

Narragansett Police Department

40 Caswell Street, Narragansett, RI 02882

EFFECTIVE February 2, 2013	LAST REVISED November 20, 2015	SCHEDULED REVIEW November 20, 2018
Policy 310.04	DEPARTMENT ISSUED HANDGUNS	

01 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the type and specification of the department issued handgun, the types and specifications of ammunition approved for use, and to identify the procedures for review, inspection, and approval of department issued handguns. In addition, this policy will explain the process of how to remove unsafe weapons, the procedure for maintaining a record on department issued handguns, the in-service training requirements and define the proficiency required in order to carry and use the department issued handgun.

02 Policy

It shall be the policy of the Narragansett Police Department that all full-time sworn personnel who are issued handguns are familiar with and abide by this directive.

03 Procedures

The Narragansett Police Department has selected the Sig Sauer P226 .357 Caliber as its duty firearm. Characteristics of the Sig Sauer P226 include a 13 round capacity (12 shots in the magazine with one in the barrel) and Siglite Night Sights. This selection was based on research and testing. This weapon was selected for its superior quality, proven durability, and ease of operation.

A. Duty Carry

1. All sworn department personnel will carry their weapon while on duty unless special circumstances arise. In the event a different weapon is carried, this weapon will be subject to approval by the Chief of Police. This approval will be based on the alternative weapon system that is being considered for duty carry. A member of the Armorer Team will research the alternative weapon. Issues of safety features, ease of function and caliber will be considered. Once a weapon is found to be appropriate for the intended use, a list of these weapons and officers permitted to carry them will be maintained in the armory files.
2. The carry system for patrol officers will be the Sig Sauer P226 authorized holster for all uniformed patrol situations. This holster will be carried in a manner consistent with the department's uniform policy. Administrators and detectives will be allowed to use a more compact holster for comfort and concealment ability.

B. Off Duty Carry

1. Pursuant to R.I.G.L., officers are permitted to carry a weapon while off duty. In all cases their weapon is to be carried in an approved holster and is to be concealed from public view. The holster

is to be examined by the department armorer to insure it is safe to operate and demonstrate how to properly secure the weapon.

2. The decision to carry an off-duty weapon is solely left to the discretion of the officer. The Narragansett Police Department does not mandate officers to carry a weapon while off duty. In the event an officer chooses to carry a weapon while off duty, that officer will handle the weapon in a manner that would be considered safe and appropriate. All officers are required to obey all laws that pertain to concealed carry which includes but is not limited to, firing in a compact area and possession of a firearm while intoxicated.
3. If an officer carries their duty weapon out of town, they are to do so in a manner that is within the local and state laws of that jurisdiction. At no time may an officer carry their duty weapon in a manner that would violate the local or state laws in any jurisdiction.
4. Qualification with off-duty weapons is required and will be conducted by the department armorer's. All weapons carried off duty will be authorized and registered with the department. The personally-owned firearm registration form is attached to this policy.

C. Ammunition

1. The Narragansett Police Department has selected Hollow Point .357 Caliber 125 Grain Duty Ammunition as the authorized ammo for the department issued Sig 226.
2. All department personnel will carry the ammunition supplied by the Narragansett Police Department. Any ammunition other than that which is issued needs the approval of the Chief of Police. This approval will be based upon research that addresses the ballistic information supplied by the manufacturer, as well as information supplied by other police agencies. Only department-approved ammunition will be used in department weapons. No ammunition shall be altered in anyway without the express permission of the Chief of Police.
3. All uniformed patrol officers will carry two spare magazines on their duty belt at all times. The description of the duty belt can be found in the uniform policy. All members of the Administrative and Detective Divisions are not required to carry two spare magazines on their personal belt but shall have them readily available while on duty.
4. All department members will practice with ammunition approved by this department. At no time shall an officer fire any round from their duty weapon that is not approved by the Chief of Police.

D. Storage

1. When an officer's duty weapon is not being carried on their person, it is the officer's responsibility to ensure the weapon is being stored in a safe manner. If the officer elects to bring their weapon home it is to be secured and away from other members of the household. Unless exigent circumstances exist, no officer shall leave their duty weapon loaded and unattended in a personal vehicle.
2. Officers shall not take any Narragansett Police Department owned weapon home (except the standard issued Sig 226) without written permission from the Chief of Police or designee.

E. Personal Weapons

1. Weapons that are not owned by the Narragansett Police Department shall not be used for any duty assignments. Any special weaponry shall be obtained by the Narragansett Police Department in a manner approved by the Chief of Police.
2. In the event a personal weapon needs to be used, the officer will be required to qualify with that weapon. The qualification will be conducted with a department armorer, who will inspect the weapon and a personally-owned firearm registration form will be completed. The registration form, once approved by the Chief of Police, will be maintained within the armory files.

