



San Diego County Sheriff's Department

TACTICAL TIPS

Weapons Training Unit

February 2022



Purpose: This tactical tip was generated as a reminder to check your alternate duty/off-duty weapon holster retention.

- The Weapons Training Unit's (WTU) intranet website states the following:

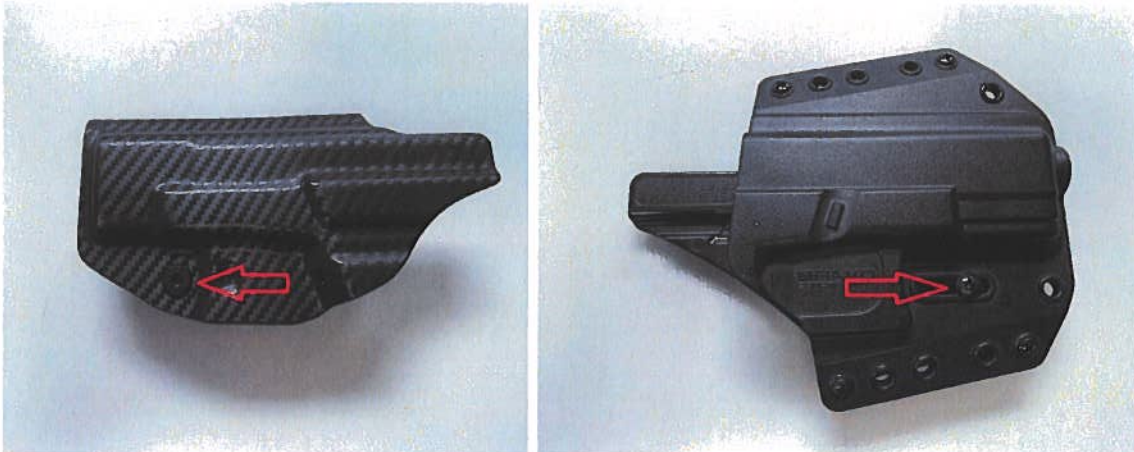
"At a minimum, the holster must be constructed of a ridged material where the trigger and majority of the firearm's frame is protected at all times. When the firearm is drawn the holster must not collapse. The holster must retain the firearm such that when the holstered firearm is turned upside down and shaken at an intensity that duplicates running or other possible physical activities, the firearm does not fall out, if the security level of the holster is a friction style only, the holster must have a device to adjust the tension."

This can be found here <https://ssp.sdsheiff.com/HRB/Training/WTU/default.aspx>.

- Retention of your firearm in the holster is vital. Some holsters are equipped with an actual retention strap and some rely solely on friction to hold the firearm in place. WTU requires the holster to have enough retention to retain the weapon if held upside down and shaken.

Due to environmental factors and the construction of the holster, retention may weaken over time. Therefore, the retention system on the holster needs to be checked periodically. In many cases, depending on the holster, a small drop of Loctite on the retention screw could alleviate potential failures. If the firearm can fall from the holster when held upside down and shaken, the holster is not authorized for use.

Below are two holsters equipped with adjustable retention screws.



The information in this training bulletin was created by Corporal Nicholas Dohmen. If you have any questions please contact the Weapons Training Unit.