

1360 BALLISTIC VESTS	
Chapter: Juvenile Justice Field Services	Section: Field Equipment
	New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families Policy Manual Policy Directive: 15-28 Effective Date: May 2015 Scheduled Review Date:
	Approved:  Lorraine Bartlett, DCYF Director
Related Statute(s): RSA 170-G:16 Related Admin Rule(s): Related Federal Regulation(s):	Related Form(s): FORM 1360, and DHHS Incident Report Bridges' Screen(s) and Attachment(s):

The Division is committed to professionalism in its delivery of Juvenile Probation and Parole Services and recognizes its responsibility to promote the safety of JPPOs and JPPSs when exercising their statutory duties. This juvenile probation and parole policy is established to support this commitment and to establish guidelines for the proper use and care of division-issued ballistic vests.

Purpose

This policy establishes a work standard that governs the deployment, proper use, and care of division-issued ballistic vests by JPPOs and JPPSs while exercising their powers and duties pursuant to RSA 170-G:16.

Definitions

"Absconder" means a juvenile probationer or parolee who hides, conceals, or absents him/herself with the intent to avoid legal process or authorized control.

"Ballistic Vest" means Division issued ballistic-resistant and stab-resistant body armor that provides coverage and protection primarily to the torso.

"DCYF" or the **"Division"** means the DHHS Division for Children, Youth and Families.

"Escapee" means a youth who has made an unauthorized flight from the Sununu Youth Services Center or the Division's custody to which he/she has been committed by the court.

"JJS" means the Bureau of Field Services' Juvenile Justice Services within DCYF.

"JPPO" means the Juvenile Probation and Parole Officer employed by DCYF.

"JPPS" means the Juvenile Probation and Parole Supervisor employed by DCYF.

Policy

- I. Only division-issued ballistic vests may be worn by JPPOs and JPPSs.
 - A. The vests may be worn only while on duty.
 - B. Off-duty use of the vests is prohibited.

- II. Division-issued ballistic vests remain the property of the Division. JPPOs and JPPSs leaving the employment of the Division or transferring to another position shall return the vest to their immediate supervisor or designee. The supervisor shall deliver the vest to the JJS Training Officer.
- III. The JJS Training Officer shall coordinate the fitting of division-issued ballistic vests by the Division's supplier during Core Academy. The Division shall issue ballistic vests to JPPOs and JPPSs after graduation from Core Academy.
- IV. Initial and annual refresher training shall address the appropriate use, proper fit, storage, inspection, and maintenance of division-issued ballistic vests according to the manufacturer's specifications.
 - A. JPPOs and JPPSs must successfully complete all training requirements and sign an acknowledgement of understanding and receipt upon being issued a ballistic vest.
- V. Division-issued ballistic vests may be re-issued to another JPPO or JPPS after an inspection by the JJS Training Officer has determined that the vest:
 - A. Remains under the manufacturer's warranty;
 - B. Remains in deployable condition; and
 - C. Is fitted to the receiving JPPO or JPPS.
- VI. JPPOs or JPPSs must promptly report improperly fitting vests to the JJS Training Officer to assess and address the issue.
- VII. Care, Storage, Damage and Loss/Theft:
 - A. When not in use, JPPOs and JPPSs shall store their division-issued ballistic vests in a manner consistent with manufacturer's guidelines that safeguards the vest from moisture, damage, loss, or theft. Guidelines are available at the end of this policy.
 - B. Wet ballistic vests must be dried completely before use. Fully submerged ballistic vests must also be inspected for rips, tears, and other damage before use.
 - C. JPPOs and JPPSs shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor or designee of any damage to, loss or theft of the ballistic vest.
 - 1. Incident Reports:
 - (a) To report damage of a ballistic vest, damaged in the line of duty, JPPOs or JPPSs shall document equipment damage in the DHHS Incident Report.
 - (b) To report damage, loss or theft of a ballistic vest, for an incident outside the line of duty that does not require a DHHS Incident Report, the JPPO or JPPS shall complete and submit DCYF Form 1360 "Equipment Inventory and Equipment Incident Report" to their immediate supervisor or designee who shall review, sign and then submit it to the JJS Training Officer.
 - 2. The JJS Training Officer shall determine if a damaged ballistic vest must be removed from use pending repair/replacement.

3. The JJS Training Officer shall expedite an order for replacement component(s) if the manufacturer's specifications allow and the component(s) can be replaced. The JJS Training Officer shall ensure any warranty that might apply is exercised.
 - (a) A new ballistic vest shall be ordered if the extent of the damage exceeds manufacturer's specifications.
 - (b) Ballistic vest damage by gunshot or otherwise punctured in the line of duty shall be removed from duty and replaced.
4. The JPPO or JPPS may be liable for the replacement or repair costs of the ballistic vest if it is determined that the conduct which resulted in the theft, loss or damage to the vest was inconsistent with the provisions of this policy.

