

Calaveras County Probation Department

Body Armor Policy

1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Practical safety measures should be used to reduce the risks and hazards associated with probation field work. The Department provides soft body armor for sworn field personnel in an effort to improve safety.

2 USE OF BODY ARMOR

Soft body armor vests are issued to all sworn field personnel because they have been shown to be effective in reducing deaths and serious injuries.

Probation officers authorized by the department to carry a firearm while on duty shall wear department-issued or department-approved body armor while doing any field work.

Unarmed officers shall wear body armor while doing any field work involving offenders who have been assessed as high-risk.

3 EXCEPTIONS

An armed officer will not be required to wear body armor under the following conditions:

- (a) While in the office
- (b) After a house has been secured, and a search is being conducted, provided there is reasonable security and the safety of the officer is reasonably assured
- (c) When attending court hearings
- (d) When off duty

Other exceptions to this policy are to be approved by a Probation Unit Supervisor, on a case-by-case basis.