The Illinois LESO Comprehensive Overview

Welcome to the LESO Program.

The Law Enforcement Support Office Program, managed by the U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) in Battle Creek, MI transfers needed equipment such as tactical gear, electronics, vehicles, weapons...and more, to Federal and State law enforcement agencies (LEAs), while simultaneously providing the military services one of several outlets for disposal of their excess property. Through the Law Enforcement Support Office Program, over 11,000 law enforcement agencies across the country receive a variety of items helping our local agencies keep equipment overhead costs low.

The responsibility of managing the LESO program for Illinois is the Governor-appointed coordinator assigned to the Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS), Property Control Division.

How does a local police department or Sheriff's department participate in the program?

Law Enforcement Agency participation

The Governor-appointed state coordinators approve and certify law enforcement agencies in their state and work with agencies regarding program participation, to include the State Plan of Operation mentioned above.

Once in the program, a law enforcement agency is able to review online the available excess DoD inventory that is suitable for law enforcement and make requests for property through the state coordinator. Law enforcement agencies do not pay for the property but must pay for shipping the items as well as potential storage costs. All excess DoD property is shipped "as is," and the law enforcement agency is responsible for all costs associated with acquisition, maintenance and costs to return the property when it is no longer needed.

Who decides what equipment a Law Enforcement Agency can have?

Approval process for property requests

Participating law enforcement agencies submit electronic requests to the state coordinator that thoroughly justifies the request for the available property. Requests that are approved by the state coordinator are routed to the LESO for further review. Every request for property must have a justification outlining how the property will be used; additionally, requests must be for bona fide law enforcement purposes. LESO relies on the state coordinator's judgement in determining the rationale for a law enforcement agency's request for property through the program, based on the size, mission and scope of the requesting law enforcement agency, and local considerations. The LESO staff in turn

reviews the type of excess property being requested, quantities available, and justification before items are released from the excess property inventory.

Denials of property requests

In addition to a state coordinator or LESO denying a request based on insufficient justification, law enforcement agencies may be restricted from obtaining property if they are in a punitive status (i.e. restricted or suspended), or have limitations imposed on them by the Department of Justice, LESO or the state coordinator. Limitations may be due to a law enforcement agency already at their allocation limit for property, overdue actions related to accountability or other violations of the Memorandum of Agreement.

What is the difference between "controlled" and "non-controlled" property?

Controlled Property

Consists of military items that are provided via a conditional transfer or "loan" basis where title remains with DoD/DLA. This includes items such as small arms/personal weapons, demilitarized vehicles and aircraft and night vision equipment. This property always remains in the LESO property book because it still belongs to and is accountable to DoD. When a law enforcement agency no longer wants the controlled property, it must be returned to DLA's LESO for proper disposition.

Non-Controlled Property (also called General Property)

Consists of common items DLA would sell to the general public, such as office equipment, first aid kits/supplies, hand tools, sleeping bags, computers and digital cameras. After one year, general property becomes the property of the law enforcement agency. It is no longer subject to the annual inventory requirements and is removed from the LESO database. This general property should be maintained and ultimately disposed of in accordance with provisions in state/territory and local laws that govern public property.

The vast majority of property issued to law enforcement agencies each year is noncontrolled. In 2019 for example, 92 percent of property issued was non-controlled. Normally, small arms weapons make up about 5 percent and less than 1 percent of property issued is tactical vehicles.

What controls or oversight does the program have in place?

Program Compliance

As outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement with state coordinators, DLA uses three primary ways to maintain and ensure compliance with all program requirements and property accountability:

- Annual Inventory: The MOA requires each state/territory to complete a 100% certified annual inventory each fiscal year.
- Program Compliance Reviews (PCRs): DLA's LESO conducts a biennial federallevel compliance review on participating states where LESO personnel physically visits the states and inventories property of selected law enforcement agencies.
- State Coordinator Reviews: On an annual basis, the state must conduct state-level compliance reviews of at least 5% of law enforcement agencies that have property obtained via the program.

Suspensions due to non-compliance

If a state coordinator or law enforcement agency fails to comply with any terms of the MOA, federal statute, regulation or SPO, the state and/or law enforcement agency may be place on restricted or suspended status or may be terminated from the program.

- Restricted: a specified period of time in which a state/territory or law enforcement agency is restricted from receiving an item or commodity due to isolated issues with the identified commodity. Restricted status may also include restricting an agency from all controlled property. Restricted status is commonly used for agencies that have active consent decrees from the Department of Justice.
- Suspension: a specified period of time in which an entire state or law enforcement agency is prohibited from requesting or receiving additional property through the program.
- Termination: the removal of a state or law enforcement agency from participating in the program. The state coordinator and/or identified law enforcement agencies will transfer or turn-in all controlled property previously received through the program at the expense of the state and/or the law enforcement agency.

Local governing body oversight

As part of the application process, law enforcement agencies must receive approval from their relevant local governing body to request and obtain controlled property, which is required by 10 U.S. Code 2576a. Per the statute, law enforcement agencies must certify:

• They have obtained the authorization of the relevant local governing authority (city council, mayor, etc.).

