



STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE
TRAINING ACADEMY



Training Bulletin #2022-07 **Blackhawk SERPA Holster**

The Connecticut State Police Firearms Training Unit is banning the use of the Blackhawk SERPA and any trigger finger manipulated, auto-locking holsters on our range.

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) Field Training Directorate (FTD) launched an investigation of the design after “four incidents.” The resulting research discovered that the user’s trigger finger ended up proximal to the trigger on 25-percent of the draw strokes, and that 13-percent of attempted draw strokes began out of sequence. They concluded that the basic design of the holster was likely to greatly increase the likelihood of an “inadvertent discharge,” and concluded that it should not be used in any of their training. (Homeland Security, Holster Study Synopsis)

Many major training facilities and agencies across the country have concerns that the placement and activation of the retention device on the Blackhawk SERPA increases the risk of negligent discharges and have banned the use of these holsters.

Additional Issues with the SERPA holster;

- Debris commonly gets trapped under the “SERPA Auto Lock Release” and will cause the retention device to seize, locking the firearm in the holster.
- Many training facilities and agencies have documented that the holster does not hold up well with retention training, positional shooting/safety & survival. Additionally the holster often breaks off its belt mount.



If you have any questions or if you need advice, please contact Sgt. Anthony Sciarretto #203, anthony.sciarretto@ct.gov.