

	GENERAL ORDER	# 05-01
	Effective: 07-17-2023	Replaces or Modifies: GO #05-01
	Section: Equipment & Technology	Title: Firearms Policy
Issued by: Chief Deputy Mattie Provost		

I. Purpose:

To establish authorized firearms to be used by employees of the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office (FBCSO) and set guidelines for firearms qualifications and standards concerning the carry of said firearms. The use of firearms as a force option is covered under General Order 09-02 "Use of Force."

II. Policy Statement:

Employees of the FBCSO who have authority to carry/use firearms are only to carry the firearms authorized in this General Order and only in the manner authorized in this General Order. Further, these employees will meet the qualification and training standards established in this General Order. All firearms carried/used by FBCSO employees shall be in compliance with State and Federal Law. It is the policy of the FBCSO to base hiring upon the standards found in Rule 1.03 [Personnel Selection] of the Civil Service Rules. It is also the policy of the FBCSO to base promotions upon demonstrated merit consistent with the concepts found in the Civil Service Rules.

III. Definitions:

Employee – Also includes Reserve Deputies of the FBCSO.

Firearms – Any handgun, shotgun, precision rifle, patrol rifle, or fully automatic weapon that is carried by an individual employee in an official capacity.

TCOLE – Texas Commission on Law Enforcement

V. Details and Procedures:

A. Primary Duty Handguns

1. Any employee hired after December 31st, 2014, is only authorized to carry the Glock 17 [9mm], Glock 17 MOS [9mm], Glock 45 [9mm], Glock 45 MOS [9mm], or Glock 47 MOS [9mm]. This weapon will be the only authorized handgun for these employees while they are on duty, while off duty and wearing a FBCSO uniform, and while off duty and performing Law Enforcement Outside Employment [see General Order 04-05 for definition].
2. All employees hired on or before December 31st, 2014, are to abide by the following:
 - a. May continue to carry the primary duty handgun they were authorized to carry on the date of implementation of this General Order (as long as that handgun meets the requirements as set forth in Attachment A of this General Order).

(1.) If a Deputy is unable to demonstrate proficiency with a grandfathered handgun, the employee shall change the primary duty weapon to one of the following: Glock 17 [9mm], Glock 17 MOS [9mm], Glock 45 [9mm], Glock 45 MOS [9mm], or Glock 47 MOS [9mm].

- b. If an employee changes his/her primary duty handgun (no matter the reason) then the employee will only be allowed to carry the Glock 17 [9mm], Glock 17 MOS [9mm], Glock 45 [9mm], Glock 45 MOS [9mm], or Glock 47 MOS [9mm]. Change of handgun means a different handgun (as determined by manufacturer, model, and/or serial number).

3. Micro Red Dot Sights (MRDS)

- a. Standard, hard mounted sights may be supplemented by an approved electronic red-dot sight.
- b. Only approved MRDS models will be permitted. The Firearms Proficiency Officer will determine the permitted makes and models of MRDS.
- c. Prior to authorization to use supplemental red-dot sights, deputies will complete a minimum 8-hour MRDS training class.
- d. MRDS will be capable of co-witnessing with the primary standard sights.
- e. Electronic sights will have no magnification.
- f. Deputies utilizing MRDS are required to demonstrate proficiency with their hard sights as part of the standard qualification course.
- g. Deputies who utilize supplemental electronic sights are required to complete a supplemental qualification course utilizing the optic to demonstrate proficiency.
- h. Deputies will be required to change the battery in the MRDS at least once every year (365 days).
- i. The make, model and serial number of the MRDS will be noted on the qualification record.
- j. Approved MRDS will be documented in the Firearms Policy Attachment A.

4. No employee (regardless of hire date) may carry a revolver as their primary duty handgun.

B. Administrative, Plain Clothes, Backup, and Off Duty approved handguns

1. Definitions

- a. Administrative means those employees whose primary duties or temporary duties [in temporary cases only for the duration of the temporary assignment] are administrative in nature and are wearing Non Uniform Attire or a Class C “Soft Uniform” in compliance with General Order 02-02.
- b. Plain clothes means those employees functioning in an approved capacity where the wearing of various types of non-uniform attire is authorized under General Order 02-02 Section II.
- c. Back-up means a handgun carried in addition to a primary weapon that is intended to be used only as an option if the primary weapon fails or is ineffective in an appropriate use of force situation.
- d. Off-Duty means those persons not in FBCSO Uniform, not on active paid duty, and not performing Law Enforcement Outside Employment.

