

# Memorandum

**Date:** August 18, 2016  
**To:** All Personnel  
**From:** Undersheriff Melekian  
**Subject:** 1911 Optional Duty Weapon Approval  
**Sheriff's Bulletin:** 16-17



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As of today's date, Sheriff Brown has authorized the deployment of the modern 1911 format firearm as an optional weapon. Lexipol section 312.2.1(c) will be updated to reflect this change as part of the next policy update.

Any deputy wishing to deploy a 1911 as an optional duty weapon must coordinate with the Sheriff's Training Bureau and follow the approval protocols outlined within Lexipol section 312.2.1. Interested deputies must also complete the upcoming eight-hour weapons transition course with an approved modern 1911 format firearm before they will be authorized to deploy the 1911 as an optional duty weapon. During the weapons transition course, deputies must clearly demonstrate that they are proficient with the 1911 format firearm and establish that their firearm is reliable.

Authorized manufacturers are Colt, Kimber, Remington, Sig Sauer, Smith & Wesson and Para Ordnance. Of importance to anyone desiring to purchase a new 1911 weapon, the requirement that optional duty weapons possess a firing pin block safety is NOT being removed, and deputies will need to insure the modern 1911 format firearm they intend to utilize includes this important safety mechanism. The barrel length, caliber and capacity requirements outlined within 312.2.1(c) will remain unchanged. The weapon's fire control systems will not be altered to lower the trigger pull weight from manufacturer specifications, or to deactivate safety mechanisms.

Before deciding to utilize a modern 1911 format as an optional duty weapon, interested deputies should carefully consider whether they are willing to invest the time, effort and money required to maintain their weapon and their proficiency the 1911 platform. As with all optional duty weapons, the individual deputy is responsible for all costs associated with the purchase, maintenance and repair of their optional duty weapon.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bernard Melekian".

BERNARD MELEKIAN  
Undersheriff