

Long Range Acoustical Device (LRAD)

708.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures related to the proper use and deployment of a Long Range Acoustical Device (LRAD).

708.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Fontana Police Department that a Long Range Acoustical Device (LRAD) be used with live or recorded voice messages to communicate with the community during natural disasters, crowd management and control situations, or when other forms of communication are ineffective or inoperable to unequivocally communicate messages from Police, Fire or other City Departments and safely resolve uncertain situations where communicating with the public is paramount. The LRAD is not designed to be used as a weapon. Members of the Fontana Police Department shall not use the LRAD system as a weapon.

708.3 DEFINITIONS

The Fontana Police Department currently utilizes one LRAD system:

- (a) The LRAD 1000XI system, which is a portable device and can be mounted to a vehicle.

LRAD systems have the capability to provide highly effective long-range communication. The systems broadcast clear messages or voice commands. The systems can help to de-escalate situations and safely modify dangerous and criminal behavior through clear, unambiguous direction and communication.

LRAD systems are able to broadcast instructions and messages with greater clarity and distance than traditional loudspeakers or public address systems. The systems can effectively broadcast messages through wind, crowd, engine and background noise. LRAD broadcasts can be clearly heard by people inside vehicles and buildings. The LRAD's clear communication leads to a safer environment during critical incidents and enhances the safety of the community, criminal subjects, and public safety personnel.

708.4 USE OF THE LRAD

Law enforcement agencies may use the LRAD to:

- (a) Communicate lifesaving information to residents during disasters
- (b) Communicate to large crowds during parades, festivals, concerts and sporting events
- (c) Establish safety zones and humanely enforce perimeters
- (d) Control traffic congestion
- (e) Conduct SWAT and Mobile Field Force operations
- (f) Broadcast a dispersal order
- (g) Communicate during hostage and barricaded subject situations

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- (h) Serve high risk search warrants
- (i) Communicate to protesters
- (j) Communicate to persons threatening suicide who are in an inaccessible location
- (k) Conduct search and rescue operations

708.5 APPROVAL

The LRAD may only be deployed with the approval of the Watch Commander or Incident Commander. However, if a rapidly evolving situation places the public or law enforcement in danger or where serious property damage is probable, trained personnel are permitted to deploy the LRAD prior to approval. The scene supervisor shall ensure that the Watch Commander or Incident Commander is notified as soon as practical.

708.6 MAINTENANCE

The Inland Valley SWAT Team will store and maintain the LRAD system.

708.7 TRAINING

LRAD system may only be deployed by personnel who have been properly trained in its use and procedures. The Personnel and Training Unit and/or the Inland Valley SWAT Team shall ensure a list of personnel trained to deploy the LRAD is maintained.