



# CLEVELAND DIVISION OF POLICE

## GENERAL POLICE ORDER



EFFECTIVE DATE: <b>MARCH 20, 2023</b>	CHAPTER: <b>4 - Field Operations</b>	PAGE: <b>1 of 2</b>	NUMBER: <b>4.07.04</b>
SUBJECT: <b>LONG RANGE ACOUSTIC DEVICE PROTOCOL</b>			
CHIEF: <b><i>Dornat A. Drummond, Chief</i></b>			

**PURPOSE:** To provide guidelines for the use and deployment of the Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD).

**POLICY:** It is the policy of the Cleveland Division of Police that an LRAD be utilized to communicate with the community during natural disasters, crowd management and control situations, or when other forms of communication are ineffective or inoperable to clearly communicate messages and safely resolve situations where communicating with the public is paramount.

### DEFINITIONS

**Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD)** - a type of acoustic hailing device (AHD) that provides communication and warning functions using directed sound energy. LRADs may be used in live or recorded voice or alert (sound wave) modes.

**Alert Mode** - An intense, pulsating warning tone designed to be clearly heard at a long distance. Recommended to be used in 2-5 second bursts for maximum effectiveness when hailing. Qualified personnel must ensure the area in front of the LRAD is clear 100 ft before activating the alert tone when the volume is in the red zone of the PWR/VOL knob scale.

### PROCEDURES:

- I. General Guidelines
  - A. LRAD systems are primarily used for audio notifications and communication with individuals at or near tactical operations to make police presence and intent known and/or to provide instructions relating to involved parties' safety.
  - B. LRAD systems shall be deployed by Division members who have received training in system use and procedures.
  - C. LRAD systems may be operated in Alert Mode at the direction of the Chief or their designee. If approved, this operation is a level 3 use of force and shall be investigated as directed in General Police Order 2.01.07 Force Investigation Team.
  - D. The Training Section shall ensure that a list of members trained to deploy the LRAD is maintained, and the certifications are placed in the appropriate member training files.
  
- II. Audio LRAD Announcements For Crowd Management
  - A. The systems may be effectively utilized to deliver audio announcements during crowd management including, but not limited to the following:

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1. To gain the attention of riotous or unruly crowds.
  2. To modify crowd behavior.
  3. To deliver routine messages, announcements, warnings, and dispersal orders.
- B. LRADs concentrate a focused sound cone ( 30 degrees in front of LRAD) in order to project a message clearly over significant distances, up to 600 meters. When crowds are massed, the entire footprint of a crowd should be taken into consideration.
1. The device should be deployed from a location that provides the entire crowd the opportunity to receive the message.
  2. If necessary, a message may be played multiple times with the LRAD pointed in different directions to facilitate optimal crowd notification.

### III. LRAD Dispersal Orders During Unlawful Assembly

- A. Whenever possible, Division members shall be posted on the far side and lateral fringes of the crowd, to attest to message clarity and capture recordings of the message via the wearable camera system (WCS).
- B. Members/Operators shall:
1. Complete all required LRAD operator training annually and maintain active certification with the Training Section.
  2. Ensure their WCS is activated prior to using the LRAD system to record the use, whenever practicable.
  3. Practice situational awareness and be cognizant of the fact that sound emitted from the LRAD system is loudest at its source, and ensure that Division members and civilians are not standing within 10 meters of the front of the device, particularly when operating at full volume.
  4. Document all announcements made through the LRAD system, by notifying Communications Control Section personnel and creating an entry of the application time, location, and purpose in the Mobile Computer Aided Dispatch (MCAD) System.
  5. Create individual MCAD entries for each use, when multiple announcements are made through the LRAD.

**THIS ORDER SUPERSEDES ANY PREVIOUSLY ISSUED DIRECTIVE OR POLICY FOR THIS SUBJECT AND WILL REMAIN EFFECTIVE UNTIL RESCINDED OR SUPERSEDED.**

DAD/BPC/mjb/tpm  
CM Review Committee  
Policy Unit