Approved: *Chief Marcia Harnden*	Subject: **270.Firearms**	
Effective: December 28, 2018 Revised: August 11, 2026	CALEA Standards 1.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 17.5.1, 17.5.2, 33.1.5, 41.3.4	Page: 1

270.1: PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures for the acquisition, use and documentation of training in the use of firearms. The Chief of Police or their designee shall approve all department firearms before they are acquired and utilized by any member of this department.

270.2: POLICY

The Albany Police Department will equip its sworn officers with firearms to address the risks posed to the public and department members by violent and sometimes well-armed persons (ORS 161.205 to ORS 161.239). The Department will ensure firearms are appropriate, in good working order and that relevant training is provided as resources allow.

270.3: AUTHORIZED FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, AND OTHER WEAPONS

Members shall only use firearms that are issued or approved by the Chief of Police or their designee and have been thoroughly inspected by the Firearms Training Coordinator, or their designee.

a. Except in an emergency or as directed by a supervisor, no firearm shall be carried by a member who has not qualified with that firearm at an authorized department range.

b. All other weapons not provided by the Department, including, but not limited to, chemical or electronic weapons, impact weapons or any weapon prohibited or restricted by law or that is not covered elsewhere by department policy, may not be carried by members in the performance of their official duties without the express written authorization of the Chief of Police.

c. Only Department-purchased ammunition shall be used by Department members in the performance of their duties. This includes ammunition used in SWAT weapons. The Firearms Training Coordinator shall maintain a record of current Department-approved ammunition specifications and inventory.

270.3.1: ISSUANCE OF FIREARMS

a. Prior to being allowed to carry or deploy a department-authorized firearm on- or off-duty, authorized personnel shall:

1) Be issued copies of the Use of Force: Policy 240 and Firearms: Policy 270;
2) Attend firearms familiarization training with a certified firearms instructor; and
3) Qualify with a certified firearms instructor.

b. New officers can be issued a firearm without qualifying for training purposes only. Prior to issuance the officer shall:

1) Be issued copies of the Use of Force: Policy 240 and Firearms: Policy 270; and
2) Attend firearms familiarization training with a certified firearms instructor.

c. Documentation of policy receipt and training delivery are required for all issued firearms.

270.4: DUTY HANDGUNS

The authorized department-issued handgun is the Glock 17MOS Gen 5 and the Glock 17 Gen 6. Other models and calibers may be authorized and issued by the Chief of Police.

a. If the officer elects not to carry the department-issued handgun, the member may purchase a handgun for on-duty use at their own expense. All personally purchased duty handguns must be manufactured by Glock, Staccato, or Smith & Wesson M&P 2.0 and meet the following standards:

1) Uniformed Sworn Personnel:

A. 9mm, .40, or .45ACP caliber;
B. Black frame and slide;
C. Minimum of three magazines with each magazine capacity of 17rds (9mm), 15rds (.40), 13rds (.45ACP);
D. Ability to mount Streamlight TLR1 HL, Surefire x300 weapon light under barrel, forward of trigger guard; and
E. Equipped with approved night/lowlight iron sights, if not equipped with an RDS.

2) Non-Uniformed Sworn Personnel:

A. 9mm, .40, or .45ACP caliber;
B. Glock Factory-colored frame and slide (bi-tone black/silver, black/black, or coyote tan);
C. Minimum of two magazines with each magazine's minimum capacity of 10rds (9mm), 9rds (.40), 9rds (.45ACP);

D. Equipped with approved night/lowlight iron sights, if not equipped with an RDS.

3) Special Assignment Sworn Personnel:

A. May carry department-issued Glock 43 or Glock 48MOS

4) Night sights are required for all on-duty handguns, except those equipped with an RDS.

