



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

RESOLUTION

Adopted at the Executive Committee Meeting
Scottsdale, AZ
April 8, 2011

Mandatory Vest Use by Police Officers

Submitted by the Executive Committee

EC.01.a11

WHEREAS, the first responsibility of government, as well as government leaders, is to ensure the safety and well-being of its citizens and the lives of those of the officers who have dedicated their lives to protecting their communities; and

WHEREAS, it is their responsibility continually evaluate and develop techniques that will protect officers and provide them with the equipment and training that will protect them when they are confronted by someone who will not hesitate to injure or use deadly physical force against them; and

WHEREAS, in order to fulfill their duties and responsibilities of protecting their communities, law enforcement officers must first protect themselves; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), 1,626 law enforcement officers in the United States were killed in the line of duty between 2000 and 2009; and

WHEREAS, data published by the NLEOMF indicates that there were 565 law enforcement officers killed with a firearm from 2000-2009; and,

WHEREAS, soft body armor is available to law enforcement personnel to protect against life threatening or potentially disabling injuries; and

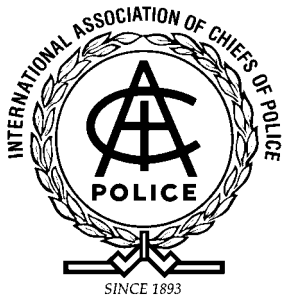
WHEREAS, according to FBI LEOKA data, 37% of law enforcement officers feloniously killed during the time period of 2000 – 2009 were not wearing body armor; and

WHEREAS, the IACP/DuPont Kevlar Survivors Club has also documented that since 1987, more than 3,000 law enforcement officers have survived life threatening injuries because they were protected by their body armor; and

WHEREAS, according to a report by Bureau of Justice Assistance, only 60 percent of agencies have mandatory wear policies for body armor; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) calls on all law enforcement executives to immediately develop and implement a mandatory body armor wear policies for their departments; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the IACP understands that officers engaged in certain non-patrol activities may not be able to wear body armor during particular aspects of their assignments and that each department will need to determine those circumstances and situations where wearing body armor would be inappropriate.



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

RESOLUTION

Adopted at the Executive Committee Meeting
Scottsdale, AZ
April 8, 2011

Mandatory Seat Belt Use by Police Officers

Submitted by the Executive Committee

EC.02.a11

WHEREAS, the first responsibility of government, as well as government leaders, is to ensure the safety and well-being of its citizens and the lives of those of the officers who have dedicated their lives to protecting their communities; and

WHEREAS, it is their responsibility continually evaluate and develop techniques that will protect officers and provide them with the equipment and training that will protect them when they are confronted by someone who will not hesitate to injure or use deadly physical force against them; and

WHEREAS, in order to fulfill their duties and responsibilities of protecting their communities, law enforcement officers must first protect themselves; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), 1,626 law enforcement officers in the United States were killed in the line of duty between 2000 and 2009; and

WHEREAS, the NLEOMF indicates that the cause of 69 percent of law enforcement deaths between 2000 and 2009 (1,118) are from motor vehicle crashes and firearm related incidents; and,

WHEREAS; the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has reported that fatal traffic incidents in 2010 were the leading cause of officer deaths for the 13th straight year; and,

WHEREAS, in a recent report, NHTSA found that at least 42 percent of the officers killed in traffic crashes from 1980 - 2008 were not wearing seat belts; and,

WHEREAS, the issue of seat belt usage represents a critical officer safety issue and imperative that police executives take all necessary steps to ensure the safety of their officers; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) calls on all law enforcement executives to immediately develop and implement mandatory seat belt for their departments.