

Control Devices

300.1 LRAD

Agency Content

OPERATION:

- (a) The LRAD may only be operated by sworn members of the Department who have successfully completed training specific to the LRAD device (LRAD Operators).
 1. During emergency management operations the LRAD must be deployed by at least two LRAD operators, one of which must be an LRAD supervisor, whose responsibility will be to advise the Incident Commander of the deployment strategies and oversee LRAD operations.
 - (a) When available, and based on the circumstances of the incident, a range finding device will be used to ensure accurate measurement of safe distances.
 2. During Negotiation Operations the LRAD must be deployed by at least two LRAD operators, however a LRAD supervisor is not required.
 3. LRAD operators may not relinquish control of the LRAD to any untrained members.
- (b) The LRAD utilizes different volume levels to broadcast messages and tones.
 1. Green volume zone is the lowest volume setting for use in making general notifications and may be adjusted from this level as appropriate by LRAD operators.
 2. Yellow zone volume is the intermediate volume setting that may be used for all purposes by LRAD operators.
 3. Red zone volume is the upper setting that may be used by an LRAD operator with prior approval from an on scene supervisor or Command Personnel.
- (c) The LRAD has the capability to broadcast pre-recorded or live messages via the on-board LRAD microphone.
 1. When messages are broadcast they will be of appropriate content to address the situation and will always maintain a professional public image.
 - (a) Pre-recorded messages must be documented on the recorded messages sheet.
 2. Messages will always be transmitted in English as well as any additional spoken language that is appropriate for the situation.
 3. Prior to using the LRAD to deliver a message, a tone lasting two (2) to five (5) seconds may be used to alert a group of the impending message.
 4. The red volume zone is not appropriate for the effective delivery of verbal messages and should not be utilized for this purpose.

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- (d) The LRAD has a pre-installed alert tone that is intense pulsating warning tone that is designed to be clearly heard at long distances. The tones can be utilized in the following manners:
 - 1. Non-continuous electronic tones that last no more than five (5) seconds. These tones are appropriate for advising a group of an impending message as noted above in sub C3 of this section.
 - 2. Continuous tones that are more than five (5) seconds. The continuous electronic tones are intended to gain compliance and order of crowds and should be used as appropriate for the situation.
 - (a) If the situation allows, a minimum of three verbal warnings to comply should be made prior to the use of continuous tones.
 - (b) Generally the use of continuous electronic tones should start in the green zone and each use should be evaluated before moving to the next volume level.
- (e) The use of the LRAD in the red volume zone must be strictly monitored by both the LRAD operator and the on scene supervisor or Command Personnel.
 - 1. The LRAD operator and on scene supervisor or Command Personnel are responsible for determining the sound cone generated by the device and ensuring that the device can be used safely.
 - 2. Red volume zone operation should not take place when any person, without hearing protection, will be within fifty (50) feet of the area immediately in front of the device and/or less than 15 degrees from the center line of the sound cone.
 - (a) Exposure time at 50 feet (16.6 yards) will be less than six seconds to comply with OSHA approved volume standards.
 - 3. When operating the alert tone at maximum level the LRAD operator and on scene personnel should attempt to clear the area of all persons within the sound cone of 75 meters (246 feet) directly in front of the unit and less than 30 degrees from the center line.

OUTSIDE AGENCY REQUESTS:

A request for the use of SPD's LRAD by an outside agency must be approved by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

If approved, at a minimum of at least two SPD LRAD operators will deploy and operate the LRAD for the requesting agency. During the authorized deployment of SPD's LRAD, all LRAD operators will adhere to all SPD policies, procedures, and safety standards set forth in this Section.

DOCUMENTATION & REPORTING PROCEDURES FOR LRAD DEPLOYMENT:

- (a) Following the deployment and use of the LRAD device, regardless if the use was by SPD or an outside agency a CNYLEADS supplemental report will be completed by at least one of the on scene LRAD operators.

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1. The CNYLEADS supplemental report will document and describe all circumstances of the original incident as well as the reason for the request of the LRAD deployment.
 2. The CNYLEADS supplemental report will document all LRAD operators that operated the LRAD device and the on scene supervisor or commanding officer.
 3. The CNYLEADS supplemental report will so include any content that was broadcast, if pre-recorded a digital copy of the message is acceptable.
 4. The CNYLEADS supplemental report will document the description of the LRAD's use, description of its effectiveness, and whether tones, messages, and/ or both were utilized and the effectiveness of their deployment.
- (b) All deployments of the LRAD, whether for training or incident deployment, and regardless if the unit was used, will be documented on an LRAD Use Report and documented on the LRAD sign out sheet.
- (c) The reporting requirements are the same as found in Volume 1, Article 4, Section 6.18, of the Syracuse Police Department's Rules & Regulations, addressing other Less-Lethal Weapons.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE:

- (a) The LRAD and all of its accessories will be maintained by personnel as designated by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
1. LRAD operators will inspect the LRAD prior to and after deployment for any damage that may affect the unit's operation.
 - (a) Any damage will be documented on an Inter-Departmental Memo (10.1) and forwarded to an LRAD supervisor.
 1. If the damage will affect the LRAD's operation, the unit will be taken out of service until the damage is repaired.
 2. Once repaired the LRAD will be tested to ensure its functionality and operation prior to being put back into service.
 2. After deployment LRAD operators will clean and ensure that all components are functional for the next deployment prior to putting the unit into storage.
- (b) When the LRAD is not in use the unit will be stored in its hard plastic case and kept in a secure in a designated area with all of its accessories.
- (c) Periodic tests or training involving the operation of the Department's LRAD will be conducted to ensure its functionality.