

	Houston Independent School District Police Department Directives	DIRECTIVE: 430-001
		EFFECTIVE DATE: February 15, 2018
	SUBJECT: Firearms and Qualification	REVISED DATE: November 4, 2022

PURPOSE

The purpose of this directive is to outline the firearms directive of the Houston Independent School District Police Department. This directive applies to all classified Houston Independent School District Police Department personnel.

POLICY

The department's policy is to ensure that members are properly trained in the use of appropriate firearms, their use circumstances, and their safety and maintenance regarding both on and off-duty weapons. Supervisors shall rigorously enforce departmental firearms standards. All personnel shall qualify at least annually with their on-duty firearm.

Officers shall carry only those firearms that meet department standards. Officers are responsible for attaining and maintaining proficiency in using the approved firearms they carry and shall obey all department policies and procedures related to firearms control.

Except as noted in this directive, officers shall carry only those firearms listed in Attachment A. All approved weapons used by officers in the performance of their official duties shall not be altered from the manufacturer's specifications nor changed in any way that affects the safety or function of the weapons.

All primary, backup, and off-duty weapons shall be professional and conservative in appearance and shall be, except as noted herein, of a blued, black, or silver finish. Officers shall not adorn their firearms with any symbol or design other than the standard manufacturer emblem, equipment, or additions not listed in this directive.

A description including the make, model, and the serial number of all firearms carried by each officer shall be listed in the Houston Independent School District Police Department's firearms registration database maintained by the Training Division.

All supervisors shall ensure officers under their command comply with this directive's firearms policies and procedures.

DEFINITIONS

Attempt to Qualify: When an officer, during an official qualifying line scored by Firearms Unit personnel, shoots and attempts to pass the appropriate firearms qualification course with a firearm the officer intends to carry.

Backup Weapon: A firearm that meets the guidelines outlined in this directive is registered in the department's firearms registration database as a backup weapon and may be carried only as described.

Firearms Range Personnel: Personnel assigned to the Firearms Unit and supervised by a Houston Independent School District Police Department supervisor. Firearms Unit personnel shall be certified by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) or the National Rifle Association Safety Course as firearms instructors within one year of assignment to the Firearms Unit and complete the TCOLE Basic Instructors Course. These officers can remove anyone from a firearms range for unsafe practices.

Off-Duty Weapon: A handgun registered in the department's firearms registration database may be carried in an off-duty capacity once the guidelines outlined in this directive are met. An off-duty weapon may also be carried as a backup weapon when all criteria and qualifications have been met.

Plainclothes: For this directive, plainclothes refers to all dresses other than approved department uniforms.

Primary Weapon: A handgun that meets the guidelines outlined in this directive, registered in the department's firearms registration database as a primary weapon, and may be carried alone.

Qualification: When an officer during an official qualifying line scored by Firearms Unit personnel shoots and passes the appropriate firearms qualification course with a firearm the officer intends to carry. Qualification remains current until the next qualification period or when requested by the Chief of Police.

Shoulder Fired Weapon: A shotgun or carbine that meets the guidelines outlined in this directive, that is registered in the department's firearms registration database, and that may be carried only with a primary weapon if the officer is in police uniform, on duty, or working police-related extra employment.

Specialized Unit: Only divisions, units, weapons, and ammunition designated in writing by the Chief of Police shall be considered specialized. Only officers assigned full or part-time to a specialized division or unit carrying out those assignments, duties, and functions can carry specialized weapons and ammunition.

Under the Influence of Alcohol: Any measurable alcohol concentration in a person's blood, breath, or urine.

PRIMARY WEAPONS

Except as noted in this directive, officers shall carry a primary weapon for which they hold current qualification while in police uniform, on duty, or working police-related extra employment. Regardless of the assignment or exceptions outlined in this section, all officers shall qualify annually with an approved primary weapon on the department's primary weapons course as outlined in this directive and dictated by Firearms Unit personnel.

UNIFORMED OFFICERS APPROVED WEAPONS LIST

Only the weapons listed under Uniformed Officers in Attachment A are approved primary weapons for officers while in uniform unless included as an exception as described in this directive.

