

September 2026

Proposed Addition of UAS to Emeryville Police Department Military Equipment Inventory

The Emeryville Police Department owns and/or uses the following military equipment, as defined in California Government Code 7070, et seq.:

- I. (42) Forty-two semi-automatic rifles.¹
- II. (1) One Unmanned Aerial System (UAS).

Purpose & Use

- I. The semi-automatic rifles are used as a precision weapon when sworn personnel reasonably anticipate an armed encounter, to address threats that may be protected by body armor or where the distance prevents a handgun from proficiently or effectively addressing the threat. Emeryville Police Department "Policy 300 Use of Force" and "Policy 305 Firearms" describe authorized use of the rifle.
- II. The UAS is a public-safety focused unmanned aerial system designed for Drone as First Responder (DFR) program and other authorized public safety operations, including search and rescue, disaster response, crime and collision scene documentation, tactical response planning, missing persons investigations, response to calls for service, and situational awareness during police responses and critical incidents. The UAS provides real-time and recorded aerial video, optical and thermal imaging, two-way communications, remote operation, automated takeoff and landing, and approximately 40 minutes of flight time. The system includes an automated docking, deployment, and charging station. Emeryville Police Department "Policy 606 Unmanned Aerial Systems" governs authorized use of the UAS.

Complaints

The Emeryville Police Department takes seriously all complaints regarding the service provided by the Department and the conduct of its members, including complaints regarding military equipment.

¹ This inventory includes weapons personally owned by officers but deployed for official use in the course of duty.

The Department will accept and address all complaints of misconduct in accordance with this policy and applicable federal, state and local law, municipal and county rules and the requirements of any collective bargaining agreements.

It is also the policy of this department to ensure that the community can report misconduct without concern for reprisal or retaliation. A complaint may be filed in person (2449 Powell St. Emeryville, CA 94608), in writing, or by telephoning the Department (510) 596-3700. Additionally, the City hosts an online form through which complaints may be submitted: <https://us.openforms.com/Form/ade577da-29b2-4628-ac94-7cc4e999c231>

Internal Audits

- I. All sworn personnel deploying these rifles must have completed a 16-hour POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) certified "Firearms/Tactical Rifle" course. Annual qualification requirements are described in Emeryville Police Department "Policy 305 Firearms". In addition, POST requires 4 hours of training every two years.

During officer firearm requalification, each patrol rifle is inspected as part of the safety evaluation and audit systems. No violations of the patrol rifle safety standards or military use policy were identified during this reporting period.

- II. All personnel deploying the UAS must have completed required FAA training in accordance with "Policy 606 Unmanned Aerial Systems." The Department's UAS Program Coordinator is responsible for ensuring personnel have completed relevant Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) training and comport with applicable laws surrounding deployment of UAS, and that there is a protocol in place surrounding equipment management, documentation of all missions, data retention, and periodic reports to the Chief.

Pursuant to Government Code 7072, et seq. the Department completes an Annual Military Equipment Use report for City Council consideration and approval.

Annual Cost & Fiscal Impact

- I. Semi-Automatic Rifles: The expected lifespan for each patrol rifle is projected to be 5-15 years. The annual cost is detailed below:
 - Colt AR-15 and Colt M4: Initial cost - \$999; annual maintenance - approximately \$50.
 - Smith & Wesson M&P-15: Initial cost - \$899; annual maintenance - approximately \$50.
 - Bravo Company MFG M-4; Colt LE Carbine; Noveske N4; Noveske N15; Rock River Arms LAR-15; TriArc TSR15; Spike's Tactical ST15: Initial cost – none (employee owned / purchased); annual maintenance - approximately \$50.

- II. Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS): The expected lifespan of the equipment is minimally for contracted service period, with limited repair and/or replacement provided under the manufacturer's support program. The annual cost is dictated by the terms of the 2026 contract, if approved by City Council, between the City of Emeryville and Brinc Drones, Inc.

- Current Estimate: Year 1 - \$0, Year 2-4: \$59,999 each.

Quantity. Description. & Capabilities

- I. Forty-two (42) semi-automatic rifles; 19 Colt AR-15 rifles; 5 Colt M4 rifles; 12 Smith & Wesson M&P-15 rifles; 1 Bravo Company MFG M-4 rifle; 1 TriArc TSR15; 1 Noveske N4 rifle; 1 Noveske N15 rifle; 1 Rock River Arms LAR-15 rifle; 1 Spike's Tactical ST15 rifle. (Total: 42 AR-15 style rifles)

- a) These rifles are 16"-barrel AR-15 platform rifles. The rifles are gas operated, semi-automatic rifles with the ability to be fired from shoulder level. The rifles include a collapsible stock and 30 round magazine and are chambered for .223 or 5.56 caliber.
- b) These rifles can be fired from shoulder level and have a long spirally grooved barrel intended to make bullets spin. The rifle barrel's design provides greater accuracy over a long distance. The rifles also can defeat soft body armor.

- II. One (1) Unmanned Aerial System; Manufacturer: Brinc, Model: Responder.

- a) Description and Capabilities: The Brinc Responder is a public-safety focused unmanned aerial system designed for Drone as First Responder (DFR) programs and other authorized public safety operations. The UAS provides real-time and recorded aerial video, optical and thermal imaging, two-way communications, remote operation, automated takeoff and landing, and approximately 40 minutes of flight time.
- b) The system includes an automated docking, deployment, and charging station.

Acquisition of Additional Military Equipment

- I. Semi-automatic rifles: The Department does not intend to purchase additional semi-automatic rifles over the next year.
- II. Unmanned Aerial Systems: The Department will acquire one (1) Unmanned Aerial System, as listed herein, if approved by City Council, entering into a contract for equipment and services in 2026. The Department does not intend to purchase additional UAS over the next year.