



Sheridan Police Department
Policies and Procedures
17.2 Replaces 304.5
Chapter 17 – Uniforms & Equipment
Section 2 – Duty Gear

Date: January 1, 2013
Revised: 02/09/2022

Signature:

The department recognizes the duty gear industry is rapidly changing. The department will consider new products that are proposed for use so as not to overlook a superior product. Duty gear must be functional while also projecting a neat and professional appearance.

17.2.1 Duty Gear

- A. All sworn officers must have suitable black basket weave duty gear including duty belt, holster, cuff case, magazine pouch and baton holder or defensive spray case. Non sworn uniformed personnel may substitute authorized web gear.
- C. Uniform duty belt and accessories must have a Velcro closure, hidden hardware or black finish to provide a uniform appearance.
- D. All uniform duty holsters must have a tension retention device and a covered trigger guard. The holster must be of a design that allows the officer to re-holster and secure a weapon using one hand. All holsters will be designed for the make and model of the weapon and equipment carried. Non-issued duty holsters require the approval of the chief of police. Detectives and administrative officers must use a holster designed to keep the trigger guard covered and must be manufactured for the make and model of the weapon carried. If detectives or administrative officers are carrying an exposed firearm in any allowed areas, then the holster must have a snap closure and/or tension retention device.
- E. Uniform ammunition carriers shall be black basket weave design. Open top magazine carriers must employ a retention device. Uniformed officers on duty must carry at a minimum two fully loaded magazines on their duty belt and one fully loaded magazine in their duty hand gun.
- F. Non-uniform personnel will carry at least one (1) set of regulation handcuffs for duty purposes. Uniform personnel will carry at least two (2) sets of regulation handcuffs for duty purposes. Handcuffs shall be chained or hinged and black or silver. They shall be capable of being double locked and of being unlocked with a standard handcuff key.
- G. Uniform personnel shall carry oleoresin capsicum and an expandable baton on their duty belts or vest. Detectives should carry a less lethal alternative when working in situations constituting a foreseeable heightened risk, unless being assisted by a patrol officer carrying less lethal alternatives.
- H. Uniform and detective personnel shall carry a portable radio while on assigned patrol functions or special assignments as designated by a supervisor.
- I. All sworn personnel must carry assigned department keys/key cards including a handcuff key while on duty assignments.
- J. Uniform and detective personnel shall carry OSHA required safety equipment when responding to calls requiring first aid or evidence collection.

- K. Uniform and detective personnel shall carry a flashlight designed for police use when working night or dim-light assignments.
- L. Officers may wear ribbons that they have received for special recognition as a law enforcement officer. These will be worn over the right front shirt pocket above the nameplate. See section 7.6.4.
- M. City of Sheridan and police department identifications and badge will be carried and properly displayed as required in section 17.5.3.

17.2.2 Knives

- A. Folding lock blade knives are a versatile utility tool.
- B. Folding knives may be carried by officers in the performance of their duties if they meet the following conditions:
 - a. The blade does not exceed four inches in length; and
 - b. The blade will lock into position when manually opened.
- C. The carrying of any knife shall be done as unobtrusively as possible. No knives will be carried on the officer's duty belt or in any other manner that displays the knife to the public or could be easily accessible to another person. Knives authorized under this policy may be carried on an officer's duty belt in a carrying case.
- D. Officers shall take care not to exhibit or handle knives in a careless manner.
 - 1. It is the individual officer's responsibility to use the folding knife as a tool in a safe and responsible manner.
 - 2. The officer shall use reasonable care in the general use of the knife as a tool to prevent injury to the officer and others.
 - 3. The officer shall use reasonable care in the use of the knife as a tool to prevent damage to property.
- E. Except for specialty assignments where the use of a knife is specifically provided for, the possession or use of a fixed-blade knife by on-duty uniformed personnel is prohibited.

17.2.3 Firearms

- A. Officers are permitted to carry a second firearm while on duty. See section 11.3.41.
- B. Backup firearms, if carried, shall be purchased by the officer.
- C. The chief of police may supply a purchase letter certifying the purchaser's law enforcement position and status allowing them to possess a gun, for the purchase of a backup weapon.
- D. Officers requesting a purchase letter shall complete a weapon request and obtain approval from their supervisor and the firearms coordinator.