5) Uniformed, non-uniformed and special assignment sworn personnel may carry Glock MOS models equipped with mini red dot sights (MRDS) and meet the above listed requirements (refer to section 270.14.3).

b. All authorized handguns must be carried in an approved holster when not deployed.

c. The member may use department-issued holsters and magazine carriers with personally owned handguns. However, if the personally owned handgun/magazines are not compatible with the department holster/magazine carriers, the member must purchase their own holster/magazine carriers.

d. Members who are unable to qualify with the department-issued Glock 17MOS, Gen 5, but are able to qualify with another firearm from the approved list, may purchase a firearm from the approved list for on-duty use. If available in Department inventory, a Department owned firearm (other than a Glock 17MOS, Gen 5), holster, and magazine pouch may be issued for a period of time not to exceed six months as long as the member is able to qualify with that firearm. It will be the member's responsibility to purchase their authorized personal firearm, holster, and magazine pouch, and to qualify with the new firearm prior to the end of that time period.

e. Personally owned duty firearms and related equipment are subject to the following restrictions:

1) The firearm shall be in good working order.

2) The firearm shall be inspected by the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee prior to being carried and thereafter shall be subject to inspection whenever it is deemed necessary.

3) Prior to carrying the firearm, members shall qualify under range supervision and shall thereafter qualify according to the department firearms training schedule. Members must demonstrate proficiency, safe handling, and proper functionality of the firearm.

4) Members shall provide written notice of the make, model, color, serial number, and caliber of the firearm to the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee.

5) Upon qualification with a personally owned duty firearm, members shall relinquish the department-issued duty firearm to the Firearms Training Coordinator. If the member fails to qualify during qualification and again following remediation, the member must go back to the department-issued firearm.

f. The Firearms Training Coordinator shall maintain an inventory of all Department-owned and personally owned firearms which have been approved by the Department for official use.

270.5: SECONDARY HANDGUNS

Members desiring to carry department or personally owned secondary handguns are subject to the following restrictions:

a. The handgun shall be in good working order and used only after final approval by the Chief of Police or authorized designee.

b. Only one secondary handgun may be carried at a time.

c. The purchase of the handgun and/or ammunition shall be the responsibility of the member unless the handgun and ammunition are provided by the Department.

d. The handgun shall be carried concealed at all times and in such a manner as to prevent unintentional cocking, discharge or loss of physical control.

e. The firearm shall be inspected by the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee prior to being carried and thereafter shall be subject to inspection whenever it is deemed necessary.

f. Ammunition shall be the same as department issue. If the caliber of the handgun is other than department issue, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall approve the ammunition.

g. Prior to carrying the secondary firearm, members shall qualify under range supervision and shall thereafter qualify according to the department firearms training schedule. Members must demonstrate proficiency, safe handling, and proper functionality of the firearm.

h. A Back-Up/Off Duty Firearms Authorization: Form A47 will be completed, identifying the firearm, ammunition and weapon retention systems being used. The form will be initialed by the Firearms Coordinator or their designee and the Administrative Lieutenant. The Firearms Training Coordinator will maintain a Back-up Off Duty Firearms Authorization list for all authorized secondary firearms.

270.6: OFF-DUTY HANDGUNS

The carrying of firearms by members while off-duty is permitted by the Chief of Police but may be rescinded should circumstances dictate (e.g., administrative leave). Members who choose to carry a firearm while off-duty, based on their authority as peace officers, will be required to meet the following guidelines:

a. If a personally owned firearm is carried off duty, the personally owned firearm shall be used, carried and inspected in accordance with the Authorized Secondary Handgun requirements in this policy (see Section 270.5).

b. If a member desires to use more than one firearm while off-duty, he/she may do so, as long as all requirements set forth in this policy for each firearm are met.

c. Members shall only carry department-authorized ammunition.

d. When armed, officers shall carry their badge and Albany Police Department identification card under circumstances requiring possession of such identification.

e. Authorized off-duty handguns will be identified and authorized in the same manner as secondary handguns and documented on the same Back-up Off Duty Firearms Authorization list, maintained by the Firearms Coordinator.

270.7: SHOTGUNS

The authorized department-issued shotgun is the Benelli M2. When not deployed, the shotgun shall be properly secured consistent with department training in a locking weapons rack in the patrol vehicle, in the department armory or ready room.

270.8: PATROL RIFLES

The patrol rifle is an authorized weapon which is available to trained and qualified officers as a supplemental resource to their duty handgun or shotgun. No personally owned weapon may be carried for patrol duty unless approved by the Chief of Police and the Firearms Training Coordinator. Officers authorized to carry a patrol rifle must meet all Department standards in firearms qualifications as set forth by the Firearms Training Coordinator. The authorized department-issued patrol rifle is the FN 15 11.5-inch SRP G2 chambered in 5.56x45mm and the Bravo Company Manufacturing (BCM) CQB II MCMR10 SBR 11.5 inch chambered in 5.56x45.