VIII. Inventory Control:

- A. JPPSs shall inventory division-issued ballistic vests during annual JPPO performance appraisals and document the inspection on DCYF Form 1360 "Equipment Inventory and Equipment Incident Report."
- B. Field Administrators shall inventory division-issued ballistic vests during annual JPPS performance appraisals and document the inspection on DCYF Form 1360 "Equipment Inventory and Equipment Incident Report."
- C. The JJS Training Officer shall inspect JPPOs' and JPPSs' division-issued ballistic vests on an annual basis and document the inspection.
- D. The JJS Training Officer shall maintain an up-to-date database of all ballistic vests issued to JPPOs and JPPSs.

Procedures

- I. JPPOs and JPPSs shall have their division-issued ballistic vests readily available for use at all times during work hours.
- II. JPPOs and JPPSs are required to wear division-issued ballistic vests when:
 - A. Entering situations with increased risk of violence such as, but not limited to: planned searches, planned custodial actions, absconder/escapee searches, and homes where one or more violent offender(s) reside.
 1. For situations meeting the above criteria, JPPOs and JPPSs must be accompanied by another JPPO, JPPS, or law enforcement officer.
 - B. Entering high-crime neighborhoods;
 - C. Entering areas known to be frequented by organized gangs;
 - D. Entering other dangerous locales;
 - E. Performing field services in conjunction with law enforcement;

- F. Entering homes known to contain unsecured weapons and case circumstances present with increased risk of violence as determined by the JPPO and JPPS;
 - G. Performing nighttime compliance and curfew checks;
 - H. Transporting youth: in custody, on absconder status, or escapee status in a state vehicle; and
 - I. At all other times when, in the judgment of the JPPO and/or JPPS, their designee or Administrator, it is determined it must be worn.
- III. JPPOs and JPPSs are not required to wear division-issued ballistic vests in the following situations:
- A. When transporting a youth to a planned visit, appointment, or admission to a community-based, residential treatment program unless case specific factors justify the use of ballistic vests;
 - B. During school check-ins and IEP meetings;
 - C. While at a state office, court, or facility;
 - D. While visiting youth or attending meetings at a residential program;
 - E. While visiting colleagues or service providers; or
 - F. While on planned and scheduled home visits with known youth and families that do not have a history of violent offending.

<p>Practice Guidance</p>

Where can I find 'Use and Care' information for division-issued ballistic vests?

- Information on the use and care, as well as inspecting ballistic vests, can be found on the pages attached to this policy.

I have a specific question on when I should wear my division-issued ballistic vest, who should I ask?

- JPPOs and JPPSs should address any questions about when and where to wear ballistic vests to their immediate supervisor. Questions may also be brought to the Juvenile Justice Services' Policy and Practice Workgroup for statewide consideration.



OWNER'S MANUAL



 **ARMOR HOLDINGS, INC.**

WARNINGS PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

For the protection and safety of our valued customers, the following warnings must be read, understood, and adhered to prior to the use of any Safariland product.

It is the responsibility of the user or users of this product to read this guide and understand all features and functions of this product. **Failure to read and understand the contents of this guide may result in misuse leading to injury or permanent damage to the product.**

ARMORWEAR™ is designed to offer ballistic or stab protection or both under specific circumstances against specific threats. ARMORWEAR™ is not "bulletproof" and cannot make the wearer immune to all potential threats. Always exercise extreme caution and follow standard safety procedures at all times. **Each model of ARMORWEAR™ is designed to stop specified projectiles at specific speeds under guidelines established by specific standards,** such as, but not limited to, those of the National Institute of Justice. Refer to the label placed on the body side of each ballistic panel for listed projectiles relating to the specific ARMORWEAR™ model. Independent laboratory test results shown in the catalog, on the ballistic panel label, or on any other Safariland printed materials were obtained on sealed and undamaged armor panels. Projectiles not specifically listed may penetrate ARMORWEAR™. Rounds that achieve higher than standard factory speeds, including, in many cases, rounds fired from modified or non-standard handguns, may penetrate armor. ARMORWEAR™ will not stop rifle projectiles, and may or may not defeat special purpose or armor piercing projectiles, or sharp, pointed instruments such as arrows, ice picks or knives dependent upon the specific armor design. No ballistic protection is possible where the ballistic panel does not exist. It is the responsibility of the wearer to understand

the limitations of the coverage area of the specific vest. Vest protective coverage will vary according to vest size, style, fit and your own body configuration.

Do **NOT** alter or modify your ARMORWEAR™.

Use **ONLY** the outer garments recommended and manufactured by Safariland ARMORWEAR™ as panel carriers.

Do **NOT** use this vest system if the seal of the ballistic panel package has been broken, damaged, or otherwise interrupted, or if the ballistic package itself has been damaged in any way.