- 2. An employee in a plainclothes assignment must carry an approved “Primary Duty Weapon” as stated in Section V. and while in a public place will ensure that their firearm remains concealed (carried on or about their person hidden from the ordinary view of another person).

3. Back-up weapons shall be worn in a manner designed to conceal its presence while maintaining reasonable control to prevent loss or capture during encounters. These weapons may also be placed in areas where an employee may gain access while ensuring reasonable protection against unauthorized access (one example is within a patrol vehicle).
4. The only handguns authorized to be carried under authority of this section is the employee's approved primary duty handgun (as defined in Section I of this General Order) and those listed in Attachment A of this General Order.

C. Firearms Other Than Handguns

1. Only those shotguns approved in Attachment A of this General Order may be carried/used.
 - a. There is no need of specific authorization to carry a shotgun if the employee carrying/using it has met and maintains the qualification requirements found in this General Order.
 - b. While in vehicles or not being used in conjunction with an active response situation the shotgun will be carried with the magazine loaded, the chamber empty, the safety off, and the action closed.
2. Only those rifles approved in Attachment A of this General Order may be carried/used.
 - a. Personnel must pass a TCOLE-approved patrol rifle proficiency course and qualify each year to carry this weapon
 - b. In addition, rifles may only be carried/used with specific authorization from Division Commander or higher authority. Upon approval of rifle and approval to carry/use an employee may only carry/use a rifle after the employee has met and maintains the qualification requirements found in this General Order.
 - c. While in vehicles or not being used in conjunction with an active response situation, the rifle will be carried with the bolt forward on an empty chamber, the selector switch on "SAFE," and a loaded magazine inserted in the weapon.
 - d. Attachment A provides detailed information on caliber of ammunition, sights, short-barrel firearms, use of suppressors, and trigger pull requirements. Employees must ensure appropriate proficiency qualification, documentation and approval exists prior to carrying a patrol rifle.
3. Training:
 - a. Deputies must have successfully completed a TCOLE Basic Patrol Rifle Course or an equivalent course prior to carrying a Patrol Rifle on duty. Deputies may be able to demonstrate their proficiency with the rifle during a regularly scheduled Rifle Qualification.
 - b. Any officer who fails to successfully complete the Department's qualification session within a calendar year will no longer be authorized to carry the patrol rifle until successfully passing the qualification. Each Deputy will have 2 attempts to demonstrate their proficiency during Rifle Qualification.
4. Rifle Maintenance:
 - a. Officers authorized to deploy Patrol Rifles are responsible for cleaning and proper function of their assigned rifle.
 - b. Only a department-designated armorer is authorized to repair any malfunctions or mechanical failures to Department Issued Rifles. Officers are NOT permitted to modify, other than the standard modifications listed below, any Patrol Rifles without permission from the Firearms Proficiency Officer. All Patrol Rifles must have a

trigger pull equal to or greater than 4.5 pounds.

(1.) Standard Modifications allowed will include a Sling, Weapon Mounted Flashlight, and Optics. Any other modifications must be approved by the Firearms Proficiency Officer.

- c. All rifles are subject to inspection at any time and will be inspected by a FBCSO Firearms Instructor. The rifle will also be inspected by a department armorer before being issued and/ or authorized for use. Rifles found to be unsafe or defective will not be sanctioned by the department or used for qualification until repaired or replaced.
 - d. Any damage to the rifle or mechanical failure of any kind shall be immediately reported to a supervisor or appropriate designee and the rifle will be taken out of service until it is repaired.
 - e. Failure to properly maintain an assigned Patrol Rifle may result in disciplinary action.
5. Deployment of the Patrol Rifle: Officers may deploy the patrol rifle in any circumstance where the officer can articulate a reasonable expectation that the rifle may be needed. Examples of some general guidelines for deploying the patrol rifle may include, but are not limited to:
- a. Situations where the officer reasonably anticipates an armed encounter;
 - b. When an officer is faced with a situation that may require the delivery of accurate and effective fire at long range;
 - c. Situations where an officer reasonably expects the need to meet or exceed a suspect's firepower;
 - d. When an officer reasonably believes that there may be a need to deliver fire on a barricaded suspect or a suspect with a hostage;
 - e. When an officer reasonably believes that a suspect may be wearing body armor;
 - f. When authorized or requested by a supervisor

