

LAW ENFORCEMENT EQUIPMENT PERMANENT WORKING GROUP

Annual Equipment List Review

Consistent with the “Recommendations Pursuant to Executive Order 13688,” the Permanent Working Group (PWG) conducted an annual evaluation and review of the items on the Prohibited and Controlled Equipment Lists to determine whether equipment categories should be added, deleted, or refined. The first annual review took place from July to September 2016 and included significant input from civil rights, law enforcement, and other relevant stakeholder groups. The changes below will take effect in Fiscal Year 2017 (beginning October 1, 2016).

PROHIBITED EQUIPMENT LIST		
FY2016	FY2017	COMMENTS
Tracked Armored Vehicles: Vehicles that provide ballistic protection to their occupants and utilize a tracked system instead of wheels for forward motion.	[No Change]	
Weaponized Aircraft, Vessels, and Vehicles of Any Kind: These items will be prohibited from purchase or transfer with weapons installed.	[No Change]	
Firearms of .50-Caliber or Higher	[No Change]	
Ammunition of .50-Caliber or Higher	[No Change]	
Grenade Launchers: Firearm or firearm accessory designed to launch small explosive projectiles.	Grenade Launchers: Firearm or firearm accessory designed to launch small explosive projectiles. This does not include launchers specifically designed and built to launch less lethal projectiles.	The new definition differentiates between launchers purpose built to launch explosive as opposed to less lethal projectiles. See revised “Specialized Firearms” category below.
Bayonets: Large knives designed to be attached to the muzzle of a rifle / shotgun / long gun for the purposes of hand-to-hand combat.	[No Change]	

PROHIBITED EQUIPMENT LIST

Camouflage Uniforms: Does not include woodland or desert patterns or solid color uniforms.

CONTROLLED EQUIPMENT LIST

FY2016	FY2017	COMMENTS
Manned Aircraft, Fixed Wing: Powered aircraft with a crew aboard, such as airplanes, that use a fixed wing for lift.	[No Change]	
Manned Aircraft, Rotary Wing: Powered aircraft with a crew aboard, such as helicopters, that use a rotary wing for lift.	[No Change]	
Unmanned Aerial Vehicles: A remotely piloted, powered aircraft without a crew aboard.	[No Change]	
Armored Vehicles, Wheeled: Any wheeled vehicle either purpose-built or modified to provide ballistic protection to its occupants, such as a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle or an Armored Personnel Carrier. These vehicles are sometimes used by law enforcement personnel involved in dangerous operating conditions, including active shooter or similar high-threat situations. These vehicles often have weapon-firing ports.	[No Change]	

CONTROLLED EQUIPMENT LIST		
FY2016	FY2017	COMMENTS
<p>Tactical Vehicles, Wheeled: A vehicle purpose-built to operate on- and off-road in support of military operations, such as a HMMWV ("Humvee"), 2.5-ton truck, 5-ton truck, or a vehicle with a breaching or entry apparatus attached. These vehicles are sometimes used by law enforcement in rough terrain or inclement weather for search and rescue operations, as well as other law enforcement functions.</p>	<p>Tactical Vehicles, Wheeled: A vehicle purpose-built to operate on- and off-road in support of military operations, such as a HMMWV ("Humvee"), 2.5-ton truck, or 5-ton truck, or a vehicle with a breaching or entry apparatus attached. These vehicles are sometimes used by law enforcement in rough terrain or inclement weather for search and rescue operations, as well as other law enforcement functions. This excludes commercially available vehicles not tactical in nature, such as pick-up trucks or SUVs.</p>	<p>The new definition provides more descriptive language to clarify what is excluded from this category.</p>
<p>Command and Control Vehicles: Any wheeled vehicle either purpose-built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units responding to an incident. Command and Control vehicles provide a variety of capabilities to the incident Commander, including, but not limited to, the provision for enhanced communications and other situational awareness capabilities.</p>	<p>Command and Control Vehicles: Any wheeled vehicle either purpose-built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units responding to an incident. Command and Control vehicles provide a variety of capabilities to the incident Commander, including, but not limited to, the provision for enhanced communications and other situational awareness capabilities. Command and Control Vehicles are similar to a recreational vehicle and can accommodate multiple people at multiple workstations in the command center. This category is not intended for other types of vehicles that could serve as a command and control center, including SUVs.</p>	<p>The new definition provides more descriptive language to clarify what is included in and excluded from this category.</p>