• They have adopted publicly available protocols for the appropriate use of controlled property, the supervision of such use, and the evaluation of the effectiveness of such use, including auditing and accountability policies.

Controlled-equipment training

In 2015, Congress amended 10 USC 2576a to make it clear that each individual agency acquiring controlled equipment is responsible for training its personnel in the proper use, maintenance and repair. The law requires each law enforcement agency to certify on an annual basis that it provides annual training to relevant personnel on the maintenance, sustainment and appropriate use of controlled property. The Illinois LESO offers LESO Property Training at:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=nwgia7qOPEaE9TFxIQ-QBfye0MhSmdBApL5nLnXedbZUNjFCUEYzRVIXREdPVDYwNTZGVVhNRVFYUi4u

Department of Justice coordination

DLA's LESO coordinates with the Department of Justice to identify law enforcement agencies that are under DoJ investigation or under a consent decree. LESO uses DoJ data to validate authenticity and eligibility of law enforcement agencies and notifies DoJ on applications for enrollment in the program, on law enforcement agency suspensions/terminations, and on allocations of weapons, tactical vehicles and aircraft.

Transparency through public data base

DLA's LESO maintains a <u>public website page</u> that links to a spreadsheet with the status of property issued to law enforcement agencies, listed by state. The spreadsheet serves as a quarterly snapshot of all LESO/1033 Program equipment currently under the control of a law enforcement agency.

LESO Contact Information:

The Illinois LESO is here to assist. If you have questions regarding the overview provided, please contact our office.

LESO State Coordinator: Brent Boesdorfer <u>brent.boesdorfer@illinois.gov</u> LESO State Point of Contact: Rewa Boldrey <u>rewa.a.boldrey@illinois.gov</u> LESO State Point of Contact: David Rector <u>david.rector@illinois.gov</u>

The Illinois LESO Training Materials

The Law Enforcement Support Office Program, managed by the U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) in Battle Creek, MI transfers needed equipment such as tactical gear, electronics, vehicles, weapons...and more, to Federal and State law enforcement agencies (LEAs), while simultaneously providing the military services one of several outlets for disposal of their excess property. Through the Law Enforcement Support Office Program, over 11,000 law enforcement agencies across the country receive a variety of items helping our local agencies keep equipment overhead costs low.

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Per the State Plan of Operation, "The state shall provide program participants training material as discussed during the annual LESO training which includes information on property management best practices to include (but not limited to) searching for property, accounting for property on inventory, transfer and turn-in of property when it is no longer needed or serviceable." Here are links to training provided by the Illinois LESO.

LESO Training:

- LESO Property Requirements Training
- DLA LESO Training Materials
- 2022 LESO Seminar and Training
- New iNAP and FEPMIS User Guide for Login.gov
- Existing iNAP and FEPMIS User Guide for Login.gov
- LESO Search and Request Training Video
- <u>Register for AMPS & RTD Accounts</u>
- <u>Report LESO Property Loss</u>
- LESO SPO Addendum Summary
- LESO SPO Addendum Overview

The Illinois LESO also wants to provide you with LESO website links and forms.

Quick Links

LESO Overview:

- General LESO information from the Defense Logistics Agency
- LESO Promotional Video: Get With the Program

LESO Enrollment:

- LESO Enrollment Packet
- Contact Illinois LESO to request an automated LESO Enrollment Packet be sent to your LEA via PandaDoc by emailing a request to <u>rewa.a.boldrey@illinois.gov</u> or <u>david.rector@illinois.gov</u>

LESO Websites:

- FEPMIS: Inventory Management
- <u>AMPS: Manage Your RTD Password</u>
- **<u>RTD: Property Search</u>**

LESO Forms:

All LESO forms and DLA and Illinois LESO provided documents should be stored in your Law Enforcement Agency's LESO physical or electronic file indefinitely. Per DLA and LESO retention rules, you must have these documents on hand at your Law Enforcement Agency. Do not dispose of any LESO documentation without first contacting the Illinois LESO office.

Aircraft Forms

- <u>Aircraft Request Form</u>
- Aircraft Justification Template
- <u>Aircraft Information Form</u>

Vehicle Forms

<u>Armored Vehicle Request Form</u>

- <u>Armored Vehicle Justification Template</u>
- DLA Form 1928 Certificate to Register a Tactical Vehicle
- **MRAP Demil Prep Letter** (Required when requesting an MRAP)

Small Arms Forms

- ATF Forms Link
- Small Arms Request Form
- Small Arms Transfer Instructions
- Small Arms Justification Template
- Inert Certification Appointment Letter

Property Accounting Forms

- DD Form 200 Financial Liability Investigation of Property Loss (FLIPL)
- FLIPL Instructions
- LESO, Equipment Custody Receipt (ECR)

To reset your LESO FEPMIS password call: 1-866-224-7677 opt #4 To reset your AMPS / RTD password call 1-844-347-2457 - Press 5, then speak or enter D-L-A

Please initial below to verify that you have received each of the following:

- Illinois LESO Comprehensive Overview
- Illinois LESO Training Materials
- Illinois LESO Form and Website Links