PLAINCLOTHES OFFICERS APPROVED WEAPONS LIST

Only the weapons listed under Plainclothes Officers in Attachment A are approved primary weapons for officers, while in plainclothes unless included as an exception described in this directive. Plainclothes officers shall carry firearms concealed and inconspicuously when in public.

OFF-DUTY WEAPONS

Officers off duty are not required to carry a firearm and may be specifically prohibited by the Chief of Police's order due to an internal affairs investigation or any item outlined in the "Limitations" section of this directive. Officers are reminded that they are considered HISD officers even if they elect not to carry a firearm while off duty.

Officers shall remain responsible for complying with all department policies and procedures and must take appropriate action when required. If unarmed, appropriate action may include contacting 9-1-1 or the police dispatcher about a crime in progress rather than attempting to make an arrest.

Off-duty officers working police-related extra employment or wearing a police uniform must carry a primary weapon in accordance with all applicable provisions of this directive.

If an off-duty officer is not wearing a police uniform and not working police-related extra employment, the officer may elect to carry a handgun. In that case, the officer shall carry a primary weapon or an off-duty weapon that matches one of the following descriptions:

- a) Revolvers: Revolvers must be double action and chambered for .38 special or larger cartridges. Revolvers must have a barrel length of at least two inches but not more than four inches.
- b) Semiautomatic pistols: Semiautomatic pistols must be chambered for .380 caliber cartridges or larger and have a barrel length of two inches.

Handguns carried off duty must hold a minimum of five rounds of ammunition.

Officers must initially qualify with their off-duty weapon annually on the department's off-duty weapons course with all off-duty weapons they intend to carry. Off-duty weapons are to be carried in a concealed and inconspicuous manner.

If the officer has previously qualified with that weapon, there is no need to re-qualify with an off-duty weapon. Open carry of an off-duty weapon is prohibited regardless of

whether the officer has obtained a license to carry a handgun issued by Texas or other states with a reciprocity agreement.

BACKUP WEAPONS

Officers cannot carry a backup weapon alone without an approved primary weapon while in police uniform, on duty, or working police-related extra employment.

Except as noted in this directive, the department-approved backup weapons described in the following subsections are the only firearms officers may carry in addition to their primary weapon if the officer is in police uniform, on duty, or working police-related extra employment.

Approved Backup Handguns

Backup handguns must be .380 caliber or larger and have a barrel length of two to four inches. If an officer's backup handgun is a revolver, it must be double action. Backup firearms must hold at least five rounds of ammunition. Officers shall qualify with these weapons annually on the department's primary qualification course. Backup handguns shall be carried in a concealed and inconspicuous manner.

APPROVED SHOTGUNS

The department has approved only those shotguns listed in Attachment A unless included as an exception described in this directive.

Officers who desire to carry shotguns not currently approved by the department shall submit Their requests in writing to the Chief of Police for approval. Each shotgun submitted to the Chief of Police for approval must meet a list of requirements and be inspected and approved by Firearms Unit personnel. Training Unit personnel shall maintain the list of requirements.

Only shotguns having all of the following features shall be approved by the department:

- a) 12 gauge
- b) Pump or semiautomatic
- c) Dual-action bars (applicable to pump-action shotguns)
- d) Cross-bolt or Mossberg-style safety
- e) Barrel length of 18 to 20 inches
- f) Black, blued, or silver finish
- g) Bead or iron sights/optics
- h) Loading and ejection through two different ports
- i) Weapon sling

Shotguns may have folding or retractable stocks. Pistol-grip-only shotguns are not approved.

Officers shall transport shotguns in the vehicle's trunk or cargo area inside a case or a department-approved and installed rifle rack in a department patrol vehicle's driver compartment.

APPROVED CARBINES

Officers of any rank who complete all portions of the requisite carbine rifle training may carry approved carbines as a backup weapon while in uniform, on duty, or working police-related extra employment. Once trained, officers shall qualify annually dictated by the department, and demonstrate a working knowledge of the specific carbine.

