

<b>OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF</b>	
<b>Sheriff Terry L. Thompson</b>	
<b>General Order</b>	

**To:** All WCSO Staff

**From:** Sheriff Thompson

**CC:**

**Date:** 25-June-2012

**Re:** Mandatory Wear of Body Armor **#12-04**

Effective immediately, and in conjunction with the May 16, 2012 memorandum from Chief Deputy Anderson, the following policy regarding mandatory wear of protective Body Armor is in effect.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to require uniformed officers to wear protective body armor while on duty.

## RATIONALE

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the United States realized a dramatic 37 percent increase in officer deaths in 2010. Fifty-nine of the 160 officers killed in 2010 were shot during violent encounters; a 20 percent increase over 2009 numbers. Due to the increase in the number of law enforcement officer deaths, and in concert with the U.S. Department of Justice commitment to improving officer safety, the Weber County Sheriff's Office requires uniformed officers to wear protective body armor while on duty.

## ORDER

All line-level and first-line supervisors (both sergeants and corporals) who perform as first responders **MUST** wear their issued body armor under their uniform shirt while on duty.

All deputies, whether in a first responder assignment or another assignment – such as detectives – **MUST** wear their assigned body armor when engaged in high risk law enforcement assignments such as search warrant service, arrest/fugitive warrant apprehension and other similarly riskier assignments and activities.