D. Firearms Training

- 1. The Chief Deputy shall designate a firearms proficiency officer who is responsible for the following (along with any other duties listed in this General Order):
 - a. Create and maintain documentation of annual firearms proficiency in a format readily accessible to TCOLE. This documentation shall at a minimum include the following for each employee who is required to maintain firearms proficiency –
 - 1.) Date of qualification
 - 2.) Identification of employee
 - 3.) Firearm manufacturer and model
 - 4.) Results of qualifying (Pass or Fail)
 - 5.) Course(s) of fire description
 - b. Create and maintain the annual firearms proficiency requirements (including but not limited to schedules and course of fire) in accordance with the minimum standards found in the TCOLE Rules. These requirements and/or revisions must also have approval of the Chief Deputy.
 - c. Create and maintain firearms related training records. The Proficiency Officer may make recommendations for mandatory training for those who require remedial training. The Firearms Proficiency Officer oversees any Firearms training conducted for the FBCSO in order to maintain consistency and efficiency of range activities.

- d. Maintain ammunition and other range supplies to be utilized for on duty use and training purposes.
 - e. The firearms proficiency officer shall have and maintain Firearms Instructor Proficiency Certification through TCOLE.
 - f. As part of the Firearm Proficiency Officer job he/she must keep up with current technology and trends relating to firearms. Recommendations for policy updates or amendments may be made and updated with the final approval of the Chief Deputy.
2. The Chain of Command of the firearms proficiency officer shall exercise appropriate supervisory oversight and support of this position.
- a. The firearms proficiency officer shall present a list to his/her Captain of all personnel who have TCOLE Firearms Instructor Proficiency Certificates and who the firearms proficiency officer determines are necessary and capable to designate as approved FBCSO Firearms Instructors. The Captain shall review this list and present to the Chief Deputy for final approval. Any changes to this list must have the Chief Deputy's approval. The list will include any specific role or other limitations for each approved instructor.
 - b. An employee selected as an FBCSO Firearms Instructor must maintain his/her TCOLE proficiency certification as a Firearms Instructor (any loss of this certification must be reported immediately to the firearms proficiency officer).
 - c. Designation as firearms proficiency officer and/or approved firearms instructor is not a term of or change to an employee's terms of employment with the FBCSO and continued designation is at the discretion of the Chief Deputy.
3. Each employee that is appointed as a Peace Officer by the FBCSO is required to successfully complete the annual firearms proficiency requirements once each calendar year for each firearm that he/she is approved to carry. In this subsection Primary Duty Handgun includes those described in Section I of this General Order and also includes a handgun being carried as the primary weapon under authority of Section II of this General Order.
- a. The qualification courses of fire for all firearms shall be formulated by the firearms proficiency officer and approved by the Chief Deputy.
 - b. Any approved course must meet minimum requirements found in the TCOLE Rules; however, the Chief Deputy may approve higher requirements.
 - c. Each employee covered under this section is to report for annual firearms proficiency testing (qualifications) in accordance with the schedule distributed by the firearms proficiency officer. Failure to attend at the scheduled time without prior approval and/or without a compelling and justified reason is grounds for disciplinary action.
 - d. Primary Duty Handguns - An employee meets the proficiency requirements by scoring 70% or higher on the approved qualification course of fire. It is the employee's duty to maintain the ability to meet proficiency requirements at all times and failure to do so may be grounds for termination in all positions that require appointment as a peace officer [see General Order 04-04].
 - e. Primary Duty Handguns - An employee will be allowed up to 2 attempts to score 70% or higher on the approved qualification course of fire. These attempts will occur on the same day. Once two attempts fail to produce a score of 70% or higher, the following action will be taken:
 - 1.) The Chief Deputy and the Bureau/Division Commanders over the employee will be notified.
 - 2.) If the employee occupies a position requiring appointment as a peace officer [see

General Order 04-04], the employee will be assigned to a temporary administrative duty assignment by their Division Commander or higher authority.

