

## **2.1.4 Wearing Bullet Resistant Vests – High Risk Incidents**

### **I. POLICY**

The critical mission of the Johnstown Police Department will often result in its officers being confronted with hazardous situations. These situations will sometimes result in receiving or exchanging gunfire with suspects. A situation of this type is definitely a threat to officer safety/survival. This department recognizes this threat and in response has taken steps to reduce the risk of officer injury as a result of gunfire. It shall be the policy of this department to furnish ballistic vests to all law enforcement officers employed by this department and to require that the vests be worn according to the procedures outlined below.

### **II. PURPOSE**

To provide guidelines for all law enforcement officers of this department to follow in wearing departmental issued ballistic vests and the dissemination, replacement or return of this property item.

### **III. PROCEDURE**

- A. The use of body armor is required by all officers when responding to a pre-planned, high-risk situation, including, but not limited to:
  - 1. All S.E.R.T. operations
  - 2. Misdemeanor and felony arrest warrants
  - 3. Non-administrative search warrants
  - 4. Hostage situations
  - 5. Barricaded gunman incidents
  - 6. Any other situation whereby the shift supervisor deems it necessary
  
- B. Soft body armor is no longer required once a scene is deemed secure.

**2.1.4 continued**

Effective Date:

Date: June 13, 2006

By Order Of:

Craig Foust  
Chief Of Police