Only carbines listed in Attachment A are approved for qualification and deployment. The AR-15 style carbine with a barrel length of 16 to 20 inches and an overall length of more than 26 inches is approved. AR-15 style, short barrel rifle (S.B.R.) carbines with a barrel length as short as 10 ½" inches are also approved carbines provided the officer completes the appropriate federal paperwork, registers the carbine with the Training Unit, and per federal law, keeps a copy of the federal proof of registration and tax stamp in his possession at all times while possessing the S.B.R. carbine. Approved carbines may have retractable or folding stocks.

Approved carbines shall be black. Multicolor or camouflage carbines are prohibited. Approved carbines must have iron sights and may also have electronic, optical sights as listed in Attachment A. Allowable electronic optical sights must have no more than 4x magnification and shall be mounted either with a quick-release return to zero mounts or in a manner that allows the immediate use of the backup iron sights should the electronic optic fail for any reason.

Only .223 caliber, 55-grain soft point ammunition shall be used with an approved carbine. No officer shall carry a rifle or a carbine of a type or configuration different than that specified in this subsection unless specifically authorized in writing by the Chief of Police.

Once the requirements outlined in this subsection are met, officers shall transport carbines in the trunk or cargo area of the vehicle inside a case or a department-approved and installed rifle rack in the driver compartment of a department patrol vehicle. Carbines shall be stored with a magazine seated in the magazine well, the safety engaged, and the chamber empty.

Officers may respond and deploy with an approved carbine in any high-risk situation in which a suspect:

- a) Possesses a rifle, assault rifle, machine gun, or shotgun.
- b) Possesses or uses body armor.
- c) Employs measures that put any officer at a tactical disadvantage that cannot be overcome with a handgun.

SPECIALIZED WEAPONS

Specialized divisions and units may need to utilize weapons that do not meet the approved weapon criteria outlined in this directive.

Any weapon that does not meet the approved weapon criteria outlined in this directive may not be utilized unless the firearm is approved in writing by the Chief of Police.

Weapons such as rifles, fully automatic weapons, and carbines not otherwise approved may be designated as specialized weapons by the Chief of Police. Specialized weapons may not be utilized in any manner inconsistent with this directive or other department policies without the Chief of Police's written approval.

Officers in specialized units may carry any weapon or ammunition that meets their needs as long as the configuration is approved in writing by the Chief of Police. Once a specialized weapon is approved in writing by the Chief of Police, the Patrol Commander shall be responsible for that weapon's use, control, and inventory.

AMMUNITION

Except with the Chief of Police's approval, no officer shall carry any of the following types of ammunition in any weapon.

- a) Armor-piercing
- b) Tracer ammunition
- c) Glaser safety slug
- d) Rat shot
- e) Frangible ammunition

All shotguns will be loaded with "00" or No.4 buckshot. Upon completing the department's Select Slug training course, slugs may be used and assigned to a specialized unit.

GRIPS

All weapons carried while an officer is in uniform, on duty, or working police-related extra employment shall have black or brown grips made of wood, plastic, metal, or rubber. Grips shall not be adorned with emblems or designs other than the standard manufacturer logo.

HOLSTERS

Approved uniform holsters are listed in Attachment A of this directive. The following procedures regarding uniform holsters shall be followed.

- a) All holsters shall be Level III for on-duty use and Level II for plainclothes or off-duty.
- b) Holsters shall not be modified in any way.
- c) Each holster is used for only the particular weapon or configuration for which it was made.
- d) Officers shall bring their "Sam Browne" and uniform holsters when qualifying. Officers will be in their patrol uniform (with vest) when qualifying. Firearms Unit personnel shall inspect the holsters to ensure they are in good working order and appropriate for the type and configuration of weapons the officer's carry.
- e) Officers shall contact the Firearms Unit before acquiring a new primary weapon to determine if they are clear to purchase an approved holster before the holster can be worn on duty. Officers shall report to the Firearms Unit and qualify with the handgun with the self-purchased holster.

SIGHTS

Firearms shall not be altered to accommodate laser sights, nor shall officers carry firearms with laser sights. However, specialized units may use laser sights if approved in writing by the Chief of Police.

