

*Maryland-National Capital Park Police*  
*Prince George's County Division*

**DIVISION DIRECTIVE**

TITLE <b>Patrol Rifles</b>		PROCEDURE NUMBER <b>PG401.2</b>	
SECTION <b>Operational Procedures</b>	DISTRIBUTION <b>A</b>	EFFECTIVE DATE <b>05/01/12</b>	REVIEW DATE <b>06/01/15</b>
REPLACES <b>D.D. 401.2 – “Patrol Rifle”, issued</b>			
RELATED DIRECTIVES <b>PG401.0; PG401.1</b>	REFERENCES <b>CALEA 1, 16, 33, 84</b>	AUTHORITY <b>Commander Larry M. Brownlee, Sr.- Division Chief</b>	

**I. PURPOSE**

To establish guidelines for the issuance, care, and storage of Division issued Patrol Rifles.

**II. POLICY**

This Division will provide patrol rifles to any officer, assigned to a cruiser equipped with a locking rifle mount, who is qualified to operate the weapon.

**III. PROCEDURES**

**A. Patrol Rifle Issuance**

1. Rifles will be assigned to selected officers upon successful completion of an MPCTC approved patrol rifle course. Officers must qualify with a score of 90% or better for each portion of the patrol rifle course (day, reduced light, close quarter battle (CQB)).
2. At no time will an officer of this Division who has not qualified with the Division issued rifle be issued or otherwise carry a rifle. Only those who have qualified and demonstrated proficiency with a Division approved rifle may carry one.
3. It is the responsibility of the division range master to ensure that rifles are issued according to procedures and that the appropriate forms are completed. The division range master, in conjunction with the bi-county range administrator, will develop, submit to MPCTC for approval, and implement an approved training program.

## *FIREARMS*

### **PG401.0**

#### B. Issued Weapon

1. The Division issued weapon is the Bushmaster 16" Patrolman's Carbine Rifle in .223 caliber. It is the responsibility of each officer to maintain the issued weapon in a clean and serviceable condition.
2. Officers are not authorized to do modifications, alterations, or repairs on Division issued weapons. All modifications, alterations, or repairs shall be done through the Division Armorer.

#### C. Rifle Storage

1. Rifles shall be kept in a secure in-car lockable rack, or approved case, in cruiser condition, while officer is on-duty.
2. The rifle rack (or case) shall remain locked except when deploying the rifle for use or removing the rifle for storage.
3. Each officer is responsible for the proper storage of the issued rifle, in accordance with Divisional Directive PG401.0, when not on duty.
4. All rifles placed in a secure rifle cabinet will be kept in Storage Condition.

#### D. Ammunition

Officers of this Division carrying a patrol rifle will obtain ammunition, upon successful completion of an MPCTC approved course, from the division range master or a qualified range instructor. The officer will be assigned ninety (90) rounds of .223 caliber ammunition. All issued ammunition will be carried in issued 30 round magazines. A rifle will be considered loaded if ammunition remains in the magazine and the magazine is inserted in the magazine well. Spare magazines will be carried in an approved carrier.

#### E. Selection for Patrol Rifle program

1. The Park Police Division Chief shall establish the selection criteria for personnel to participate in the Patrol Rifle program. Criteria may include; but not be limited to; a minimum annual qualification with issued handgun score of 90%, current duty assignment, demonstrated proficiency and willingness to participate in the Patrol Rifle program with no recent disciplinary actions.

#### F. Storage Condition

1. Safety on.
2. Check chamber; look and feel to ensure it is empty.
3. Check magazine well; look and feel to ensure it is empty.
4. Work action at least twice;
5. Safety ON.

## G. Cruiser Condition

1. Be secured in the locking mount or case.
2. Have the safety on.
3. Have no rounds in the chamber.
4. Have the action fully closed.
5. Have a maximum of 30 rounds of issued approved .223 caliber ammunition in the magazine well.

## H. GENERAL PROCEDURES

1. The Chief, Park Police Division, may authorize or approve personnel to be issued rifles, and to issue ammunition, as part of their regular equipment. The officer must send a written request through their chain of command and submitted to the Range Master with a recommendation for approval to the Chief, Park Police Division.
2. Due to the limited number of rifles available, the Chief, Park Police Division, will have sole discretion as to which personnel will be issued division rifles.
3. At no time will personnel who have NOT qualified and demonstrated an acceptable proficiency level with a rifle, be issued or authorized to carry a rifle. The Division Range Master must ensure that rifles are issued properly and appropriate forms are completed.
4. While a rifle is being carried in a cruiser, an officer of this Division may not leave the vehicle unlocked or unattended with the keys in the ignition.
5. Only Division issued ammunition shall be carried in Division rifle. The Duty Ammunition is Federal .223 Remington 62 grain Bonded Soft Point. The training ammunition is Federal .223 Remington 62 grain Full Metal Jacket Boat Tail.
6. Because of the extreme destructive power a rifle possesses, safe handling and use of the rifle must be a constant consideration for the officer carrying one. Officers of this Division must give consideration to the following criteria before removing the rifle from the locking mount when arriving at the scene of a call:
  - a. Nature and location of the call.
  - b. The possibility of a subject presenting an armed threat to the officer.
  - c. Safety of innocent bystanders.
  - d. Previous problems at same area or with same type of call.
7. Personnel shall not make modifications or attachments to the issued patrol rifle unless authorized by a certified Armorer or the division range master.

8. The division range master or designated certified Armorer shall inspect all rifles issued during semi-annual qualifications to ensure compliance with this directive. Any weapon found to be unsafe shall be removed from service and repaired by either a certified Armorer or the manufacturer if necessary.

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