270.8.1: PATROL RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS

a. Rifles must be built by a reputable manufacturer and meet the following requirements:

1) Caliber: 5.56 NATO/.223 Remington;
2) Barrel twist rate: 1/7, 1/8, or 1/9;
3) Barrel length: 11.5 inches to 16 inches;
4) Threaded muzzle with flash hider or compensator;
5) Chrome-moly Vanadium grade barrel steel. Stainless steel barrels must be coated in black or like finish;
6) Chrome-lined chamber and barrel;
7) Mil-Spec bolt carrier assembly;
8) Manganese phosphate aluminum upper and lower receiver;
9) Fixed iron sights or flip-up iron sights with optic;
10) Weapon mounted light;
11) Single, two point, or three-point sling with affixed sling mounts;

12) Magazine pouch (on rifle or on uniform);

13) All accessories to the rifle must fall within existing policy and be built by a reputable manufacturer.

b. Examples of manufacturers meeting these specifications are, but not limited to:

1) FN

2) Bravo Company Manufacturing

3) Daniel Defense

4) Colt Enhanced Patrol Rifle II

5) Sons of Liberty Gun Works

6) Sig Sauer M400

7) Geissele Super Duty

270.8.2: PATROL RIFLE STORAGE

a. When not carried on-duty or in training, patrol rifles will be locked in the patrol rifle locker, personal locker, or armory with the magazine removed, chamber empty, and safety on.

b. When not deployed, in-service patrol rifles should be secured in the vehicle in a locked gun rack.

c. Any qualified officer carrying a patrol rifle in the field shall maintain the weapon in a patrol-ready condition until deployed.

d. A rifle is considered to be in a patrol-ready condition when it has been inspected by the assigned officer, the fire selector switch is in the safe position, the chamber is empty, and a magazine loaded with 28 rounds of ammunition is in the magazine well.

270.8.3: PATROL RIFLE DEPLOYMENT

a. Members may deploy the patrol rifle in any circumstance where the member can articulate a reasonable expectation that the rifle may be needed. Examples of some general guidelines for deploying the patrol rifle may include, but are not limited to:

1) Situations where the member reasonably anticipates an armed encounter.

2) When a member is faced with a situation that may require accurate and effective fire at long range.

3) Situations where a member reasonably expects the need to meet or exceed a suspect's firepower.

4) When a member reasonably believes that there may be a need to fire on a barricaded person or a person with a hostage.

5) When a member reasonably believes that a suspect may be wearing body armor.

6) When authorized or requested by a supervisor.

7) When needed to euthanize an animal.

b. When not deployed, rifles shall be properly secured consistent with department training in a locking weapons rack in the patrol vehicle, locker, or armory.

270.8.4: RIFLE OPERATOR ELIGIBILITY

a. Officers interested in being a rifle operator must qualify on demand on the first attempt with their primary duty handgun on the HQC (Handgun Qualification Course).

b. Officers actively involved in the Field Training and Evaluation program or on a work plan are not eligible to become a rifle operator.

c. Rifle operators shall attend the Albany Police Department Patrol Rifle training course prior to fielding the rifle. Officers who have attended a similar basic rifle training course may bypass this training, with approval from the Firearms Training Coordinator, only if the officer has verification of training hours and course material to ensure the training meets the basic requirements.

270.9: AMMUNITION

a. Members shall carry only department issued or department-authorized ammunition. Members shall be issued fresh duty ammunition, new from the manufacturer, in the specified quantity for all department-issued firearms annually. Replacements for unserviceable or depleted ammunition issued by the Department shall be dispensed by the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee when needed.

b. Members who carry secondary weapons in 9mm, 40 S&W, and 45 auto will receive department issued duty ammunition. Members who carry secondary weapons in other approved calibers, and all off-duty weapons, are required to carry department-authorized ammunition approved by the Firearms Coordinator and referenced in the Back-up Off Duty Firearms Authorization list.

