



Captain Ruden,

We just dealt with this issue. One of our Department members is a National Guard Reservist who recently returned from Iraq and will likely have to return in the future. We donated out old vests to her unit for training purposes (Simulating the wearing of a flack vest) as well as taking them over seas to use as they see fit (putting them in the doors of Humvees etc).

MWR

Cmdr. M. Regan #21
El Cerrito Police Department
Administrative Services Division
10900 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530
(510) 215-4426

Captain Ruden,

I received your e-mail regarding the donations of ballistic vests. We recently switched out all of our ballistic vests due to their containing the Zylon fabric; however, we were required to trade them back to the company on a one for one basis. We have donated vests in the past and will again in the future and we will definitely keep you in mind when that time comes.

Sergeant John McKenzie
Beverly Hills Police Department
Personnel and Training Bureau
Work: 310-285-2128
FAX: 310-274-2403

Capt. Ruden,

I just read your email to the California Police Chief's regarding the the disposal of body armor. I am the Chief of Police of a small 5 person department in Humboldt County, Ferndale Police Department. The people we hire are usually right out of the academy and their financial situations are usually tapped out after putting them self through a six month academy. With a population of 1400, The City of Ferndale Police Department has a limited budget so were not able to purchase new body armor for our officers. In the event Rocklin Police Department decides

to donate your used body armor I would love to talk to you about donating some of them to my department.

The City of Ferndale will sign a release of liability to cover the City of Rocklin and the Rocklin Police Department.

Thanks in advance for any consideration.

Lonnie Lawson
Chief of Police
707-786-4025

Dan,

We had this come up a while back - basically you can't send them out of the country. If you were to donate them it would have to be by way of the US Military and State Department. (We wanted to give some of our used vests to our sister city in Mexico)

On another level I'm not sure if it's a completely positive thing to give other law enforcement personnel BPVs that we have know way of knowing whether they will work or not. If they're not good enough for us why are they OK for them?

I called our vest rep and he said they could be disposed of at the landfill (no hazmat issues). He suggested cutting up the panel covers first.

CW

Lieutenant Charles E. Wilts
Woodland Police Department
1000 Lincoln Avenue
Woodland, CA 95695
Desk 530-661-7807
FAX 530-662-5781
Pager 530-661-5115
Mobil 530-681-8051
Direct 116*820*5010

Captain Dan Ruden;

The Gardena Police Department return

Hello Dan,

I just got back from a little time off and saw this e-mail...

Well, this may sound a bit strange but we take our expired vests to the range and shoot at them with different rounds just to see first-hand how well they work (even though expired). None of them have ever failed (relative to the protection level), even the ones that had some real visible wear about them.

Some of the vests that [are] still in good shape and left behind by retired officers or through attrition, we have sent off to Iraq police officers.

Take care,

Scott Morrison
Chief, Jackson PD

Hi Dan,

We have a contact in Mexico that we send our vests to and I know they have really appreciated it. If you want more info I will have our Training Sergeant Dave Bertini contact you.

Regards,
Jim Saunders
Chief of Police
Pacifica Police Department
(650) 738-7314

Via council....we draft a memo to donate to Mexican Police.....they help us with wanted persons, etcnice to have someone across the border.....once council approves....we drive down and give them the vests...

El Monte PD
Dan,

We have been collecting some of our useable old vests and donating them to a city in Mexico. Lt. Dave Allison and Ann Staddan have worked on this project. Dave can be reached at 774-5079 and Ann at 774-5021.

Take care,

Mike

Capt. Ruden,

In the past, the Livermore Police Department has disposed of expired vests in several manners:

1. U.S. Government Agencies have solicited in the past for expired / used vests for out of country impoverished law enforcement officers (ie. Columbia, South America)

Any vests that are donated, we state in writing that the vests are expired per the manufactures label and the ballistic protection is unknown or non-existent.

2. Due to the current recall on our Zylon vest, we have been exchanging them and have not donated any recently

3. The third option we have is clearly mark them and use them for simunition only training.

Otherwise, we would include the expired vests in our yearly gun burn and have them destroyed to prevent any unauthorized use.

Hope this helps,

Lt. Matt Sarsfield
Livermore Police
925-371-4979

Dan,

We donate ours to Peace Officer Academies for training purposes – Chief Smith
Beaumont PD

Dan,

Laguna Beach and previously in Seal Beach, our vests have been donated to police agencies of foreign jurisdictions. Last year we worked through the USMC and Fresno PD to forward out of the country.

Mike Sellers

Chief Mike Sellers

Laguna Beach Police Department
(949) 497-0385 phone / (949) 497-0775 fax
msellers@lagunabeachcity.net

We donated them to the police in Iraq, thru the U.S. Marines. You can contact Captain John Skipper, Redondo Beach PD (310) 379-2477 x 2334 for additional information.

Randy Leaf, Captain
Manhattan Beach Police Department
420 15th Street
Manhattan Beach CA 90266
(310) 802-5108
(310) 802-5101 - FAX

Dan, I have in the past, donated the vests to the local police academy and to a civilian cadet organization. We have no direct policy regarding their disposal.
Mark Ruppenthal
Moraga Police Department

While we have not done this, I have heard of departments sealing the old vests into walls of government buildings during the construction phase. Might have to check with your building department to get the actual "R Value"!

Randy Mendosa, Chief of Police
Arcata Police Department
736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521
707-825-2507
707-825-2581 (FAX)
rmendosa@arcatapd.org

Captain:

We have both contributed to the Army / Iraq groups when one of our Sergeant's was on active duty in Iraq. We have also contributed to the local Police Academy, as they require all cadets going through the academy to wear a vest, and this saves non-affiliated cadets to have a vest comparable to what they will be wearing if hired while at the academy without the expense of buying one.

Hope this helps.

Floyd E. Higdon, Lieutenant
Fort Bragg Police Department
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Capt. Ruden;

At my previous department we used the Shred it shredding service to shred ballistic vests as we did not participate in any donation programs. It can be fairly costly depending on how many you have to destroy, but its better than having them lying around or falling into the wrong hands. www.shredit.com

We have donated vests through city council consent to the Fresno POA for donation to Iraq, however we have no written policy, as this is allowed as this is not an asset we would auction or reuse elsewhere.

Jay Varney
Chief of Police
City of Chowchilla