Red Dot Sight For On-Duty Use

Officers are authorized to carry an R.D.S. on their primary weapon under the following criteria:

- a) Safariland Level III 6560 RDS Holster with the primary weapon with R.D.S.,
- b) Only factory pistols specifically designed to accept Pistol Mounted Optics are authorized for on-duty, which includes.
 1. Glock 17 M.O.S.
 2. Glock 19 M.O.S.
 3. Glock 23 M.O.S.
 4. Smith & Wesson M&P C.O.R.E.
 5. Sig Sauer Rx Line
 6. Aftermarket milled slides are prohibited.
- c) Duty Pistol Red Dot Systems weapons must be equipped with backup iron sights and be useable in an optic or battery failure event.
- d) Iron Sights are required (i.e., Suppressor Sights or Leupold Rear Sight attachment)
- e) Complete an 8-hour training course and show proficiency with the R.D.S. and backup iron sights on the Houston I.S.D. Pistol Qualification courses before carrying the weapon.

The following manufacturer/model Duty Pistol Red Dot Systems (R.D.S.) sighting systems are approved for duty use.

- a) Trijicon
- b) Leupold
- c) Sig Sauer
- d) Burris
- e) Vortex
- f) Shield
- g) Holosun

WEAPON-MOUNTED LIGHTS

The use of weapon-mounted lights on carbines, shotguns, or handguns is an option for officers upon completing the requisite training. According to the specifications in Attachment A of this directive, officers who wish to use weapon-mounted lights must purchase an appropriate light and holster.

WEAPON EXCEPTIONS

Primary Weapons

An officer employed with the department before September 1, 2020, may continue to carry a handgun as a primary weapon, not on the primary weapons list, provided the firearm was registered with the department to the officer prior to September 1, 2020.

This applies to only handguns continuously registered to the officer in the department's firearms registration database since September 1, 2020. Officers shall qualify with them annually on the primary weapons course to carry these firearms.

Barrel Length

Primary weapon revolvers shall have a barrel length of at least three inches but not more than four inches. An officer may carry a handgun with a barrel length exceeding four inches. Still, not more than six and one-half inches, provided the firearm was registered with the department to the officer before September 1, 2020, and has remained continuously registered.

Shotguns

Any shotgun that has remained continuously registered in an officer's firearms record since before September 1, 2020, may continue to be carried as a backup weapon while the officer is in uniform, on duty, or working police-related extra employment as long as the officer continues to qualify annually with the firearm on the appropriate qualification course and as dictated by Firearms Unit personnel.

Weapon Replacement

In the event a handgun that is not on the primary weapons list in Attachment A has been continuously registered with the department since before September 1, 2020, becomes stolen, lost, or non-repairable, officers have the option of replacing that primary weapon with an identical firearm. If an identical replacement firearm is unavailable, the firearm shall be replaced with one from the approved list in Attachment A of this directive.

This replacement policy also applies to shotguns that have remained continuously registered in an officer's department firearms record since September 1, 2020.

Before carrying any replacement firearm, officers shall qualify with the firearm on the appropriate qualification course.

PERSONAL FIREARMS

Officers often own or possess firearms for which they have no reasonable expectation of being called upon to use while acting in a police capacity (e.g., firearms customarily used only for hunting or as part of a personal collection). Firearms possessed solely for such purposes are never carried while the individuals acting in a police officer's capacity need not be registered with the department.

CARRYING A FIREARM

In compliance with directive 420-001, Conduct and Authority, officers, regardless of rank or assignment, while in the state of Texas, are required to take prompt, effective, and appropriate police action concerning violations of the law coming to their attention whether they are on or off duty. Therefore, officers are encouraged to carry firearms that meet department standards at all times while in the state of Texas.

Officers are reminded that when taking action involving using a firearm, the trigger finger shall remain outside the trigger guard and "indexed" unless the officer has clear sights on a threat and is prepared to shoot.

Officers shall see directive 420-001, Conduct and Authority, for information regarding off-duty intervention protocol while in the state of Texas.

