

CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

OPERATIONS NOTICE NO. 8

August 8, 2003

SUBJECT: REQUIRED EQUIPMENT FOR UNDERCOVER/PLAINCLOTHES OFFICERS

PURPOSE: This Notice is to remind all undercover/plainclothes officers of existing Department Manual Sections 3/627.10 and 3/627.20, which pertain to required and optional equipment for plainclothes duty.

Operating in an undercover or plainclothes capacity often presents unique challenges for field officers. These situations may require creative, aggressive enforcement actions to resolve community problems. Creativity and proactive enforcement during undercover and plainclothes operations are encouraged; however, officer safety and sound tactics should remain of paramount importance and should never be compromised during field operations. The possession of the proper equipment contributes greatly to the safety of undercover and plainclothes officers.

PROCEDURE: The following Department Manual Sections and Special Order stipulate required and optional equipment items for undercover/plainclothes duty officers:

MANUAL SECTION 3/627.10, REQUIRED EQUIPMENT - PLAINCLOTHES DUTY. Officers, while on plainclothes duty, shall carry the following equipment:

- Ammunition;
- Department badge;
- Department identification card;
- Handcuffs and key;
- Pen or Pencil; and,
- Department approved firearm.

Exception: Officers detailed to undercover duty wherein it is necessary to conceal their identity as officers may be excused by their commanding officers from the provisions of all or part of this section.

MANUAL SECTION 3/627.20, OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT - PLAINCLOTHES DUTY. Officers, while on plainclothes duty, may carry the following optional equipment:

- Hobble Restraint Device.
- Disposable plastic handcuffs.

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- Eighteen inch side-handled baton (in-service training required).
- Collapsible baton.
- Chemical Irritant Control Device.
- Flashlight.
- Street Guide book.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 1, DATED JANUARY 9, 2002, UNIFORM AND CLOTHING STANDARDS FOR SWORN DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES - REVISED. Non-uniformed officers while in public view away from a Department facility shall conceal their weapon(s), handcuffs, and other equipment by wearing a business jacket, sport coat, or other accessory (e.g., purse, or authorized "pouch" type holster, etc.).

Questions regarding this Notice may be directed to the Chief of Operations, at (213) 485-3572.



**JIM McDONNELL, Assistant Chief
Chief of Operations**

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