



# FIELD ORDERS

Chapter

**BASIC FIELD OPERATIONS**

Subject

**Ballistic Shields**

## POLICY

The Scottsdale Police Department will provide officers access to ballistic shields, which provide limited ballistic protection in hostile areas or under hostile fire. These shields are mobile and can be relocated as needed.

## SPECIFICATIONS

There are many different types and specifications of ballistic shields and each shield has different capabilities. Therefore, each shield will be clearly marked with the appropriate National Institute of Justice (NIJ) ballistic protection rating in the following manner:

1. Level IIIA – Stops most handgun ammunition including .44 Mag and .357 Mag.
2. Level III – Stops most rifle ball ammunition including 7.62 mm and 5.56 mm ball.
3. Level IV – Stops up to 30.06 armor piercing ammunition.

## TRAINING

1. The ballistic shield is limited to those officers and supervisors who have been specifically trained in its use.
2. Ballistic shield training is the responsibility of the firearms training unit and should be conducted annually.

## SAFETY

Before deploying a ballistic shield the officer should first:

1. Wear his body armor and ballistic helmet.
2. Check the NIJ ballistic protection rating of the shield.

## AUTHORIZATION FOR USE

The use of the ballistic shield is defensive or protective in nature and can be deployed whenever officers feel it will increase their safety. Field supervisors should encourage the use of the shields. Some examples of shield deployments are:

1. Officer rescues.
2. Citizen rescues.
3. Cover movement of officers across openings or to an objective.
4. Cover openings such as windows, doorways, hallways, etc.

5. Provide cover where no other cover is available.

**DEPLOYMENT**

The following shield deployment tactics can be utilized:

1. Two Officer Deployment: One officer deploying a shield and one officer providing immediate cover.
2. Single Officer Deployment: One officer deploys with pistol in strong hand and shield in weak hand.