Section 46.15 of the Texas Penal Code, "Non-applicability" (to police officers), states that as outlined in sections 46.02 and 46.03 of the Texas Penal Code, restrictions for carrying weapons do not apply to police officers while on or off duty.

Limitations to Carrying Firearms

Limitations apply to officers carrying firearms in the following areas and circumstances.

a) Courts:

While attending court, officers shall adhere to that court's policy regarding carrying firearms and shall surrender their firearms if a bailiff so requests.

b) Psychiatric Wards:

Armed officers shall not enter any facility's psychiatric ward except under the most serious of circumstances, only after receiving approval from the physician in charge of the unit, the absence of the physician in charge, or any on-duty physician in the unit.

c) Under the Influence of Alcohol:

Departmental policy prohibits officers from exercising the authority of their office while off duty and under the influence of alcohol. Therefore, officers under the influence of alcohol shall not carry firearms.

d) Under the Influence of Medication:

Officers shall exercise prudence when taking prescribed or over-the-counter medications that may impair their physical or mental faculties. Medications affect individuals differently, and numerous medications warn that they may cause drowsiness or other impairing side effects. Officers who take medication or a combination of medications they know will cause impairment or have a high probability of causing impairment shall not carry a firearm. Officers shall not carry a firearm while experiencing impairing side effects from any medication.

e) Airports and Aircraft:

Armed officers who want to enter the airport's sterile area shall advise the proper authorities of their intentions before entering the airport security

checkpoint. Officers shall present any documents or law enforcement credentials necessary to verify their identity and comply with airport authorities' decision to deny access.

Officers shall limit a request to carry a firearm aboard a plane to a situation in which a weapon is required to ensure the safe completion of a law enforcement mission.

FIREARMS QUALIFICATIONS

Annual qualification includes a demonstration to Firearms Unit personnel of working knowledge of each officer's primary weapons, off-duty weapons, and backup weapons outlined in this directive and dictated by Firearms Unit personnel. Firearms qualifications are held annually at the end of the school year and the beginning of the school year. Still, the Chief of Police reserves the right to change the annual qualification period for operational necessity.

Officers are authorized to carry only those handguns and shoulder-fired weapons they have qualified for during or since their most recent qualification. Officers shall maintain current qualifications with all firearms they intend to carry per the guidelines in this directive.

All firearms for which officers hold current qualifications shall be listed in the department's firearms registration database. Each firearm authorization shall be generated and approved in Axon Standard. The original shall be placed in the officer's T.C.O.L.E. Training File.

All officers shall qualify annually with an approved primary weapon prior to qualification with any other weapon. Qualification with a primary weapon shall be on the primary weapons course at an approved firearms range. Qualification with other firearms shall also be conducted at an approved firearms range. Regardless of which firearms range an officer uses, the officer shall comply with that facility's policies.

Failure to qualify with a firearm or not attempting to qualify with a previously authorized firearm shall result in that weapon not being eligible for use as an on- or off-duty weapon.

"Modular" firearms, such as the Sig Sauer P320, enable the user to change the frame size, barrel length, and caliber of the firearm while still retaining the same serial number. Officers are authorized to carry a modular firearm, on or off duty, only in the configuration in which the officer has qualified as approved in Attachment A. If an officer changes the frame size, barrel length (e.g., from full size to compact), or caliber, the officer must qualify with the firearm in the additional configuration to receive authorization to carry it in the different configuration.

Firearms Range Safety and Conduct

Upon arrival at the firearms range, officers, while wearing their Sam Browne and vest, shall render all firearms safe by going to the red clearing barrel, unloading their firearms, and ensuring they are empty. This shall be done before going into any

firearms range building. Semiautomatic handguns shall have the magazine out, and the slide locked back and placed in the holster. Revolvers shall have the cylinder open and be carried with the fingers through the top strap. Shotguns shall have the forearm to the rear with the action open and the safety engaged (safety on). Carbines shall have the magazine out, the bolt locked to the rear, and the safety engaged (safety on).

Upon leaving the firearms range, officers reloading firearms may do so only at the red clearing barrel.

