



**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Community Corrections**



Title:	Body Armor	DOC Policy: 50.1.6
Effective:	6/1/2026	Supersedes: 6/01/18
Applicability: Community Corrections employees		
Directives Cross-Reference: None		
Attachments: None		

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish expectations for when body armor should be worn by officers.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Body Armor: Personal protective equipment worn on the torso that is designed to reduce injury by absorbing or deflecting the impact of firearm-fired projectiles. Body armor is also commonly referred to as a ballistic vest or bullet-resistant vest and includes all types of body armor approved for use by the Department of Corrections.
- B. Local State Director: A person within the Department of Corrections who reports to the Assistant Director of Community Corrections and has responsibility for managing a state community corrections office within a particular county.
- C. Officer: An employee of the Department of Corrections as defined in ORS 181A.355(13).

III. POLICY

A. When Body Armor Must be Worn

1. Protective body armor shall be worn when conducting home contacts, searches, or planned arrests outside of the office and while conducting release, transfer, and compact investigations. Officers are not required to wear body armor during unanticipated, impromptu contacts.
2. Body armor shall be worn during firearms training and may be required during defensive tactics or other training, when appropriate.
3. There may be circumstances that arise or an event that may occur where the local state director or designee directs body armor to be worn including, but not limited to, special events or community functions. Nothing in this rule precludes an officer from wearing body armor for any other circumstance they

deem appropriate.

B. Authorization and Issuance

Body armor worn by an officer must be approved and issued by the local state director or designee.

C. Care, Maintenance, and Reporting

1. Officers issued body armor are responsible for its proper care.
2. Officers are required to immediately report any damage or defects.
3. Body armor that is damaged or determined by the department to be unsafe for use will be replaced by the department.
4. Body armor that has reached its expiration date shall be returned to the department in accordance with agency policy.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

This policy will be adopted immediately without further modification.

Certified: _signature on file_____
Julie Vaughn, Rules Coordinator

Approved: _signature on file_____
Michael Reese, Director