

# **Waltham Police Department**

## **PATROL RIFLE USE**

### **CHAPTER 51A**

*General Order Number:*

*Effective date:*

*Reviewed:*

*Accreditation Standard #:*

#### **POLICY:**

Use of the patrol rifle will be governed by the Waltham Police Department Manual – Use of Force Policy, Chapter 1.

Patrol Rifles are to be utilized by officers who are specifically trained in their use. These officers shall provide on scene long arm support.

#### **1. EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS:**

a. **PATROL RIFLE:** Colt LE Carbine, Caliber: Remington .223 (5.56mm)

b. **AMMUNITION:** Federal 223A, 55 Grain Hi-shock Soft Point

#### **2. FIELD USE:**

The field use of the patrol rifle is limited to the function of a support Weapon. The patrol rifle's purpose is to be utilized where:

1. The distance is too great for a safe pistol shot.
2. A pistol shot may be ineffective in stopping the target.
3. Used in direct fire support of officers or civilians.

#### **3. DISTANCE AND RANGE FOR USE:**

A general distance of 100 yards is the suggested maximum range for controlling a subject with a patrol rifle.

#### **4. TRANSPORT CONDITION:**

The weapon shall be securely locked in the approved cruiser rifle rack:

1. With the magazine inserted.

2. The safety on.
3. The bolt assembly forward with an **EMPTY CHAMBER**.
4. When left unattended the cruiser shall be locked.

5. **MAINTENANCE:**

It is the duty of the individual officer qualified in the use of the patrol rifle to:

- a. Properly maintain and secure their assigned weapon at **ALL** times, and ensure their operational readiness.
- b. Utilize and service their weapon as needed.
- c. Qualified officers must electronically document when a rifle is taken at the start of shift and returned at the end of shift.

6. **TRAINING:**

Before an officer is authorized to carry the patrol rifle, the officer will receive instructions in the department policies and procedures concerning the use of force. Officers must also:

- a. Show a working knowledge of use of force and other related policies and procedures by way of practical and written testing.
- b. Use only those techniques and skills approved by the Waltham Police Department and the Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee.
- c. Submit to an annual qualification conducted by a certified firearm instructor according to training policy.