

**CITY OF OCONOMOWOC POLICE DEPARTMENT  
POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

DATE: August 30, 2021

HISTORY: November 13, 1999

SUBJECT: Squad Firearms

POLICY NUMBER: 99-063

**I. INTRODUCTION**

The department's patrol vehicles have been equipped with both a rifle and a 12-gauge less lethal shotgun. Each firearm is intended to compliment the other and provide the officer with an immediate choice when confronted by various circumstances. The rifle is intended to deliver accurate, effect fire beyond the range considered safe or effective for a handgun. The chief and detective vehicles are equipped with a 12-gauge shotgun that is cased and stored in the vehicle trunk.

**II. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this directive is to establish guidelines for the proper inspection of each squad firearm prior to the officer tour of duty or as soon thereafter.

**III. GUIDELINES**

**A. AR15 Rifle**

1. The AR15 rifle is carried inside the driver's area of each patrol squad. Before removing the firearm for inspection prior to beginning the tour of duty, the officer must ensure that the safety is on. This is determined by observing that the white line on the safety lever is aligned with the white bullet designator above the trigger.
2. With the safety on, remove the firearm from the rack, keeping fingers off the trigger and out of the trigger guard area. Remove the 30-round magazine. Inspect the magazine to ensure it is fully loaded (28 rounds).
3. With the safety on, magazine removed, fingers off the trigger, and the firearm pointed in a safe direction, pull the charging handle to the rear, and lock it open. Visually and physically inspect the firearm to ensure it is clear.
4. Close the action by "slapping" the charging handle with the palm of your hand. Insert the magazine, ensuring that it is locked in place. Return the firearm to the rack and secure it.

**B. Less Lethal Shotgun**

1. The less lethal shotgun is carried inside the driver's area of the patrol squad. Before removing the firearm for inspection prior to beginning the tour of duty, the officer must ensure that the safety is on. The less lethal shotgun safety is located on the trigger guard behind the trigger. The safety is on when the red ring around the safety button is not displayed.
2. With the safety on, remove the firearm from the rack, fingers off the trigger and out of the trigger guard area. Point the firearm in a safe direction, open the bolt, ensure the chamber is empty. Check the magazine tube to ensure that it is also empty, indicated by an orange plug. After ensuring the chamber and magazine are empty, close the bolt on the entry chamber.

3. Check the less lethal round sleeve that is located on the buttstock of the weapon and ensure that the five rounds indicate they are 'less lethal' ammunition.
  4. Return the shotgun to the rack and secure it.
- C. 12-Gauge 1187 Shotgun – Chief & Detective Car
1. The 12-gauge shotgun is carried in a case located in the trunk of the vehicle. Remove the shotgun from the case. Ensure that the safety is on. The safety is on when the red ring around the safety button is not displayed.
  2. Open the bolt slightly and visually inspect the chamber to ensure that it is empty. Allow the bolt to close on an empty chamber.
  3. The magazine tube is loaded with 6 rounds of 12-gauge slug ammunition, with an additional 5 slug rounds on the ammunition sleeve located on the buttstock of the shotgun.
  4. To empty the magazine tube, point the weapon in a safe direction and cycle the bolt until all the rounds are ejected from the magazine tube displayed by an orange plug in the magazine tube.
  5. The 12-gauge shotgun is stored "squad ready". The shotgun will have the bolt closed on an empty chamber with safety on. The magazine will be loaded with 6 rounds of 12-gauge slug ammunition, with 5 additional rounds on the storage sleeve. The shotgun is stored in the case and secured in the trunk.
- D. There are no accidental discharges. In order for these weapons to fire, they must be loaded and the trigger depressed.

**IV. EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY MAY BE AUTHORIZED ONLY BY THE CHIEF OF POLICE**

This policy is effective immediately  
and will supersede any directives or understandings in conflict