F. Training and Qualifications

1. Prior to being authorized to carry a duty firearm agency personnel must be instructed on and issued copies of the department Use of Force Policy #300.01. This instruction and issuance will be documented in as a training certificate in Power-DMS.
2. Pursuant to R.I.G.L., all sworn, full-time members of the department will qualify at least once annually. The course of fire used for this qualification will be designed to suit the needs of this department and approved by the Statewide Firearms Officers Committee. It is the intention of this department to provide training two times per year. One of these trainings will be conducted pursuant to State law qualification standards. During qualifications, all officers will be required to attain a minimum score of 80%. In the event a weapon or carry system is used that varies from the standard department issue; officers will be required to train and qualify with this equipment.
3. In the event an officer is not able to satisfactorily pass a qualification session, the armorer performing the qualification will attempt to assess any deficiencies. The officer will be allowed to re-qualify one time. In the event the officer cannot qualify the second time, their duty weapon will be confiscated and the officer's duties adjusted until they successfully qualify.
4. All training and qualification functions will be designed by the department armorer and approved by the Chief of Police. Records of all qualification and training session will be maintained in the armory files. The bi-annual firearm qualification record is attached to this policy.
5. With approval of the Chief of Police, or his/her designee, retired officers seeking to obtain a Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act (LEOSA) card or a pistol permit (either State or Municipal) may be qualified by a Narragansett Police Department Range Officer. This service will only be offered during the regular spring and fall department qualification dates.

Note: The retired officers are not to be considered as carrying the firearm for the Narragansett Police Department and do not enjoy any immunities as outlined.

G. Violation of Firearms Policy

1. If an officer violates the weapons policy of the Narragansett Police Department, the disciplinary procedures specified in the rules and regulations and department policy will be followed. While attending training functions, the department armorer will have the authority to remove an officer from the training location for any unsafe handling or inappropriate conduct. A report will be forwarded to the Chief of Police for review and any disciplinary action. If an armorer observes any

violation of this policy pertaining to unauthorized weapons or carry methods, an immediate notification will be made to that officer's supervisor and a report forwarded to the Chief of Police.

H. Accessories

1. Any and all accessories that can be attached to the department issued weapons must be approved by the Chief of Police. Such accessories include but are not limited to, tactical lights & lasers.
2. Any accessories to be used on the duty weapon must be properly installed and inspected by an armorer prior to its use. In the event the accessory is designed to be installed and removed quickly, the accessory and the officer's knowledge of its use must be evaluated by an armorer.

I. Modifications

1. Officer(s) shall not modify their duty weapon in any way without proper approval from the Chief of Police. Modifications will include but are not limited to altering the action, removal, and replacement of a factory part, and changes to the sights.

By Order Of:

Chief of Police

Narragansett Police Department

PERSONALLY-OWNED FIREARM REGISTRATION FORM

It is requested that I be allowed to carry the privately-owned handgun described below:

Make: _____ Model#: _____

Serial #: _____

Caliber: _____ Color: _____ Magazine Capacity: _____

Ammunition Description: _____

Have you made any modifications to the weapon? No: _____ Yes: _____ (explain)

Reason for Request: Off-Duty: _____ On-Duty: _____

Respectfully,

Officer's Signature, Badge #, Date

Officer's Name Printed

I certify the above weapon and ammunition passed inspection on: _____ and the officer demonstrated proficiency/qualification on: _____.

Firearms Instructor Date

Approved: _____
COP Date

Narragansett Police Department Bi-Annual Firearm Qualification Record

Name: _____ Rank: _____ Badge # _____

Duty Weapon Info:

Dept. Issued: _____

Make: _____ Model: _____ Serial #: _____

Caliber/Ammo Type: .357 cal.

Modification to Weapon (if any explain):

I, _____, certify the above duty weapon and ammunition passed
(Range officer's name)

inspection and the Member PD Qualification Course on ____/____/____.
(Date)

Qualification Info:

(Pass/Fail) 1st Attempt ____ 2nd Attempt (if necessary) _____
(Range officer signature)

Comments/Remedial Training Info:

CIRCLE ONE: OFF-DUTY / ON-DUTY WEAPON:

Make: _____ Model: _____ Serial #: _____

Caliber/Ammo Type: _____

Modification to Weapon (if any explain) _____

Inspected & Qualified by: _____

(Range officer's name, badge #, and date)