

	MEDFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT	POLICY NO. 4.11b
TACTICAL ARMOR		
MASSACHUSETTS POLICE ACCREDITATION STANDARDS REFERENCED: 41.3.5, 41.3.6		DATE OF ISSUE: 06/25/2023 EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/25/2023 REVISION DATE: 11/03/2025
ISSUING AUTHORITY:  Michelle Guerette Chief of Police		

**BACKGROUND:**

Due to the increased dangers in confronting armed subjects during high-risk situations the Medfield Police Department has equipped Department vehicles with additional tactical armor. These items are intended to increase the protection afforded to each officer and are not a substitute for the daily use of soft body armor. The front and rear panels of the vest are marked with the word 'POLICE' in large capital letters. The vest significantly increases protection to the officer and extends protection to areas not covered by soft body armor.

**POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Medfield Police Department to maximize officer safety through the use of tactical armor in combination with soft body armor and prescribed safety procedures during high-risk operations.

**PROCEDURES: [41.3.5] [41.3.6]**

**Storage of Tactical Armor**

When not in use, the tactical vest will be stored in the locked trunk of Department vehicles, located within the storage bag.

### **Use of Tactical Armor**

Tactical armor should be deployed during an incident where there is reason to believe a suspect is:

1. Armed with or has immediate access to a firearm;
2. Wearing protective body armor;
3. Armed and situated at a distance or fortified location which affords the suspect(s) a tactically superior position; or
4. Any incident where there is a high probability of an armed confrontation;

### **Inspection of Tactical Armor**

Officers will ensure that the ballistic helmet, and ballistic vest are present during the check of the vehicle at the beginning of their shift, and will immediately notify the Shift Commander should they be missing or damaged.