- a.) While in this assignment these employees will not exercise any peace officer duties, will not wear a uniform, and will not be authorized to carry a firearm. These limitations apply until the Chief Deputy authorizes a return to full duty status.
 - b.) The employee will be notified of required remedial training (date / time / location). Attendance at remedial training is mandatory. At the completion of the training the employee will again attempt the qualification course of fire and be allowed 2 attempts to score 70% or better in the same manner described prior in this subsection. If the employee passes the qualification course he/she is returned to full duty. If the employee does not pass the qualification course he/she remains on the temporary administrative duty assignment with issuance of a Written Reprimand or higher disciplinary action.
 - c.) If an employee has received a Written Reprimand or higher disciplinary action under e.2.b. (immediately preceding) and subsequently fails a required qualification course of fire, the employee is subject to higher disciplinary action up to and including termination as determined on a case by case basis by the Chief Deputy. All available information on the circumstances will be considered to determine the appropriate course of action deemed necessary by the Chief Deputy.
- 3.) If the employee does not occupy a position requiring appointment as a peace officer [see General Order 04-04], then:
- a.) The employee is immediately barred from exercising any peace officer duties and is not authorized to carry a firearm under authority of being a peace officer.
 - b.) The Chief Deputy may authorize FBCSO HR to issue TCOLE form F5 to terminate the employee's appointment as a Peace Officer.
 - c.) Any subsequent re-appointment as a peace officer will be at the discretion of the Chief Deputy.
- 4.) Reserve Deputies
- a.) The Reserve Deputy is immediately barred from exercising any peace officer duties and is not authorized to carry a firearm under authority of being a peace officer.
 - b.) The Chief Deputy will determine further course of action on a case by case basis.
- f. Back up and off duty handguns - The course of fire will have a pass/fail criteria included. An employee who fails to qualify is not allowed to carry the handgun until he/she passes the course.
- g. Rifles and Shotguns – The passing score for the course of fire will be 85% or higher. An employee who fails to qualify is not allowed to carry the rifle and/or shotgun until he/she passes the course. If a specialized assignment requires the employee to carry a rifle/shotgun and the employee does not obtain a passing score the employee is immediately removed from the specialized assignment and cannot return to the assignment until the course is passed and the Chief Deputy approves the assignment.

4. All employees at a firing range are subject to the range safety rules as developed by the firearms proficiency officer and approved by the Chief Deputy. Regardless of rank, all employees are to abide by the lawful instructions given by the firearms proficiency officer and/or approved firearms instructor while at the firing range and/or during firearms training.
5. New Hires – The Division Commander over a newly hired employee who is required to qualify under this General Order shall make every effort to coordinate with the firearms proficiency officer in order for the new hire to go through the qualification course of fire within 60 calendar days of being hired.

E. Holsters and Other Carrying Devices for Firearms

1. All holsters used (whether purchased by the FBCSO or an employee/reserve deputy) will be maintained in a state of good repair and serve to secure the firearm against accidental/unintended release and unauthorized retrieval by another person.
2. Division Commanders will insure that all devices used to store and/or transport firearms are in good repair and serve to protect against unauthorized access.
3. The Chief Deputy may set particular standards on holsters/devices by a specific order.

F. Duty to Carry

1. All persons who are actively appointed as peace officers are required to carry an approved handgun on their person or in reasonable proximity with the following instructions / exceptions:
 - a. Rules concerning weapons inside the County Jail, while at training, and State/Federal law take precedence and will be followed
 - b. Employees shall not carry a handgun or other firearm while under the influence of drugs or alcohol in violation of General Order 03-04 “Drug and Alcohol Policy”
 - c. Employees shall not carry a handgun or other firearm during any period of time that their police powers have been suspended
 - d. If an employee is placed on modified or light duty (not at full duty status) and any limitations placed on the duty impair the employees ability to properly use a firearm, then the employee must report this and any modified or light duty will only be granted with the provision that the employee’s police powers will be suspended until they are able to return to full duty status. Nothing in this subsection creates a right to be placed into modified or light duty in lieu of using leave time or leave without pay nor does it modify any rights or duties concerning the Family and Medical Leave Act (as described in Fort Bend County Employee Information Manual Policy 704)
 - e. Employees are to report any condition (physical or mental) that is reasonably foreseen to impair their ability to properly use a firearm. This report is to be routed via the chain of command to the Chief Deputy for resolution
 - f. Division Commanders and higher authority may give orders concerning the manner in which weapons are carried for those under their command as long as those orders do not conflict with this General Order. Any reported conflict will be resolved by the Chief Deputy.
 - g. Employees performing duties that involve interactions with the public and who are in a Class A or B Uniform as defined in General Order 02-02 will carry their primary duty handgun on their person with a full duty rig (holster and other items) at all times they are in public, unless a compelling and reasonable safety concern exists or with specific supervisory approval on a case by case basis.

