

DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER 11-04

OFFICE of the CHIEF OF POLICE

DATE: June 13, 2011

Duty Knife

PURPOSE.

To establish a set of parameters regarding the carrying and use of the Benchmade 550 folding pocket knife, which is the only knife authorized for use by the Police Department.

PROCEDURES.

All commissioned officers will be issued a Benchmade 550 knife. After receiving in-service training the officer will be allowed to use the knife. Officers may elect not to carry the knife on their person, however it is recommended that they have it available from a secure location should the need arise. The knife is being provided as a utility tool, useful for such tasks as cutting or scraping (eg: cutting a seatbelt, scraping off a license plate tab, cutting crime scene tape, etc).

USE OF FORCE CONSIDERATIONS.

Though it is not intended to be used as such, this pocket knife can potentially be employed as a weapon. Officers shall not rely on the knife as a primary defensive/offensive tool. It should only be used in exigent circumstances to stop a lethal threat.

BY ORDER OF:

THOMAS J. BYRNE
Chief of Police

TJB:mj