

Policy 124 Body Armor

Effective Date: May 15th, 2011

Revised Date: April 29th, 2022

Section 1 Policy

It is the policy of the Wayzata Police Department to promote the use of body armor in order to reduce line – of – duty deaths among law enforcement. While body armor provides a significant level of protection, it is not a substitute for the observance of officer safety procedures and sound tactics.

Section 2 Definitions

Field Activities – Duty assignments and/or tasks that place or could reasonably be expected to place officers in situations where they would be required to act in enforcement activities rather than administrative or support capacities.

Section 3 Use of Soft Body Armor

124.3.1

The Wayzata Police Department requires all uniformed on-duty officers assigned to a patrol function to wear soft body armor during field activities. This includes those working extra duty assignments, such as COT details, overtime etc. Officers shall wear National Institute of Justice approved body armor.

124.3.2

Officers may be exempted from wearing soft body armor when a qualified physician determines that the officer has a medical condition that would preclude wearing body armor or when circumstances dictate not wearing body armor. In this instance, officers must have supervisory approval.

124.3.3

Plain clothed or administrative officers who are assigned to a non-uniformed function are generally not required to wear body armor while performing those administrative duties. When they perform a uniformed activity, they are required to wear body armor.

124.3.4 Plain clothes or administrative officers must have soft body armor immediately available to them. It may be carried in the officer's vehicle with other equipment or in their work area.

124.3.5 Tactical body armor is provided to members of the emergency response unit and will be worn during tactical situations.