

	SAN MARCOS POLICE DEPARTMENT	
	Policy 7.19 Caiman Rescue Vehicle	
	Effective Date: April 24, 2019	Replaces:
	Approved:	
	 _____ Chief of Police	
Reference:		

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to guide the use of the BAE Caiman Rescue Vehicle (CRV) acquired through the 1033 Program of the Department of Defense Logistic Agency’s Law Enforcement Support Office (DLA) and assigned to the San Marcos Police Department (SMPD).

The use of this rescue vehicle supports the guiding principle and intention of the SMPD to fulfill our responsibility to protect and keep safe all persons living in, visiting, or otherwise present in the City of San Marcos.

The CRV shall prominently display graphics and wording identifying its use by the SMPD to eliminate any perception that the vehicle may be under the operational control of the U.S. Armed Forces. The vehicle shall prominently display the word “RESCUE” so that its purpose is unequivocally clear to the community. The vehicle shall not be mounted or armed with any weapons systems whatsoever, other than the authorized individual weapons carried and controlled by the police officers utilizing the vehicle.

It is understood that its military origin notwithstanding, the CRV shall have as its exclusive operational purpose the enhanced physical protection of its occupants, whether those occupants are police officers, medical professionals, other first responders, or the citizens served.

II. POLICY

- A. The CRV may support all geographical areas normally supported by the assets of the SMPD either by jurisdiction or mutual agreements.
- B. The CRV remains a permanent asset of the DLA and the SMPD is a temporary custodian and user to which care and control has been transferred by the Texas Department of Public Safety consistent with the requirements of the 1033 Program.
- C. The CRV is an option to be used as necessary to safeguard and protect police officers, medical personnel, other first responders or the citizens served during situations that present a known or presumed risk of serious bodily injury or death and/or during a natural disaster or catastrophic event without a criminal nexus to allow lifesaving access to areas inaccessible to normal vehicles.
- D. The CRV will not be utilized as a response to peaceful public assemblies, protests, demonstrations or exercises of the First Amendment right to free speech unless the

circumstances cited above in paragraph II.C exist concurrently.

III. PROCEDURES

- A. The CRV weighs approximately 48,500 pounds, is 10' tall, 11' wide, and 26' in length and should be operated accordingly.
- B. Drivers must receive training in its operation and must operate it with care and consideration of its size and weight. The driver must also consider the vehicle's size and weight as related to the environmental and road conditions at the time. The driver **MUST** keep in mind that flood waters may obscure road conditions and damage.
- C. Drivers should thoroughly check the vehicle for proper maintenance prior to operating and after operating the CRV. Deficiencies should be remedied, if possible, as well as reported to the vehicle manager for documentation. These checks should minimally include fluid levels, tire air pressure, light functions, and proper brake functions.