



NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS MANUAL

CHAPTER: 1.8

TITLE: WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT EVALUATION COMMITTEE

EFFECTIVE: 01/14/2018

REVISED: 11/15/19, 7/09/26

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Chapter is to establish a Weapons and Equipment Evaluation Committee to research, test and evaluate all weapons, ammunition, reloading devices, holsters, carrying mechanisms, or other firearms-related equipment proposed for use by members of the New Orleans Police Department.

For the purpose of this Chapter "other related item(s)" include, but not limited to the following:

1. Any equipment an officer can add to his/her gun belt or outer vest carrier that would assist them in making an arrest (ie: pepper spray, hinge cuffs, less lethal weapon).
2. Any equipment that a reasonable person would think guidance, training, and Department regulations would need to be created for an officer to have control of its use.
3. Any equipment that can be added to a vehicle that may assist with restraining an arrested subject and/or any equipment that can be added to the police car that could be used to disable a perpetrator vehicle or a fleeing perpetrator.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. The Weapons and Equipment Evaluation Committee will consist of:
 - (a) Committee Chair (Deputy Chief of Field Operations Bureau or his/her representative of the rank of Captain or above)
 - (b) Commander, Education and Training Division
 - (c) Commander or Assistant Commander, Special Operations Division
 - (d) Range Commander, Education and Training Division
 - (e) Special Operations Division, Armory Unit representative
 - (f) Special Operations Division, Range Instructor
 - (g) Compliance Bureau/Policy and Planning representative

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

2. The Committee Chair shall be responsible for setting the meeting times, dates, and agenda.

RESPONSIBILITIES

3. Members wishing to initiate a formal evaluation of a specific weapon, ammunition, reloading device, holster, carrying mechanism, or other related item(s), shall forward an interoffice memorandum (Form 105) to the Deputy Chief of the Field Operations Bureau requesting formal consideration of the proposed evaluation by the Weapons and Equipment Evaluation Committee.
4. The Weapons and Equipment Evaluation Committee shall not approve a specific weapon, ammunition, reloading device, holster, carrying mechanism, or other related item(s) that violates existing Chapters without also making a recommendation for the proposed change to the affected Chapter(s).
5. The Committee will schedule a meeting to consider the request within two weeks of receipt and notify the requesting member within 14 days after the scheduled meeting of its decision to conduct or not conduct an evaluation. If the evaluation is set aside, a brief explanation will be attached.
6. Following the Committee's first meeting on a specific request, the Committee will render a report with recommendations to the Superintendent within 90 calendar days.
7. Should the Committee feel an extension of the evaluation period is necessary to acquire the best information and/or test data available, an application for an additional 30 calendar days shall be made to the Superintendent. The request for extension should be made sufficiently in advance to ensure approval prior to the ninety-day deadline.
8. The Committee shall forward information regarding requests under consideration, including the Committee's actions and/or decisions after each meeting to each Deputy Chief to be disseminated at his/her regular staff meetings.