



CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT  
UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT  
SPECIFICATIONS  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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PAGE

1 OF 3

This uniform specification lists the required holsters for all Department personnel hired after 01 January 2008.

#### HOLSTER (Uniformed Personnel Assigned to Field Duties)

This specification describes the prescribed holster for both revolvers and semiautomatic pistols to be used by Department members when working in uniform and assigned to field duties.

#### MATERIALS:

Holsters may be constructed of leather or leather-like synthetic materials. Holsters may also be constructed of a rigid composite material including, but not limited to, Kydex, Zytel or carbon-fiber. All hardware will be white or black metal.

#### COLOR:

All exposed surfaces of the holster will be black in color.

#### CONSTRUCTION:

The holster will be constructed of one or more pieces, properly molded and shaped to fit the firearm. Holsters will have a minimum of two manual retention devices, requiring deliberate manipulation by the shooter to defeat the retention device and free the weapon from the holster. (For example; two snaps, a single snap combined with a rocking motion or a rotating hood with sentry-type switch installed and in use.)

Holsters shall be tightly stitched with black thread. Rivets, screws, or other fasteners may also be used in the construction of the holster.

#### FINISH:

The finish of the holster will be black in color, free of ornamentation, wrinkles, or defects, and will be smooth without basket weave or high-gloss finish.

#### DESIGN:

A shank will be affixed to the holster to cause the barrel of the firearm to ride in a parallel or near-parallel position with the body. The holster will be affixed to a 2 ¼ inch Sam Brown-type equipment belt. When standing, the design of the holster will allow the firearm to be carried in a vertical or near vertical position. Holsters will not cant the firearm in excess of 45 degrees in any direction.

#### RESTRICTIONS:

1. Holsters will only be worn attached to the trouser or equipment belt and hang parallel to the outside seam of the trouser leg.
2. The bottom of the holster will not extend more than 10 inches below the top of the trousers.

3. Holsters will not be carried in garment pockets
4. Metal components of the holster will not come in contact with the handgun. The inside handgrip of the firearm will not extend more than 3 inches from the horizontal form of the holster's shank.
5. Swivel and clam shell type holsters are prohibited.
6. The muzzle of the firearm will not extend more than ½ inch below the bottom of the holster.
7. Velcro-type retaining devices or straps are prohibited.
8. The prescribed holster for Department members assigned to the Mounted Unit is described elsewhere in the Uniform and Equipment Specifications. (13.1521)

HOLSTER Uniformed Personnel Assigned to Administrative Duties, Civilian Dress Personnel and Off-Duty Members

This specification describes the prescribed holsters for revolvers and semiautomatic pistols to be used by Department members, when working in uniform assigned to administrative duties, when working in civilian dress, or off-duty.

ITEM 1: EXPOSED HANDGUNS

MATERIALS: Holsters may be constructed of leather or leather-like synthetic materials. Holsters may also be constructed of a rigid composite material including, but not limited to, Kydex, Zytel, or carbon-fiber. Exposed hardware will be white or black metal.

COLOR: All exposed surfaces of the holster will be black in color.

CONSTRUCTION: The holster will be constructed of one or more pieces, properly molded and shaped to fit the firearm. Holsters will have a minimum of one manual retention devices requiring deliberate manipulation by the shooter to defeat the retention device and free the weapon from the holster (for example; thumb break, push button).

Holsters shall be tightly stitched with black thread. Rivets, screws, or other fasteners may also be used in the construction of the holster.

FINISH: The finish of the holster will be free of ornamentation, wrinkles, or defects and will be smooth, plain black in color, without basket weave or high-gloss finish.

DESIGN: When standing, the design of the holster will allow the firearm to be carried in a vertical or near vertical position. Holsters will not cant the firearm in excess of 45 degrees in any direction.

ITEM 2: CONCEALED HANDGUNS

MATERIALS: Holsters may be constructed of leather or leather-like synthetic materials. Holsters may also be constructed of a composite material including, but not limited to, Kydex, Zytel, or carbon-fiber.

COLOR: Black or Brown in color.

CONSTRUCTION: The holster will be constructed of one or more pieces, properly molded and shaped to fit the firearm. Holsters will have a minimum of one manual retention devices requiring deliberate manipulation by the shooter to defeat the retention device and free the weapon from the holster (for example; thumb break, push button).

Holsters shall be tightly stitched with thread. Rivets, screws, or other fasteners may also be used in the construction of the holster.

FINISH: Optional

DESIGN: Optional.

- RESTRICTIONS:
1. While in uniform, holsters for exposed handguns will only be worn attached to the trouser or equipment belt and hang parallel to the outside seam of the trouser leg.
  2. The bottom of the holster will not extend more than 10 inches below the top of the trousers.
  3. Holsters will not be carried in garment pockets.
  4. Metal components of the holster will not come in contact with the handgun. The inside handgrip of the firearm will not extend more than 3 inches from the wearer's body.
  5. Swivel and clam shell type holsters are prohibited.
  6. The muzzle of the firearm will not extend more than ½ inch below the bottom of the holster.
  7. Velcro-type retaining devices or straps are prohibited.

Authenticated by: *MKH*

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