	LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE POLICY	Number: G.O. 1.03
		Issue Date: March 21, 2005
		Revision Date: November 2, 2005; March 5, 2010; December 13, 2013; February 14, 2018; July 18, 2018; April 19, 2023
CHAPTER: Sheriff's Office Role and Authority		Related Policy: G.O. 1.04 (Firearms Proficiency), G.O. 1.05 (Authorized Weapons, Ammunition and Carrying Devices), G.O. 1.12 (Use of Force), G.O. 1.13 (Deputy Involved Shooting/ Employee Involved Homicide or Potential Homicide), G.O. 3.06 (Sheriff's Office Review Boards)
SUBJECT: General Rules Concerning Firearms		Related Laws: ORS 161.235 (Use Of Physical Force In Making An Arrest Or In Preventing An Escape), ORS 161.219 (Limitations On Use Of Deadly Physical Force In Defense Of A Person), 161.239 (Use Of Deadly Force In Making An Arrest Or In Preventing An Escape), and 161.245 (Reasonable Belief Defined).

POLICY: The Sheriff's Office considers firearms primarily defensive weapons and expects employees to use firearms only when deadly force is authorized by Oregon State law and in compliance with this order and other related orders.

RULE:

1. It will be the responsibility of the Sheriff or designee to determine which DPSST Certified-personnel, other sworn staff and sworn Special Deputies are authorized to carry firearms.
2. Weapons qualified staff and sworn Special Deputies will acknowledge in writing that they have read and understood these regulations before being permitted to display or use any firearm in an official capacity. This acknowledgement will be given to the designated training authority and will become a part of the employee's training file.
3. Weapons qualified staff and sworn Special Deputies will familiarize themselves with ORS 161.235 and ORS 161.239 before being permitted to display, carry, or use any firearm in an official capacity.
4. Weapons qualified staff and sworn Special Deputies shall complete training specific to Deadly Force, to include a written exam, as prescribed and authorized by the Sheriff's Office designated training authority prior to being authorized to display, carry, or use any firearm.
 - a. All Sworn staff determined by the Sheriff or designee, to be eligible to carry a firearm shall be required to submit to and pass an agency approved psychological fitness test and evaluation.

- b. All Sworn Special Deputies, determined by the Sheriff or designee, to be eligible to carry a firearm shall be required to submit to and pass an agency approved psychological fitness test and evaluation. Cost of this test and evaluation may be incurred by the individual.
 - c. All Sworn Special Deputies determined, by the Sheriff or designee, to be eligible to carry a firearm are not required to perform Peace Officer duties unless in emergencies or when otherwise directed by the Sheriff.
- 5. Weapons qualified staff and sworn Special Deputies will not display, carry, or use any firearm until the designated training authority has certified that they have qualified in the use of that firearm (refer to G.O. 1.04).
 - 6. Weapons qualified staff and sworn Special Deputies shall not carry personal rifles or shotguns while on duty unless approval in writing is received from the Sheriff or designee.
 - 7. Firearms shall be inspected only in a manner that will not endanger other persons and only within the Sheriff's Office facilities in the armory, the Range, and other locations specifically approved by the Captain with the command responsibility of the involved section. If there is no Captain with the command responsibility, approval will be made by the Sheriff or designee.

PROCEDURE:

I. Authorized Use of Firearms

A. In carrying out the above general policy, state law and Sheriff's Office policy provide that firearms may be discharged in the performance of a police duty only under the following circumstances:

- 1. Use of deadly force as outlined in G.O. 1.12, Section II.
- 2. At an approved firearms range.
- 3. To kill a seriously injured or dangerous animal in accordance with Oregon State law.

B. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4.



C. Concealed Weapons Exceptions – Employees will not carry a concealed weapon under the following circumstances:

1. When using intoxicants while off-duty to the extent of impairment.
2. If carrying concealed would be unlawful, i.e. inside Federal courthouse.
3. When so directed by the Sheriff or designee, Chief Deputy or a Captain with the command responsibility for the involved employee.

II. Reporting Discharge of Firearm

A. Any intentional or unintentional discharge of a firearm involving injury or death will be reported in accordance with G.O. 1.12, Section IV.

B. Any intentional or unintentional discharge of a firearm carried for law enforcement purposes, whether on or off-duty, NOT involving injury or death will be reported through:

1. Immediate notification to the on duty supervisor.
2. A written report detailing the circumstances surrounding the discharge.


C. Exceptions to Reporting Discharge of Firearm

1. No report is required when discharging a firearm for training purposes.
2. Unless deemed otherwise by a supervisor, no report is required if a firearm is discharged to kill a seriously injured or dangerous animal.

III. Certification and Maintenance of Firearms

A. The Sheriff's Office designated training authority is responsible for fulfilling the duties of the Sheriff's Office Range Master listed below:

1. Serial numbers of approved personal firearms will be recorded by the Range Master and will be placed in the employee's training file. Weapons qualified staff and sworn Special Deputies shall not be authorized to use or carry firearms in an official capacity, unless serial numbers of such firearms have been recorded.

2. Weapons qualified staff and sworn Special Deputies shall not be authorized to use or carry a firearm in an official capacity unless the Range Master has certified that firearm for use. Certification will only occur following a complete safety inspection. This inspection will occur on a semi-annual basis and will be performed by an authorized firearms instructor (assistant Range Master). Firearm certification shall become a part of the applicable employee's training file.
3. Weapons qualified staff and sworn Special Deputies will report any damaged or malfunctioning firearms, in writing, to the employee's immediate supervisor and the Range Master. The Range Master will inspect the weapon and verify that the weapon appears to be malfunctioning or defective. In such instances, the employee will be directed to contact a Sheriff's Office Armorer for necessary repairs before further use.
4. Weapons qualified staff and sworn Special Deputies will not alter or adjust (other than sight alignment) any authorized personal or Sheriff's Office firearm. Such alteration or adjustment should be done by a Sheriff's Office Armorer and approved in writing by the Sheriff's Office Range Master through the respective Division Commander.
5. 

B. All firearms will be kept clean and operational. All supervisors responsible for supervising employees authorized to carry weapons will make periodic inspections to insure compliance.

IV. Range Master

- A. The Range Master will be appointed by the Sheriff or designee.
- B. The Range Master's duties include:
 1. Supervising the Firearms Team
 2. Coordinate the scheduling of firearms training and qualification shoots for all weapons qualified staff and volunteers, including LCSO retirees.
 3. Maintain LCSO firearms inventory records, to include conducting yearly inventory audits.
 4. Ensure ammunition inventory is maintained at a level sufficient for the daily and training needs for the Department.

5. Make recommendations to the Executive team regarding ammunition, firearms, holsters and other equipment related to firearms.
6. Assign repair work to the appropriate armorer.
7. Represent the Sheriff's Office on the Range Board.
8. Sign Range Facility Use Agreements.
9. Approve and authorize payment of invoices for the Range.