



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT
Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania

Policy 2-02

Policy Title: Body Armor

Date of Issue: December 1, 2022

Rescinds: None

By Authority of:

Chief of Police

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide sworn officers with guidelines for the proper use and care of body armor.

II. Policy

It is the policy of the Springfield Township Police Department to maximize officer safety through the use of body armor in combination with prescribed safety procedures. While body armor provides a significant level of protection, it is not a substitute for the observance of officer safety procedures.

III. Guidelines

- A. All body armor must comply with protective and related requirements prescribed under current standards of the National Institute of Justice.
- B. All officers shall be issued department-approved body armor. Officers shall wear only department-approved body armor.
- C. All uniformed officers are required to wear soft body armor while engaged in field activities.
- D. Officers that are assigned to an undercover or plain clothes work detail are only permitted to not wear soft body armor during those times when the Chief of Police determines the detail could be compromised by wearing body armor. Permission from the Chief of Police is required to go without soft body armor.
- E. All officers shall wear their body armor during high risk, pre-planned incidents. Body armor is also required to be worn during any rapid deployment incidents or tactical assaults.

- F. Each officer is responsible for proper storage and cleaning of their body armor in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.