Unsafe acts will not be tolerated at a firearms range. Officers may be dismissed from the firearms range by Firearms Unit personnel for the entire day for any hazardous act.

Proper dress code shall be enforced (e.g., no shorts, no sleeveless shirts, open flip-flop shoes, sandals, or open-toe shoes). While on the firearms range, officers shall display official department identification or wear the official department uniform. Officers attempting to qualify, practice, or attend firearms-related training shall bring a department-approved duty gun belt, duty holster, and reloading devices.

Mobile telephone use is prohibited while the employee qualifies or practices at a firearms range location.

Conducted Energy Devices

Annually, when qualifying with their primary weapon, officers shall also demonstrate proficiency with their department's functions and features approved conducted energy device (C.E.D.) to designated Firearms Unit personnel.

When to Qualify

Except as noted in this directive, officers shall attempt to satisfy the department's mandatory firearms qualification requirement annually for their primary weapons. Officers shall also attempt during their qualification period to qualify with any new off-duty weapons or backup weapons, including shoulder-fired weapons, they intend to carry. Officers may attempt to qualify when the officer purchases a new or replacement weapon and intends to carry it on or off duty.

The annual primary weapons qualification shall be conducted on duty. The Training Unit shall prioritize officers needing time off to satisfy the department's qualification requirements.

Ammunition

The department shall provide up to 100 rounds of ammunition to each officer to qualify with the officer's primary weapon. The employee shall purchase any additional ammunition needed for qualification.

Passing Score

A minimum range score of 38 is required to pass the qualification examination.

Specialized Divisions and Units

A division or unit that is issued or authorized to use specialized weapons and the support gear necessary for the proper operation of the specialized weapons shall train, qualify, and maintain records of the officers in the unit who are authorized to use specialized weapons while acting in the capacity of a police officer. The specialized division or unit may also administer the department's other firearms qualification courses to classified personnel assigned to the division or unit. Specialized units are subject to passing a qualification course determined by the Chief of Police.

Failed Attempt to Qualify

All handguns and shoulder-fired weapons for which officers do not hold current qualifications shall not be carried by officers until they have qualified with those weapons.

Failing Primary Weapons Qualification

Officers will attempt to qualify two times on their first designated qualification date. The Firearms Instructor will notify the officer's commander in writing when the officer fails the qualification course. The Firearms Instructor will notify the officer's commander the next business day.

Any officer who fails to qualify after two attempts on day one with an approved primary weapon on the primary weapons course will be required to schedule and attend four hours of redress firearms training with Firearms Unit instructors.

Officers who fail to shoot a passing score shall be required to schedule and attend up to eight hours of redress firearms training with Firearms Unit instructors. The four-hour and eight-hour redress firearms training shall be done on duty.

Any officer who attempts but fails to qualify with an approved primary weapon after their third attempt on the primary weapons course shall not work an assignment that requires the officer to be armed and shall not work police-related extra employment until that officer passes the qualification standards with an approved primary weapon.

The Chief of Police shall be notified in writing to determine the appropriate action when an officer fails to shoot a passing score after receiving twelve redress training hours. Officers who do not qualify after their fourth attempt shall be subject to termination.

Supervisors' Responsibilities When Officer Fails to Qualify

Upon receiving written notification of an officer's failure to qualify as described above, the immediate employee's immediate Supervisor will ensure corrective measures are taken until the officer can qualify with an approved primary weapon.

For officers whose primary weapon qualification has expired, corrective measures shall include assigning official duties that do not require the officer to be armed and ensuring the officer does not carry a firearm until qualification standards have been met. This includes suspending the officer's police-related extra employment.

If necessary and dependent upon the nature of the officer's assignment, the Supervisor shall reassign the officer to ensure the safe and appropriate execution of duty. The Chief of Police shall determine any other corrective action.

No Attempt to Qualify

All records relating to officers not attempting to qualify with a primary weapon are maintained by the Training Unit.

Except as noted below, officers who do not attempt to qualify during the department's annual qualification period with an approved primary weapon shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Such action may include involuntary reassignment, duty relief, or service dismissal.