CONTROLLED EQUIPMENT LIST		
FY2016	FY2017	COMMENTS
<p>Specialized Firearms and Ammunition Under .50-Caliber (excludes firearms and ammunition for service-issued weapons): Weapons and corresponding ammunition for specialized operations or assignment. This excludes service-issued handguns, rifles, or shotguns that are issued or approved by the agency to be used during the course of regularly assigned duties.</p>	<p>Specialized Firearms and Ammunition Under .50 Caliber (excludes firearms and ammunition designed for regularly-assigned duties), and Less Lethal Launchers: Weapons and corresponding ammunition for specialized operations or assignment. This includes launchers specifically designed and built to launch less lethal projectiles. This excludes weapons, such as service-issued handguns, rifles, or shotguns, that are issued or approved by the agency to be used by all sworn officers/deputies during the course of regularly assigned duties.</p>	<p>This definition clarifies that less lethal launchers are Controlled Equipment. Previously, it was unclear whether Less Lethal Launchers were prohibited under the "Grenade Launchers" category or entirely excluded from the Prohibited or Controlled Equipment Lists.</p> <p>The phrase "service-issued" has been supplemented to clarify that this refers to equipment issued to all sworn officers / deputies in the agency.</p>
<p>Explosives and Pyrotechnics: Includes "flash bangs" as well as explosive breaching tools often used by special operations units.</p>	<p>[No Change]</p>	
<p>Breaching Apparatus (e.g. battering ram or similar entry device): Tools designed to provide law enforcement rapid entry into a building or through a secured doorway. These tools may be mechanical in nature (a battering ram), ballistic (slugs), or explosive.</p>	<p>Breaching Apparatus []: Tools designed to provide law enforcement rapid entry into a building or through a secured doorway. These tools may be mechanical in nature (a battering ram connected to a vehicle or a propellant), ballistic (slugs), or explosive. This category does not include dual purpose tools such as a sledgehammer or bolt cutter.</p>	<p>The new definition provides more descriptive language to clarify what is included in and excluded from this category.</p>

CONTROLLED EQUIPMENT LIST		
FY2016	FY2017	COMMENTS
<p>Riot Batons (excluding service-issued telescopic or fixed-length straight batons): Non-expandable baton of greater length (generally in excess of 24 inches) than service-issued types and are intended to protect its wielder during melees by providing distance from assailants.</p>	<p>Riot/Crowd Control Batons: Non-expandable baton of greater length [] than service-issued types and are intended to protect its wielder during crowd control situations by providing distance from assailants. This includes all batons with advanced features such as tear gas discharge, electronic or "stun" capabilities.</p>	<p>The title of this category has been modified.</p> <p>The term "melees" has been replaced with "crowd control."</p> <p>The new definition provides more descriptive language to clarify what is included in and excluded from this category.</p>
<p>Riot Helmets: Helmets designed to protect the wearer's face and head from injury during melees from projectiles including rocks, bricks, liquids, etc. Riot helmets include a visor which protects the face.</p>	<p>[This category has been removed]</p>	<p>This category has been removed from the Controlled Equipment List based on an evaluation and balancing of relevant factors such as officer safety, utility of equipment to law enforcement, building trust between law enforcement and the community, and the impact on the community of misuse, overuse, and inappropriate use. Riot/Crowd Control Batons and Shields continue to be Controlled Equipment.</p>
<p>Riot Shields: Shields intended to protect wielders from their head to their knees in melees. Most are designed for the protection of the user from projectiles including rocks, bricks, and liquids. Some afford limited ballistic protection as well. Riot shields may also be used as an offensive weapon to push opponents.</p>	<p>Riot/Crowd Control Shields: Shields intended to protect wielders from their head to their knees in crowd control situations. Most are designed for the protection of the user from projectiles including rocks, bricks, and liquids. Some afford limited ballistic protection as well.</p>	<p>The title of this category has been modified.</p> <p>The term "melees" has been replaced with "crowd control."</p>