c. Members are issued all duty ammunition for primary duty firearms, shotguns, and rifles. All Duty ammunition is new from the manufacturer and approved by the Chief of Police. The following brand and calibers are authorized for on-duty carry at this time:

1) Hornady Critical Duty 9 mm +P 135 grain Flex Lock
2) Hornady Critical Duty 40 S&W 175 grain Flex Lock
3) Hornady Critical Defense .45 Auto +P 220 grain Flex Lock
4) Federal Premium 2 ¾ inch 00 Buck and Slug
5) Hornady 5.56 NATO 62 grain Tap Barrier
6) Hornady 308 Win 168 grain A-Max Tap
7) Speer 308 168 grain Barrier
8) Remington subsonic .22 Long Rifle 38 grain hollow point

d. Members are issued all ammunition while shooting primary or approved secondary firearms during training. The following pistol, rifle and shotgun ammunition is used for firearms training in addition to the above listed duty ammunition:

1) 12 gauge 2 3/4 inch 7 ½ through 00 buck and slug ammunition
2) .223 Full Metal Jacket 55 grain
3) 9mm Full Metal Jacket 115 grain, 124 grain
4) 40 S&W Full Metal Jacket 165 grain
5) 45 auto Full Metal Jacket 230 grain
6) .22 Long Rifle
7) And any other training ammunition approved by the Firearms Training Coordinator

270.10: TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION

a. All members who carry a firearm while on-duty are required to successfully complete training with their duty firearms. In addition to training, all members will qualify at least annually with their duty, off-duty and secondary firearms. Training and qualifications must be on an approved range course.

b. At least annually, all members carrying a firearm should receive practical training designed to simulate field situations including low-light shooting.

270.10.1: FIREARMS TRAINING COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

a. Firearms training will be under the exclusive control of the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee. All members attending firearms training will follow the directions of the Firearms Instructors. The Firearms Training Coordinator will maintain a roster of all members attending the range and will submit the roster to the Administrative Lieutenant after each firearms training.

1) Failure of any member to sign in and out with the Firearms Training Coordinator may result in non-participation or non-qualification.

b. The Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee has the responsibility of making periodic inspection, at least once a year, of all firearms authorized by this department to verify proper operation.

1) The Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee has the authority to deem any department-issued or personally owned firearm unfit for service.

2) The member will be responsible for all repairs to their personally owned firearm; the firearm will not be returned to service until it has been inspected and approved by the Firearms Training Coordinator.

c. The Firearms Training Coordinator has the responsibility for ensuring each member meets the minimum requirements during training and, each member continually demonstrates proficiency in the care, cleaning and safety of all firearms the member is authorized to carry.

d. The Firearms Training Coordinator shall complete and submit to the Administrative Lieutenant documentation of the training courses to be provided. The Administrative Lieutenant shall approve firearms training curriculum prior to scheduled training.

1) Documentation shall include a description of the training provided and, on a form (DPSST F6 or Training Bulletin) approved by the Department, a list of each member who completes the training.

2) The Firearms Training Coordinator shall submit accurate records of all firearms training, qualifications, repairs, maintenance, or other records as directed by the Administrative Lieutenant.

270.10.2: NON-CERTIFICATION OR NON-QUALIFICATION

If any member fails to meet minimum standards for firearms training or qualification for any reason, including injury, illness, duty status or scheduling conflict, that member shall give notice to their immediate supervisor prior to the end of the required training or qualification period. Remedial training will follow the timeline outlined in the Training: Policy 810.6.1.

a. Those who fail to meet minimum standards or qualify on their first three shooting attempts shall be provided remedial training and will be subject to the following requirements:

1) Additional range assignments may be scheduled to assist the member in demonstrating consistent firearm proficiency.

2) Members shall be given credit for a range training or qualification when obtaining a qualifying score or meeting standards after remedial training.

b. Members who fail to complete remedial training will be removed from field assignment and may be subject to disciplinary action.

270.11: FIREARM DISCHARGE

Except during training or recreational use, any member who discharges a firearm intentionally or unintentionally, on- or off-duty, shall make a verbal report to their supervisor as soon as practical.

a. If the discharge results in injury or death to another person, additional statements and reports shall be made in accordance with the Law Enforcement Employee-Involved Critical Incident Policy.

b. If a firearm was discharged as a use of force, the involved member shall adhere to the additional reporting requirements set forth in the Use of Force Policy.

c. In all other cases, some type of written documentation will be required.