Officers who do not attempt to qualify annually with an approved primary weapon shall not be assigned to duty that requires them to be armed and shall not be allowed to work police-related extra employment until qualification requirements are met.

Legitimate Reason for Failure to Qualify

Officers with a legitimate reason for not attempting to qualify with an approved primary weapon during the annual qualification period shall not be subject to disciplinary action. Some examples of legitimate reasons include, but are not limited to, authorized absences, documented illnesses, and special assignments. Notification must be made before the date of qualification. Officers will not be exempt from qualification without a letter from a physician.

The employee's supervisor shall inform the Training Unit in writing of an officer's legitimate reason for not attempting to qualify. Officers shall attempt to qualify as soon as possible after returning to a normal duty assignment. Officers shall be given 30 calendar days to qualify after returning to normal duty. Unless an exigent circumstance exists, an officer shall not be granted the extension.

Officers granted a qualification extension shall not be assigned to duty that requires them to be armed and shall not be allowed to work police-related extra employment until qualification requirements are met.

Physical Disability

Officers who are physically unable to qualify with an approved primary weapon during the department's annual qualification cycle shall not be subject to disciplinary action but shall provide sufficient, acceptable documentation to their commander justifying the nature and extent of the disability. Pregnant officers shall be classified as unable to qualify after appropriate notification is received.

Commanders shall inform the Training Unit writing of an officer's inability to qualify due to a physical condition. The disabled officers' supervisor will make arrangements to qualify when returning to full duty.

Any officer declared physically unable to qualify shall not be assigned to any duty requiring the officer to be armed and shall not be allowed to work police-related extra

employment until the officer has passed the qualification standards with an approved primary weapon.

AUTHORIZATION TO CARRY FIREARMS

Department authorization for officers to carry any firearm requires that officers meet all pertinent specifications of this directive. Approval to carry any approved firearm automatically expires 12 months after the last day of an officer's last annual qualification. Except as noted in this directive, officers shall complete the qualification procedure described by that date for any firearms the officers intend to carry.

LOAN OF FIREARMS

Any officer who temporarily does not have a primary weapon to carry on duty may request the loan of a replacement primary weapon if one of the following circumstances exists:

- a) The officer's primary weapon has been rendered temporarily inoperable and repaired or replaced.
- b) The officer's primary weapon has been stolen and properly reported as required by HISD P.D.
- c) The department has retained the officer's primary weapon as part of an investigation, and the weapon has not been returned.

An officer requiring the loan of a primary weapon due to a circumstance outlined in either item (a) or (b) above shall submit a request in writing through the officer's Supervisor to the Training Unit supervisor.

QUALIFICATION RECORDS

After completing the department-approved primary weapons course, the Training Unit will record the passing score in the training database/ Firearms Records. The Training Unit will maintain documentation, using Axon Standard Firearm qualification form, detailing the specific firearms each officer has qualified with, including make, model, serial number, and description.

Certified TCOLE/NRA Firearms Instructors shall immediately provide this information to the Training Unit upon successful qualification completion.

Access to firearm records will be limited to the following:

- a) Chief of Police or designees.
- b) Immediate Supervisor (with approval by the Chief of Police or designee).
- c) Records Unit (approved by the Chief of Police or designee).
- d) Opens Record Request.
- e) Individual Officer.

- f) Designated Departmental Firearms Instructors; and
- g) Any other access authorized by federal and state laws, county or municipal ordinances, or District policies and procedures.

QUALIFICATION FOR RETIRED OFFICERS

Chapter 411 of the Texas Statutes, Government Code, and Chapter 1701 of the Texas Statutes, Occupations Code govern the firearms qualification for honorably retired peace officers holding a license to carry handguns in Texas.

The following guidelines shall be followed for all honorably retired HISD officers who have submitted a sworn statement from the Chief of Police as required to comply with Section 411.199(b) of the Texas Statutes, Government Code.

Proficiency testing shall be required once every two years and conducted at an approved firearms range. Qualifying scores may also be accepted from any municipal police department with a firearms range approved by TCOLE, or any law enforcement firearms range associated with a Texas county sheriff's department.

