

**MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
GENERAL ORDER**

CHAPTER 4 - WEAPONS
G0 04-05
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DATE: 5-9-16

FIREARMS - STORAGE

POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Marin County Sheriff's Office to ensure all department owned firearms are stored in a safe and responsible manner.

DEFINITION

DEPARTMENT OWNED FIREARM is any firearm owned by the Marin County Sheriff's Office, whether issued for a single deputy's long term use, such as an individually assigned duty pistol, or for the temporary use of multiple deputies, such as a patrol rifle or less lethal shotgun.

FIREARM LOCK BOX is a locked metal storage container designed for the purpose of storing firearms, either individually or collectively. A firearm lock box may be opened with a key, an alpha, numeric, or alpha/numeric passcode, an individually assigned smart card, or through use of a biometric recognition system.

LOCKING GUN RACK is a permanently mounted device used to secure a rifle or less lethal shotgun in a marked or unmarked patrol car.

PROCEDURE

Department owned firearms shall be stored in a safe and responsible manner. Patrol rifles and less lethal shotguns shall be stored in an unloaded condition and within a department approved firearm lock box until checked out for use by a deputy sheriff during his/her assigned tour of duty.

During that tour of duty, assigned patrol rifles and less lethal shotguns shall be stored in a department approved locking gun rack, or a firearm lock box that has been securely mounted within a marked or unmarked department owned vehicle. While stored in that condition, patrol rifles and less lethal shotguns shall have a fully loaded magazine. The firing chamber shall be empty.

Other department owned firearms shall never be stored within an unattended vehicle, whether marked, unmarked, or privately owned, unless that firearm is locked in a firearm lock box that is securely mounted within the vehicle. Whenever possible, that lock box should be mounted out of view, either in the trunk of a sedan, or in the rear cargo area of an SUV, covered by a privacy screen.

While in their homes or other areas under their control, members shall ensure department owned firearms are kept locked and secured in a manner that makes them inaccessible to children and irresponsible adults. This can be done by using a firearm lock box, trigger locking device, or by means that otherwise render the weapon incapable of being fired.

Members shall be aware that negligent storage of a firearm could result in criminal prosecution pursuant to California Penal Code Section 25100.

RELATED STANDARDS
California Penal Code Section 25100

AFFECTED DIVISIONS
All

DATE REVISED
None

By Order Of:

ROBERT T. DOYLE
SHERIFF-CORONER