Do **NOT** expose this vest system to chemicals.

Do **NOT** expose ballistic panels alone to direct sunlight.

WARNING: Limited Impact Protection

Safariland body armor may reduce or prevent injuries. Safariland body armor is not bullet proof and can not protect against all threats. Impact forces can result in serious injury or death.

WARNING: Safariland Ballistic Panels Can Not Protect What It Does Not Cover

Safariland ballistic panels offer protection to only those areas that they cover. Ballistic panels do not protect the neck or any area it does not cover.

WARNING: Safariland Removable Fabric Outer Shell Carrier Does Not Provide Any Ballistic Protection

The removable fabric outer shell carrier is designed to carry specific Safariland ballistic panel packages. The fabric carrier itself provides no independent ballistic protection.

ISO 9001 CERTIFICATION

Why is ISO 9001 Certification so important? Because Safariland certifies that every vest manufactured and purchased follows QC protocol of international quality and standards.

NIJ CERTIFIED

All ballistic vests marketed in the U.S. are certified under the NIJ Standard. Independent lab testing is performed at an NIJ-certified laboratory. For current model numbers, full test results, warranty or other product information, please contact Safariland.

CARE & MAINTENANCE

ARMORWEAR™ should be properly stored when not in use. In order to maintain and protect optimal ballistic performance of your ARMORWEAR™, it should be stored at normal room temperature in a dry place. When not in use, avoid storing your ARMORWEAR™ in places where it is exposed to persistent high temperatures (120°F and above) in combination with high humidity (50% and above) for long uninterrupted periods of time (two weeks or more). Ordinary daily temperature and humidity conditions experienced while wearing your vest during routine shifts will not have an adverse effect on the performance of your ARMORWEAR™.

Vests should be stored flat in individual bags or storage devices separate from other vests or equipment. Vests stored together with other vests, or not separated from other similar equipment, are prone to damage caused by:

- QwikTab™ fasteners unintentionally engaging.
- Sharp edges on metal equipment, which can tear fabric.
- Components becoming entangled with other components.
- Abrasion with other equipment, which can damage coatings or surfaces of fasteners.

To clean the ballistic panels, follow these instructions:	To clean the outershell carrier, follow these instructions:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Remove the ballistic panels from the outershell carrier. 2) Gently hand wash the panels with a sponge or wash cloth using mild detergent. Wipe off any excess detergent with clean water using the same procedure. 3) DO NOT DRY CLEAN. 4) DO NOT COMMERCIAL LAUNDRY. 5) DO NOT EXPOSE THE BALLISTIC PANELS TO BLEACH (LIQUID OR VAPOR). 6) DO NOT SUBMERSE BALLISTIC PANELS. 7) Wipe dry. 8) Ensure ballistic panels are completely dry before re-inserting into outershell carrier. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Remove all equipment from the outershell carrier. 2) Remove the ballistic panels from the outershell carrier. 3) Engage all QwikTab™ fasteners to reduce damage during the washing and drying cycles. 4) Machine wash the outershell carrier using "Durable Press" (warm) cycle at medium/warm water temperature (approximately 105°F). 5) Use low-sudsing detergent according to the detergent manufacturer's directions. 6) DO NOT USE BLEACH. 7) Outershell carrier may be tumble-dried at medium (warm) temperature setting, or may be line dried. 8) Outershell carrier may be commercially laundered following similar directions. 9) DO NOT DRY CLEAN. 10) Outershell carrier must be completely dry prior to re-inserting the ballistic panels.

INSPECTION

Upon delivery of this product from Safariland or your local Safariland dealer, please review and inspect all components. Your inspection should verify the following:

- Correct style of vest.
- Correct size of vest.
- Correct ballistic model.
- Ballistic panels are in place and properly oriented (certification label faces body side).

- Correct color of carrier.
- Optional features, if applicable, are present and correct.

If, upon conclusion of your inspection, you find the vest system to be complete and acceptable, please complete and return the warranty registration card.

If, however, you have found any discrepancy during your inspection, contact your local Safariland dealer or contact Safariland directly.

PERIODIC INSPECTION

Vest systems, like any life-saving or life protection equipment, should be subjected to periodic inspections.

POST WEAR INSPECTION

Concealable ARMORWEAR™ should be cleaned on a regular basis. This provides the perfect opportunity for a quick, 30-second inspection. During this inspection, remove the ballistic panels from the carrier system. Review each component of the system as follows:

Ballistic Panel – front and rear

Inspect the impact side and body side of each panel for...

- holes, tears or rips, damage to the ballistic covering
- creases, wrinkles or unintended contours
- soiled appearance
- presence of moisture

Carrier – front and rear

Inspect the impact side and body side of each carrier component for...