2. Any deputy who is carrying a firearm, on or off duty, under the authority of their certification as a peace officer and authority as a Fort Bend County Sheriff's Deputy, will only carry firearms and ammunition authorized by this policy and will not carry such firearms with which they have not qualified.
 - a. This procedure also applies when the employee is off-duty and is providing a police related service (in or out of uniform) that requires them to carry a firearm and when the deputy's authority to carry a firearm comes from their commission as a peace officer and as a Deputy Sheriff.
 - b. Deputies carrying an authorized firearm on or off-duty, while in plain clothes, and in a public place will ensure that their firearm remains concealed (carried on or about their person hidden from the ordinary view of another person).
 - c. Off-duty officers taking a police action while attired in civilian clothes shall:
 1. Take a conservative approach when making the decision to take a police action.
 2. Weigh the consequences of producing a firearm as this action can present a particularly unique danger of mistaken identity.
 3. Consider the following factors in the decision making process:
 - a.) The severity of the crime.
 - b.) The potential for serious physical harm or death to innocent persons if no action is taken.
 - c.) The presence of weapons, including the officer's firearm.
 - d.) The number or potential number of subjects involved.
 - e.) The officer's possession of police identification and other police tools (i.e., handcuffs, radio).
 - f.) The ability to call 911 or dispatch personally or other forms of assistance (i.e., bystanders).
 - g.) The situational environment as a whole including time of day, physical layout, access to cover/safety, presence of innocent persons, demeanor of other persons present (e.g., unruly or agitated persons, unfriendly crowd, etc.), the speed of the evolving situation, and the officer's own level of skill, training, and confidence.
 - h.) The likelihood of apprehending the subject at a later time if no police action is taken immediately
 - d. The only exception to this is when specific authorization is given due to an undercover assignment. In these instances, the employee must take all steps to ensure the safety of the employee and the general public.
3. Reserve personnel are authorized to wear the FBCSO uniform, including duty belt and authorized handgun when participating in activities and functions authorized by the Sheriff, Chief Deputy, or Sheriff's designee. Reserve personnel who are authorized to work in an off-duty capacity in uniform will also comply with this policy. However, reserve personnel are not authorized to wear a duty weapon or off-duty weapon in a manner that is visible to the public when not in uniform. Reserve personnel will not openly carry a duty weapon or off-duty weapon when donning civilian clothes and attire.

G. Ammunition

1. Only ammunition approved in Attachment A to this General Order may be carried/used for purposes of this General Order and General Order 09-02 "Use of Force."
2. Handguns will be carried with a round loaded in the chamber and full magazines (or cylinders when applicable). Handguns that have a manual safety system will be carried with the safety on while not being deployed.

3. Minimum ammunition requirements
 - a. Employees in Class A and B Uniforms will carry a minimum of three fully loaded magazines (one in the weapon and 2 in reserve on their person).
 - b. Employees in other approved Uniforms/Attire will carry a minimum of one fully loaded magazine (in the weapon).

H. Standards and/or Modifications to Firearms

1. All firearms will be carried without modification from the manufactured product and in compliance with standards found in Attachment A of this General Order unless the modification is specifically approved and documented by the Firearms Proficiency Officer. The Chief Deputy will have final approval of any disputes regarding modification approval.
 - a. The only Modifications allowed to be made on handguns are the addition of Night Sights, MRDS, and flashlights. Any other modifications will require approval as listed above.
2. Only duty handguns black in color and attached accessories (lights, grips, etc.) black in color will be permitted. Exception: previously authorized handguns and/or accessories in colors other than black prior to the implementation of this policy

I. Exigent Circumstances

1. In cases where the General Order on Use of Force (09-02) would allow for improvised response to rapidly unfolding conditions, the use of non-approved firearms/ammunition is allowed as long as the use is objectively reasonable (as defined in General Order 09-02) and used only to the extent which reasonably appears necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement / detention purpose. However, use or possession of a firearm in violation of Texas and/or Federal Laws is always prohibited.