270.11.1: DESTRUCTION OF ANIMALS

a. With the approval of a supervisor, a member may euthanize an animal that is so badly injured that human compassion requires its removal from further suffering and where other dispositions are impractical.

b. Members are authorized to use firearms to stop an animal in circumstances where the animal reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to human safety and alternative methods are not reasonably available or would likely be ineffective.

c. The authorized department-issued rimfire rifle is the Ruger 10/22 and is approved for use in the destruction of animals. When not deployed, the Ruger 10/22 shall be properly secured consistent with department training in the ready room.

270.12: FLYING WHILE ARMED

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has imposed rules governing law enforcement officers flying armed on commercial aircraft. The following requirements apply to officers who intend to be armed while flying on a commercial air carrier or flights where screening is conducted (49 CFR 1544.219):

a. Officers wishing to fly while armed must be flying in an official capacity, not for vacation or pleasure, and must have a need to have the firearm accessible, as determined by the Department based on the law and published TSA rules.

b. Officers must carry their Albany Police Department identification card, bearing the officer's name, a full-face photograph, identification number, the officer's signature and the signature of the Chief of Police or the official seal of the Department and must present this identification to airline officials when requested. The officer shall also carry the standard photo identification needed for passenger screening by airline and TSA officials (e.g., driver license, passport).

c. The Albany Police Department must submit a National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) message prior to the Officer's travel. If approved, TSA will send the Albany Police Department an NLETS message containing a unique alphanumeric identifier. The officer must present the message on the day of travel to airport personnel as authorization to travel while armed.

d. An official letter signed by the Chief of Police authorizing armed travel shall also accompany the officer. The letter should outline the officer's need to fly armed, detail their itinerary, and include that the officer has completed the mandatory TSA training for a law enforcement officer flying while armed.

e. Officers must have completed the mandated TSA security training covering officers flying while armed. The training shall be given by a department-appointed instructor.

f. It is the officer's responsibility to notify the air carrier in advance of the intended armed travel. This notification should be accomplished by early check-in at the carrier's check-in counter.

g. Any officer flying while armed should discreetly contact the flight crew prior to take-off and notify them of the officer's assigned seat.

h. Discretion must be used to avoid alarming passengers or crew by displaying a firearm. The officer must keep the firearm concealed on their person at all times. Firearms are not permitted in carry-on luggage and may not be stored in an overhead compartment.

i. Officers should try to resolve any problems associated with flying armed through the flight captain, ground security manager, TSA representative or other management representative of the air carrier.

j. If flying armed, officers shall not consume alcoholic beverages while aboard an aircraft, or within eight hours prior to boarding an aircraft.

270.13: CARRYING FIREARMS OUT OF STATE

The Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 permits qualified active and retired police officers to carry concealed firearms in all 50 states (refer to Policy 852 – Retired Police Officer Firearms).

a. Qualified, active, full-time officers of this department are authorized to carry a concealed firearm in all other states subject to the following conditions (18 USC § 926B):

   1) The officer shall carry their Albany Police Department identification card whenever carrying a firearm.

   2) The officer is not the subject of any current disciplinary action.

   3) The officer may not be under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicating or hallucinatory drug.

   4) The officer will remain subject to this and all other department policies (including firearms qualification and training).

b. Officers are cautioned that individual states may enact local regulations that permit private persons or entities to prohibit or restrict the possession of concealed firearms on their property, or that prohibit or restrict the possession of firearms on any state or local government property, installation, building, base or park. Federal authority may not shield an officer from arrest and prosecution in such locally restricted areas.

c. Active law enforcement officers from other states are subject to all requirements set forth in 18 USC § 926B.

270.14: EQUIPMENT

Firearms carried on- or off-duty shall be maintained in a clean, serviceable condition. Maintenance and repair of authorized personally owned firearms are the responsibility of the individual member. The purpose of this

section is to establish equipment and training requirements/guidelines for officers choosing to carry advanced technology as part of their service weapon system.