- holes, tears or rips, damage to any component
- damage or excessive wear on the QwikTab™ fasteners
- damage or excessive wear on the slide fastener components
- damage to stitches or seams.

If you discover any excessive wear or damage during your detailed inspection, contact your local Safariland dealer or contact Safariland directly.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU OBSERVE DAMAGE TO YOUR VEST?

Any damage to a ballistic panel should be brought to the attention of Safariland immediately. This includes, but is not limited to, tears in the ballistic covering, ballistic impacts, cuts or tears to the ballistic panel. Under no circumstances should anyone repair or alter any Safariland ballistic component other than Safariland Ltd., Inc. The act of repairing or altering a ballistic component shall void the warranty.

Damage to the outershell carrier should be brought to the attention of Safariland immediately. This includes, but is not limited to, tears, cuts, holes, damaged fasteners, etc. Under no circumstances should anyone repair or alter any Safariland ballistic component other than Safariland Ltd., Inc. The act of repairing or altering an outershell carrier shall void the warranty.

ARMORWEAR™ materials, like clothing, are subject to wear. Although there is evidence of some degradation in ballistic performance as a result of wear, armor that is properly cared for will continue to work well beyond the manufacturer's warranty period.

Because of these considerations, Safariland recommends that you have a regular inspection program for ARMORWEAR™ and consider replacement a minimum of every five years.

Should the ballistic panel package be broken, interrupted, or damaged in any way, CEASE USING THE SAFARILAND ARMOR IMMEDIATELY and return it to SAFARILAND for inspection in order to ensure proper functioning.

WARRANTY STATEMENTS

LIMITED WARRANTY INFORMATION

Subject to the warning limitations set forth in this Owner's Manual, Safariland Ltd., Inc. extends the following Limited Warranty to the original purchaser of Safariland ARMORWEAR™ and the removable outershell carrier, in place of all other warranties, expressed or implied and excluding incidental or consequential damages from the ARMORWEAR™, or use of the ARMORWEAR™.

Some states and countries do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts and/or does not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages. As to purchases governed by the laws of those states and countries, the limitations herein set forth may not apply to you. The following express warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights that vary from state to state and country to country.

SOFT ARMOR AND BALLISTICS

The ballistic panels are warranted to be free from defects in workmanship and materials for a period of five (5) years from the date of purchase.

Should the ballistic panel package be broken, interrupted, or damaged in any way, cease using the ARMORWEAR™ immediately and return it to Safariland Ltd. Inc., Ontario, California, USA, for inspection and repair in order to ensure proper functioning. In the event that the damage or interruption of the package has not been caused, as determined solely by Safariland, by neglect or abuse, the panel will be inspected and repaired at no charge, provided that all postage and mailing/shipping costs are paid by the original purchaser. If the damage or interruption of the panel is determined to be caused by neglect or abuse, then Safariland will advise the owner of recommended repair or replacement and the cost.

The Warranty for the ARMORWEAR™ shall be immediately terminated and of no effect should the ARMORWEAR™ (including the ballistic package) be damaged through neglect or abuse, or worn, or used with damaged or interrupted panel packages, or should any part of the ARMORWEAR™ be altered, modified, or repaired by anyone other than Safariland.

FABRIC OUTERSHELL CARRIER

The Safariland Outershell Carrier is warranted to be free from defects in workmanship and materials for a

period of one (1) year from the date of purchase. The Warranty is forthwith terminated should the Outershell Carrier be abused or if the laundry instructions located on the care label attached to the garment and within this document are not complied with.

GENERAL

All claims under the above Limited Warranty shall be made in writing, postage pre-paid, to Safariland Ltd., Inc., 3120 East Mission Blvd., Ontario, California 91761, USA, Attention: Servicing Department. Any and all consequential damages are expressly limited to either (i) the replacement of any defective Ballistic Panel or Outershell Carrier, or (ii) a refund of the original purchase price to the original purchaser, the choice of (i) or (ii) to be at the sole option and discretion of Safariland.

This limited warranty is expressly in lieu of all other agreements and warranties, general or special, express or implied. Any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose are limited to the same duration as this express limited warranty. Safariland reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to refund all or a portion of the purchase price rather than repair or replace any ballistic panel package or removable fabric outer shell carrier.

Safariland shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages. Some states and countries do not allow the exclusion or limitation of implied warranties, incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations and exclusions may not apply to you.

This limited warranty does not cover anything resulting from misuse, abuse, neglect, alteration, breakage, interruption, damage, improper fit, failure to perform care and maintenance as instructed, or unauthorized sale, repair or service.

This limited warranty does not cover any representation or warranty made by dealers beyond the provisions of this warranty. No representative or person is authorized to assume liability on behalf of Safariland in connection with the sale or use of this product.

You must establish proof of purchase to obtain warranty service or replacement.

This limited warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you also have other rights that vary from state to state and country to country.