



KERN COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Policies And Procedures

TITLE: Shotgun			Article: 1716
APPROVED: William Dickinson, Chief Probation Officer			
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POLICY

The Kern County Probation Department has adopted the Remington 870, 12-gauge shotgun as the official shotgun to be issued to authorized Probation Department personnel.

DEPARTMENTAL AUTHORIZATION

To be authorized to carry a shotgun, the officer must

- a. Be assigned to an armed position,
- b. Satisfactorily complete the Probation Department Introductory Shotgun Course,
- c. Complete the "Application for Authorization to Carry a Shotgun While on Duty" form and route it through appropriate channels to the Chief Probation Officer,
- d. Receive written authorization from the Chief Probation Officer or his/her designee.

Should an officer fail shotgun qualifications repeatedly or demonstrate a lack of ability to safely handle a shotgun, the Range Master will provide written notification to the Chief Probation Officer and the officer may have authorization to carry a shotgun revoked. The Chief Probation Officer may revoke the authorization to carry a shotgun at any time at his/her sole and absolute discretion.

I. SHOTGUN SAFETY AND STORAGE

- A. Persons authorized to carry shotguns shall observe and practice the following safety regulations:
- B. Shotguns must be loaded and unloaded in a safe manner with the weapon pointed in a safe direction. This should be done in a safe area and whenever possible away from public view.

- C. Shotguns must be unloaded including the side saddle with the safety on and forend back/action open prior to storing.
- D. Shotguns must be stored in a CA DOJ approved safe or in the department armory. Safes are not to contain seized weapons, property or any ammunition.
- E. Officers will be issued nine buckshot rounds and two shotgun slugs.
- F. Officers will be responsible for all department issued duty ammunition assigned to them.
- G. Shotguns must be locked in a vehicle rack or approved lock box in a "cruiser safe" condition.
- H. The magazine tube must be one round down from full in the rack with an empty chamber, forend locked forward, and the safety on. The rack must prevent the forend from being manipulated while the weapon is secured.
- I. Shotguns shall not be stored overnight in any vehicle or in any location accessible to unauthorized persons.
- J. Shotguns will be loaded with buckshot only in the weapon. The ammo carrier will be loaded with all rounds brass up.
- K. The ammo carrier should be loaded with buckshot except for two slugs in the rearward most slots on the ammo carrier.

II. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The only shotgun issued by the Kern County Probation Department is:

- A. Remington 870 Police, 870 magnum, or 870 Express, with an 18 or 20-inch barrel. Shotguns with 18 or 20-inch barrels will be equipped with a magazine extension tube;
- B. Shotgun stocks will be a composite material and may have "built in" extra rounds storage capability;
- C. Sights must be ghost ring or rifle type;
- D. Shotguns must be equipped with sling mounts and a shoulder sling. Slings shall be constructed of nylon strapping at least one inch in width. The purpose of the sling is to carry the weapon when both hands are needed for other purposes, which is critical for officer safety;

- E. Shotguns must be equipped with a weapon mounted light. The purpose of the light is for threat identification and discrimination;
- F. Shotguns must be equipped to allow the carrying of additional rounds in a side-saddle, butt cuff, or stock with built in storage capacity;
- G. The type of ammunition issued by the Probation Department will be the only authorized for duty use. Personnel who wish to carry additional rounds, in excess of Probation Department issue, must purchase the exact ammunition issued by the Probation Department;
- H. The standard issue shotgun ammunition will be #1 buckshot, 00 buckshot, and shotgun slugs; and
- I. Accessories and ammunition not issued by the department must be inspected and approved by the Rangemaster.

The Rangemaster will maintain records of all shotguns issued and/or utilized by authorized officers. Records will include the serial number of the approved shotgun, and a description of approved modifications to the shotgun.