J. Retired Peace Officers

1. The FBCSO will comply with the provisions of the Texas Occupations Code Section 1701.357. The Firearms Proficiency Officer will coordinate this function.
2. Any retired FBCSO Peace Officer who meets minimum qualifications under Section will be allowed to qualify with his/her weapon, issued a certificate of proficiency, and be issued photo ID. The qualification course of fire shall be the same as for non-retired employees and only weapons approved under this General Order may be used. Failure to pass the qualification course of fire after 2 attempts will result in a denial of the certificate of proficiency. Any further attempt at qualification must have approval of the Chief Deputy. Any denial of a certificate of proficiency for any reason will be reported to the Chief Deputy.
 - a. FBCSO Peace Officer retirees may choose to meet qualification requirements at another Texas law enforcement agency. Upon presentation of documentation showing annual minimum qualification by another agency, the ID mentioned in B above shall be issued / renewed with certificate of proficiency in the same manner as if the retiree did qualification at the FBCSO with records kept of the documentation showing qualification by another Texas law enforcement agency. Law Enforcement Agency is defined as one that employs persons enforcing laws under Article 2 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
3. Non FBCSO retirees that are allowed to qualify under Section 1705.357 may be allowed to qualify in the same manner as FBCSO retirees, except only the certificate of proficiency will

be issued. If a requestor is denied due to a lack of FBCSO resources, the Chief Deputy will be notified.

4. The certificate of proficiency issued will have on its face the expiration date. The period for expiration is set under Section 1705.357.
 5. The firearms proficiency officer will maintain records in compliance with Section 1705.357.
 6. Retirees may qualify with the weapon of record when they last qualified prior to retirement and/or any off duty or back up weapon approved for use by non-retired employees.
- K. Nothing in this General Order is to be interpreted to provide authorization to carry/use a weapon for employees who are not appointed as County Jailers or Peace Officers.
1. Persons who are appointed as County Jailers and who have no appointment as a Peace Officer may only carry firearms if they have met all requirements and only in accordance with law found in Texas Occupations Code 1701.2561. Further, carry must be approved by the Chief Deputy (either on an individual basis or via more general delegated authority).
 2. If County Jailer(s) is/are to be allowed to carry firearms pursuant to subsection A preceding, then the Firearms Proficiency Officer for Peace Officers of the FBCSO is automatically appointed this role for County Jailers (legal reference Texas Occupations Code 1701.355 a-1)

L. Purchase/Maintenance Requirements

1. Nothing in this General Order is to be construed as to create a duty on the part of the FBCSO to provide any firearm or firearm accessory. Firearms and accessories are purchased solely at the discretion of the FBCSO. Any firearm purchased by the FBCSO must have the approval of the Chief Deputy prior to purchase.
2. Handguns
 - a. Employees have the responsibility to have at all times a primary duty handgun that is in a good state of repair, clean, fully functional, and without any modifications (unless approved under this General Order).
 - b. If the FBCSO issues a handgun, employees shall insure that it is clean and fully functional at all times. Any repair or modification to an FBCSO owned/issued handgun must be approved by the Firearms Proficiency Officer.
3. Rifles and Shotguns
 - a. Unless a specific assignment requires it, employees are not generally required to carry a rifle or shotgun.
 - b. Employees may carry a rifle and/or shotgun that the employee purchases only if it/they meet(s) approval standards found in this General Order. These standards will always at a minimum require approval of the firearms proficiency officer prior to any firearm being authorized for carry. Any disputes will be referred to the Chief Deputy for final resolution. Employees are directed to check with the firearms proficiency officer prior to making a purchase of a rifle/shotgun.
 - c. If the FBCSO issues a rifle and/or shotgun, employees shall insure that it/they is/are clean and fully functional at all times. Any repair or modification to an FBCSO owned/issued rifle or shotgun must be approved by the Firearms Proficiency Officer.
4. Division Commanders are charged with creating and implementing a plan for periodic inspections of firearms carried/used.
 - a. Supervisors have the authority and duty to conduct periodic inspections of firearms of their subordinate personnel in an unannounced manner. Weapon inspections should be conducted by FBCSO Firearms Instructor(s) for consistency.
 - b. The purpose of inspections is to aid in insuring the safety of all personnel and the public

we serve.

- c. Supervisors shall obtain and maintain knowledge to accurately assess basic safety issues on the firearms their subordinates routinely carry. In the case that a Firearms Instructor is not available for a weapon inspection, any supervisor should be able to assess for a basic safety concerns (cleanliness, proper amount of ammunition, and overall condition, etc.)
- M. The standards set by TCOLE and either Texas or Federal Law take precedence over this General Order only to the extent conflict exists – all non-conflicting provisions remain.
- N. The Chief Deputy may make modifications/exceptions to this General Order on a case by case basis.