of Police.