270.14.1: REPAIRS AND MODIFICATIONS

Each member shall be responsible for promptly reporting any damage or malfunction of an assigned firearm to a supervisor or the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee.

a. Firearms that are the property of the Department or personally owned firearms that are approved for department use may be repaired or modified only by a person who is department-approved and certified as an armorer or gunsmith in the repair of the specific firearm. Such modification or repair must be authorized in advance by the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee.

b. Any repairs or modifications to the member's personally owned firearm shall be done at their expense and must be approved by the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee.

c. Magazine extensions: Any accessory attached to the base of the handgun magazine to increase ammunition capacity.

    1) Officer must obtain approval from the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee before using magazine extensions on duty. The magazine extension is approved for personal purchase.

    2) Only department-approved magazine extensions may be used. The following magazine extensions have been approved. They shall not exceed +5 rounds and shall be black in color.

    - Glock OEM extensions

    - Taran Tactical Innovations

    3) Officers are responsible for regularly inspecting magazine extensions for wear, damage, or defects. If wear, damage, or defects, affect the operation of the magazine and handgun then that magazine shall be returned to factory configuration.

    4) Officers must ensure that the increased capacity does not compromise the concealment or handling of the handgun.

    5) Officers shall attend one in-service firearms training prior to use for duty to ensure proper operation of the magazine. If the magazine extension does not function as intended, then the magazine shall be returned to factory configuration.

270.14.2: HOLSTERS

Only department-approved holsters shall be used and worn by members. Members shall periodically inspect their holsters to make sure they are serviceable and provide the proper security and retention of the handgun.

270.14.3: WEAPON-MOUNTED LIGHTS AND LASER SIGHTS

Weapon-mounted lights and laser sights may only be installed on a firearm carried on- or off-duty after they have been examined and approved by the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee. Once the approved

weapon-mounted lights and laser sights have been properly installed on any firearm, the member shall train with the firearm to ensure proper functionality and sighting of the firearm prior to carrying it.

270.14.4: RED DOT SIGHTS

a. Weapon Systems:

1) The following personal purchase factory weapon systems with modular slide cut-out mounting systems designed to accept Red Dot Sights are approved for duty use:

A. Glock MOS, Staccato, and Smith & Wesson M&P 2.0.

b. Holsters:

1) The following holster companies designed for Red Dot Sight platforms are approved for uniformed duty use:

A. Safariland

2) Holster companies made of Kydex material may be authorized for plain clothes assignments with prior written approval from the Firearms Training Coordinator.

c. Red Dot Sights (RDS):

1) All Red Dot Sight systems must be approved and inspected by the Firearms Training Coordinator prior to training and duty use. The department issued RDS is the Holosun 509T X2. Approved RDS systems include the following:

2) Trijicon RMR Type 2

3) Trijicon SRO

4) Leupold Delta Point Pro

5) Holosun MRDS Series

6) Aimpoint ACRO P-1 and P-2

7) Aimpoint COA

d. Iron Sights:

1) Back-up iron sights must co-witness through the optic window and be usable in the event of an optic or battery failure.

2) Red Dot Sights should be zeroed separately from back-up iron sights to ensure the Red Dot Sight is zeroed as accurately as possible.

e. Red Dot Sight Installation and Maintenance:

1) Red Dot Sights will only be installed by department armorers.

2) Batteries shall be replaced annually prior to annual qualification to ensure reliable operation.

3) If required to remove the Red Dot Sight from slide to access battery, battery change should be scheduled with a department armorer.

f. Red Dot Sight Pistol Zeroing

a. RDS Pistols shall be zeroed at 10 yards and confirmed at 25 yards.

b. Red Dot Sights shall be re-zeroed before being placed back into service whenever the optic is removed from the weapon system for any reason.

g. Initial Officer Training:

1) Officers wishing to carry a Red Dot Sight Pistol must first complete a four-hour minimum training course including qualification, prior to carrying on duty.

2) Outside agency training vendors will be approved on a case-by-case basis by the Firearms Training Coordinator at the request of the officer.

h. Operational Use:

1) Except in an approved training situation, a member may only sight in on a person when the member would otherwise be justified in pointing a firearm at the person.

