



WOODSTOCK POLICE SERVICE BOARD POLICY

Subject:	Equipment – Body Armour
Policy Number:	AI-015
Effective Date:	January 13, 2025
Reviewed:	
Amended:	

Authority/Legislative References

Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1

Occupational Health and Safety Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O. 1

Ontario Regulation 405/23 Police Uniforms and Equipment

Ontario Regulation 391/23 Use of Force and Weapons

Policy Statement

The Woodstock Police Service Board (the "Board") is committed to ensuring the safety and protection of its members through the provision of high quality body armour. Recognizing the critical importance of this equipment in safeguarding officers from various threats, the Board establishes this policy to guide the acquisition, use, and maintenance of body armour.

Policy Application

1. It is the policy of the Board with respect to equipment-body armour that the Chief of Police shall:

- a. ensure the provision of body armour equipment is:
 - i. constructed to provide the level of protection necessary for the performance of duty that addresses:
 - the type of weapons members are likely exposed to;
 - protection for members from their own handguns and ammunition that are in accordance with prescribed specifications;
- b. ensure the provision of body armour that is purchased from manufacturers that:
 - i. practice effective quality control for testing and labelling in accordance with current National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Standards/Requirements on Ballistics Resistance of Body Armour;
 - ii. are certified under current International Organization for Standardization – ISO 9001:2015 standards for production and manufacturing; and
 - iii. ensure that the body armour provided is listed on the NIJ Compliant Products List, including replacement panels and carriers, in accordance with current NIJ Standards/Requirements;
- c. ensure that each member uses, maintains and cares for the body armour provided in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions;
- d. ensure that a formal and documented inspection program is in place that addresses wear and tear;
- e. ensure that members receive the appropriate training on the legislative requirements of OHSA and information on use and care, as well as the benefits and limitations of body armour; and

- f. consult with designated employee representatives regarding the acquisition of body armour.

Publication of this guideline revision does not invalidate or render unsuitable any body armour models previously determined by the NIJ to be compliant to NIJ Standard 0101.06 Rev. A Requirements. While it may not be necessary to remove these existing armours from service, agencies are advised to always require their procurements to meet or exceed the most recent and up-to-date version of this guideline.