



GREENVILLE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

GO -251

GENERAL ORDERS

(LRAD) LONG RANGE ACOUSTICAL DEVICE

PURPOSE: The purpose of this order is to establish guidelines for the deployment and use of the LRAD – Long Range Acoustical Device.

POLICY: It shall be the policy of the Greenville County Sheriff's Office to deploy and use the LRAD to maximize the safety of all individuals involved in an incident.

DEFINITION: Long Range Acoustical Device (LRAD) - A high intensity directional acoustical array for long range, clear hailing, notification and an unmistakable warning tone. The LRAD is primarily used as a communication device.

PROCEDURE: The LRAD shall only be used by deputies trained in its deployment and used in a manner consistent with Sheriff's Office policy and training. Deputies shall document the sustained use of the LRAD warning tone as a Response to Aggression. Mere use of the LRAD to communicate verbal messages or warnings is not considered a use of force.

To ensure the LRAD is not damaged when mounted on the outside of a vehicle, it shall not be transported at high speeds, unless approved by a scene/incident commander.

COMMUNICATIONS: The LRAD may be used to issue dispersal orders during crowd and riot control situations or to address the public in the event of:

- Civil emergencies.
- Natural disasters
- Evacuations
- Law Enforcement incidents (e.g., missing persons, perimeters for wanted suspects/ K9 deployments, barricades, etc.).

When possible a prerecorded message shall be used to make announcements. When the use of a prerecorded message is not

applicable, or when additional information is necessary, the LRAD's handheld microphone may be used.

WARNING**DETERRENT TONE:**

The LRAD Warning tone is a safe alternative to less lethal deterrent options such as pepper spray or less-lethal munitions.

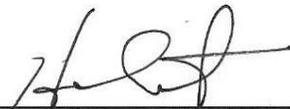
The warning tone shall only be used when authorized by a Lieutenant or higher authority.

When authorized for use in the field, the warning tone shall only be used:

- In short durations.
- To gain immediate attention of persons, vessels or other vehicles.
- To disperse or redirect crowds.
- As a distraction.
- As needed during SWAT operations.
- For other reasons determined by the incident commander.

All deputies in the immediate proximity of the LRAD for a prolonged period of time should wear ear protection.

Advance notification should be provided to perimeter officers, prior to activating the warning tone.



Hobart Lewis, Sheriff