270.14.5: SUPPRESSORS

Members assigned to the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team may be issued and authorized to use the HUXWRX FLOW 556K sound suppressor on department-authorized rifles when configured in accordance with department specifications. The suppressor shall be installed, maintained, and used in accordance with department training, manufacturer recommendations, and applicable state and federal law. Use of the suppressor is limited to members authorized by the department and assigned to SWAT unless otherwise approved by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

270.15: SAFE HANDLING AND STORAGE

Members shall maintain the highest level of safety when handling firearms and shall consider the following:

a. Members shall not unnecessarily display or handle any firearm.

b. Members shall be governed by all rules and regulations pertaining to the use of the range and shall obey all instructions issued by the Firearms Training Coordinator or their designee.

c. Members shall use clearance barrels to load or unload a firearm inside the Department.

d. Firearms removed from vehicles, the armory or locker shall be loaded and unloaded while adhering to the four cardinal rules of firearms safety.

1) Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.

2) Point the firearm in a safe direction - A direction in which an unintentional discharge will cause no human injury, and at most, minor property damage.

3) Keep your finger off the trigger and outside of the trigger guard, indexed along the frame or slide until you are on target and have decided to fire.

4) Be sure of your target/threat, backstop and beyond.

e. Members shall not place or store any firearm or other weapon on department premises except where the place of storage is locked. No one shall carry firearms into a jail or any part thereof when securing or processing an arrestee but shall place all firearms in a secured location. The exception would be during approved training.

f. Members shall not use any weapons system from the armory without prior authorization and training.

g. Any firearm authorized by the Department to be carried on- or off-duty that is determined by a member to be malfunctioning or in need of service or repair shall not be carried. It shall be promptly presented to an armorer which has been approved by the Department for inspection and repair. Any firearm deemed in need of repair or service by a department armorer will be immediately removed from service. If the firearm is the member's primary duty firearm, a replacement firearm will be issued to the member until the duty firearm is serviceable.

270.15.1: INSPECTION

a. Handguns shall be inspected regularly and at the conclusion of firearms training.

b. Shotguns and rifles shall be inspected at the beginning of the shift by the person to whom the weapon is issued.

1) Members shall ensure that firearms are carried in the proper condition and loaded with approved ammunition.

c. Inspection of all firearms shall be performed in accordance with Department training.

270.15.2: SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS AT HOME

a. Members should ensure that all personal firearms and ammunition are secured while in their homes, vehicles, or any other area under their control and in a manner that will keep them inaccessible to children and others who should not have access.

b. Members shall ensure that all Department-owned firearms and ammunition are secured while in their homes, vehicles, or any other area under their control and in a manner that will keep them inaccessible to children and others who should not have access.

c. Members shall not permit department-issued firearms to be handled by anyone not authorized by the Department to do so, except as directed by a Firearms Instructor during firearms training.

d. Members should be aware that negligent storage of a firearm could result in civil liability.

270.15.3: ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Firearms shall not be carried by any member, either on- or off-duty, who has consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage, taken any drugs or medication, or has taken any combination thereof that would tend to adversely affect the member's senses or judgment.

270.16: FIREARMS RANGE

Members shall be governed by all rules and regulations pertaining to the use of any range facility owned by the Department or for any Department sanctioned event while the member is on the premises even if the member is or is not participating in the use of firearms. The Albany Police Department does not limit where a member can lawfully use a firearm. Member's using a range facility for firearms training, recreation or competition shall know the following:

a. Prior to any formal, department-provided training involving firearms that takes place at a range, the Firearms Instructor in charge will ensure the range safety procedures and range rules including the type of weapons, ammunition, targets and equipment permitted for use on the range have been reviewed with all participants before instruction begins;

b. The Firearms Instructor in charge will act as the Range Supervisor during all assigned training sessions. The Range Supervisor is only necessary as part of formal department-provided training and not required for a practice session;

c. The required personal safety equipment during use; and

d. The regulations for storage of ammunition, weapons, and equipment.

270.16.1: FIREARMS INSTRUCTORS

Albany Police Department Firearms Instructors shall complete at least 40 hours of instructor level firearms training and be a certified firearms instructor prior to administering firearms training to Albany Police Department members. Instructors should attend at least 8 hours of instructor development training annually to include emergency medical response training with an emphasis on field treatment for types of injuries that may occur during firearms training. The designated responsible range supervisor does not need to have any specific rank within the department.