

Policy Recommendation

To: Chief Lisa Davis, Austin Police Department

From: Director Gail McCant, Austin Police Oversight

Date: June 9, 2026

Subject: **APO Policy Recommendation: 801 Equipment and Uniform Regulations**

Dear Chief Davis:

This memorandum provides feedback and recommendations for improving the Austin Police Department's (APD) General Order (GO), **801 Equipment and Uniform Regulations**.

The specific policy recommended in this memorandum is as follows:

- **801.2.2 DUTY BELT AND ACCESSORIES**

The policy analysis and subsequent recommendation examined APD officers' use of equipment. APD officers should be required to utilize only department-issued or approved equipment for their policing activities. This ensures that officers use department-approved equipment rather than personal items.

Austin Police Oversight (APO) believes this APD policy can be improved and that the recommended changes will benefit the City of Austin, APD, and community members. The APO is committed to improving APD's policies to increase transparency, accountability, and public trust in law enforcement.

Sincerely,

Ryan Alvarez on
behalf of Gail
McCant

Digitally signed by Ryan
Alvarez on behalf of Gail
McCant
Date: 2026.06.09 11:52:22
-05'00'

Gail McCant
Director
Austin Police Oversight

Policy Recommendation

801 Equipment and Uniform Regulations

Recommendation #1

APD should require that all accessory items on the authorized duty belt be department-issued or approved. This includes the following items:

- Duty Weapon
- Holster
- Ammunition Magazines and Holder(s)
- Conductive Energy Device (CED)
- OC Canister and Holder
- Baton and Holder
- Folding Knife
- Handcuffs / Handcuff Case
- Portable Radio and Holder
- Flashlight and Holder
- Tape Recorder and Case
- Keys and Whistle
- Cell Phone
- Glove Case

801.2.2 DUTY BELT AND ACCESSORIES

a) Employees may only wear an authorized duty belt and [department-issued or approved](#) accessories. Basket weave designs are not allowed. When practical, the accessories must be made of the same material as the belt itself. Arrangement of the approved items is optional with each officer unless a specific location is designated.

(....)

(c) The following list contains the authorized duty belt and department-[issued or approved](#) accessories:

(....)