Testing shall be consistent with the Training Unit's requirements, procedures, and qualification course designated for retirees.

Proficiency testing at an approved firearms range shall be at the retired officer's cost to any person honorably retired from the HISD Police Department and currently resides in Texas.

A certificate documenting firearm proficiency shall be provided to an honorably retired HISD officer who may report the successful demonstration of proficiency to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Approved By


Pedro Lopez Jr., Chief of Police

ATTACHMENT A

Approved Weapons, Holsters, and Weapon- Mounted Lights

PRIMARY WEAPONS

UNIFORMED OFFICERS	PLAINCLOTHES OFFICERS
<p>While in uniform (on or off duty), the only primary weapon authorized for officers hired after September 1, 2020, or later is the Sig Sauer 9mm model P320.</p> <p>For other officers, all primary weapons listed on Attachment A are authorized in the 9mm, .40 caliber, and .45 caliber versions.</p> <p><u>Glock</u> 9mm models 17/17C, 19/19c, Glock 45 .40 caliber models 22/22C and 23/23C .45 caliber model 21</p> <p><u>Sig Sauer (includes "R" models)</u> .40 caliber models P229, P226 (DA/SA or Dak), and P320 .45 caliber models 227R-45B or B.S.S. .45 calibers models P220 and P320 9mm model P320</p> <p><u>Smith & Wesson</u> 9mm model M&P 9 .40 caliber model M&P 40 .45 caliber model M&P 45</p> <p><u>All Manufacturers Styles 1911 and 2011</u> 9mm models 1911 and 2011 .40 caliber models 1911 and 2011 .45 caliber models 1911 and 2011</p> <p><u>Heckler & Koch</u> 9mm model VP9 .40 caliber .45 caliber</p> <p><u>Springfield Armory</u> 9mm X.D.S. .40 caliber XDS</p>	<p>All primary weapons listed under the Uniformed Officers section, plus:</p> <p><u>Glock</u> .40 caliber model G27 .45 caliber model G30 9mm model 43</p> <p><u>Sig Sauer (includes "R" models)</u> .40 caliber models P239 9mm 365/365XL</p> <p><u>Smith & Wesson</u> 9mm model M&P compact and shield .40 caliber M&P compact and shield .45 caliber M&P compact and shield .38 caliber models 10 and 64 .357 caliber models 13, 19, 65, 66, 586, and 686</p>

ATTACHMENT A

SHOULDER FIRED WEAPONS

APPROVED SHOTGUNS

- a) Benelli: 12 gauge, models M1 Super 90 and M2 Super 90
- b) Remington: 12-gauge, model 870
- c) Winchester: 12 gauge
- d) Ithaca: 12 gauge
- e) Mossberg: 12 gauge

APPROVED CARBINES

- a) AR-15 style, .223 caliber
- b) AR-15 style, short barrel rifle, .223 caliber with federal tax stamp
- c) All carbines shall be equipped with iron sights and slings. Optical sights are optional.

UNIFORM HOLSTERS

Holsters to accommodate handguns with weapon-mounted lights shall be the appropriate A.L.S. or approved threat level III holster specifically designed for the handgun and weapon-mounted light to be used.

- a) Safariland 070 SS III
- b) Safariland 6360 ALS

WEAPONS-MOUNTED LIGHTS

HANDGUN LIGHT REQUIREMENTS

- a) LED or incandescent light, with a shock buffer, must generate a minimum of 300 lumens.
- b) Factory designed to affix to the light rail of a handgun.
- c) Fixed mounted – no portable mounts.
- d) Ambidextrous manual pressure switch – no pressure pad switches.
- e) No laser-flashlight combination.

SHOTGUN AND CARBINE LIGHT REQUIREMENTS

- a) All shotguns must use an integrated (built-in) front-end weapon-mounted light device.
- b) L.E.D. or incandescent light, with shock buffer, must generate a minimum of 300 lumens.
- c) Factory designed to affix to the weapon.
- d) Ambidextrous manual pressure or pressure pad switch.
- e) No laser-flashlight combination.