



MOUNTED LIGHTS FOR DUTY WEAPON

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Equipping a police officer's duty weapon with a mounted lighting system comes with many benefits when done properly. Remember, it's a gun with a light not simply an illumination source so all safety protocols apply. Weapons mounted lighting systems are not intended to replace handheld lights.

A guiding concept is a weapon mounted light should only be utilized when an officer would be permitted to have his or her weapon drawn from the holster and can only be pointed in any direction authorized by law.

The Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training (DOCJT) Firearms Section formed a committee to evaluate the usage and issues associated with weapon mounted systems. The Kentucky State Police, Lexington PD, DOCJT, Henderson PD, and Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Services (KLCIS) participated and the following are recommended.

Committee Recommendations:

- ♦ Police department should implement policy for aspects of lighting systems.
- ♦ No member should be permitted to equip any authorized weapon with a lighting system without chief of police or designee approval.
- ♦ Training will be completed prior to departmental approval. Training should at a minimum include familiarization, instruction on mechanics of use (activation and function), a course of fire using weapons mounted and handheld lighting systems, legal updates on use of force and review of departmental policy. The department will include mandatory annual training during at least one of its firearms qualifications for all members such approved.
- ♦ Lead firearms instructor/range officer should compile a list of officers permitted to utilize weapons mounted systems which should be provided to commanding officers. Commanding officers should verify that any officer under their command with a weapon mounted lighting system is permitted to carry it.
- ♦ Weapon mounted system batteries should be replaced

at a minimum annually and an ideal time would be at departmental annual weapons inspections. Additionally, refer to the manufacturers' instructions and recommendations; any discrepancies consult with firearms instructor.

- ♦ Recruits or newly hired officers should utilize the departmental approved lighting system throughout basic academy.
- ♦ An officer approved to carry a weapon mounted lighting system should continue to do so unless permitted to discontinue its usage by chief or designee.
- ♦ Utilize decision based training and specifically low light options. KLCIS provides this to members at host sites using Response to Resistance Training on Ti Simulators.

Recommended Handgun Lighting Systems:

- ♦ StreamLight TRL-1 HL
- ♦ SureFire X300



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- ◆ Safariland 6280
 - * Note: Ensure the holster has security retention as model numbers can vary based on finish
 - * Verify all holsters and weapons are compatible and function properly. Compatibility has been reported for Glock 17 Generation 5 9 MM.

Qualification Course (Courtesy Lexington PD): Load 10-10-10 (150 possible 105 is passing at 70%)

- ◆ 3yd line 2 rounds strong hand only with light manipulation
(3 Seconds) X2 - 4 rounds total
- ◆ 3yd line two round support hand only with light manipulation
(4 Seconds) X2 - 4 rounds total
- ◆ 7yd line 4 rounds light manipulation both hands
(12 Seconds) 4 rounds total
- ◆ 7 yd line 4 rounds light manipulation both hands with primary light in hand
(5 Seconds) X2 - 8 rounds total
- ◆ 15 yd line move left fire 3 rounds behind cover with primary light in hand
(12 Seconds) 3 rounds total
- ◆ 15 yd line move right fire 3 rounds behind cover with primary light in hand
(12 Seconds) 3 rounds total
- ◆ 15 yd line move left to cover 2 rounds kneeling with primary light in hand
(10 Seconds) 2 rounds total
- ◆ 15 yd line move left fire 2 rounds behind cover kneeling with primary light in hand
(10 Seconds) 2 rounds total



Questions? KLC is here to help!
Please contact John Clark (jclark@klc.org) or Brian Nunn (bnunn@klc.org) with KLC Loss Control Law Enforcement at 800.876.4552 or visit klc.org for more information.



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