

## PoliceOne Body Armor Survey Results Summary

PoliceOne received 811 responses to the August 2008 Body Armor Survey. Below is a summary of the results of that survey.

### 1. Decision Makers:

**21% of respondents are the primary decision maker in their department for body armor purchases.**

### 2. Which of the following best describes your role in the purchase of body armor?

	Response Percent
Recommend	29%
Influence	24%
No Influence At All	42%
Other, please specify:	5%

### 3. Who Responded:

**54% of respondents are Officers, Deputies, or Troopers.**  
**23% of respondents are Sergeants or Lieutenants.**  
**4% of respondents are Chiefs, Sheriffs, or Commanding Officers.**

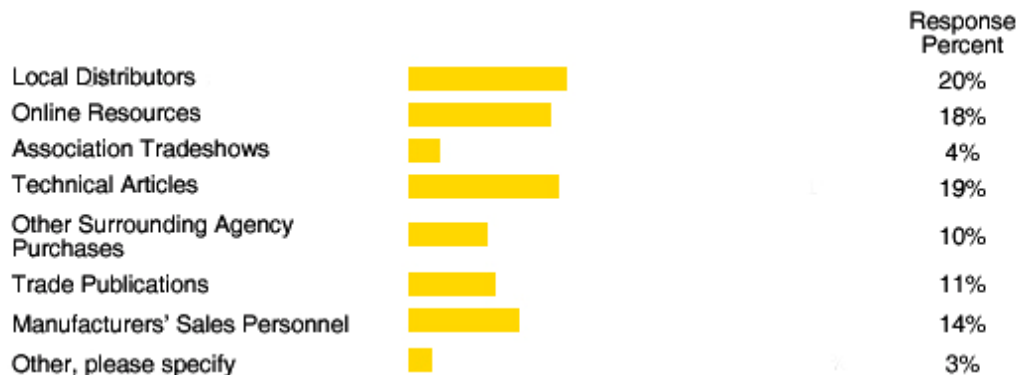
### 4. Who else in your agency shares the decision in the purchase of body armor?

	Response Percent
Officer, Deputy, Trooper	5%
Sergeant, Lieutenant	13%
Chief, Sheriff, Commanding Officer	47%
SWAT Commander	1%
Training Officer	8%
Purchasing Committee	13%
Other, please specify	13%

#### **Other Responses Included:**

**Tactical Coordinator, Firearms Instructor, Detective, Assistant Chief, Chief Investigator, Equipment Coordinator, Equipment Committee, Quartermaster, Captain, Safety Officer**

5. What are your top three informational resources for assessing and choosing body armor?



**Other Responses Included:**

**In-house testing, Federal/State Contracting, Low Bids, Word of mouth, Prior Experiences, NIJ Statistics, DOJ Lists, Chief's Whim, Gall's, Live Demos**

6. Brands used in the last 5 years:

**(Brands are ranked according to how many votes each received)**

**Purchased by Agency**

Brand Name	Votes
Second Chance	253
American Body Armor	201
Point Blank	178
Safariland	151
P.A.C.A.	115
First Choice Armor	73
U.S. Armor	69
GH Armor (formerly GatorHawk)	37
PROTECH Tactical	34
Other	32
Protective Products International (P.P.I.)	22
Armor Express	15
Diamondback Tactical	11
RBR Armor	10
Pacific Safety Products	6
Survival Armor	5
Bianchi Body Armor	4
MSA	3
ForceOne Armor	2
Paraclete Armor	2
SAVVY Armor For Women	2
Engarde	1
PROTECH Corrections	1

**Other Brands Worn or Purchased**

Brand Name	Votes
Second Chance	176
Point Blank	96
Safariland	94
American Body Armor	80
P.A.C.A.	46
U.S. Armor	31
First Choice Armor	30
Other	22
PROTECH Corrections	17
GH Armor (formerly GatorHawk)	14
Protective Products International (P.P.I.)	11
RBR Armor	7
Diamondback Tactical	6
MSA	4
Pacific Safety Products	4
Bianchi Body Armor	3
ForceOne Armor	3
PROTECH Tactical	3
Survival Armor	3
Paraclete Armor	2
SAVVY Armor For Women	2
Armor Express	1
Engarde	0

7. Top attributes considered in the purchase of body armor:  
**(Attributes are ranked by importance: 1 was most important)**

Attributes	Average Rank
Protection/Safety	1.81
Threat Level	2.6
Comfort	2.7
Fit	3
Coverage	3.28
Weight	3.59
Price	3.87
Performance/Special Threats	3.91
Durability	4.22
Brand Reputation	4.41
Stab Protection	4.42
Style/Design	5.67
Existing relationship with local distributor	5.74
Ease of working with manufacturer	6.28
Existing relationship with manufacturer's representative	6.37
Taser Protection	7.11
Other	14.67

8. Rank top body armor manufacturers:  
**(Manufacturers are ranked by preference: 1 was most preferred)**

Brand Name	Average Rank
Second Chance	2.34
American Body Armor	2.7
Point Blank	2.79
Pacific Safety Products	2.85
Safariland	2.92
First Choice Armor	3.1
P.A.C.A.	3.14
GH Armor (formerly GatorHawk)	3.27
Paraclete Armor	3.29
U.S. Armor	3.33
Armor Express	3.54
PROTECH Tactical	3.61
Protective Products International (P.P.I)	3.67
Diamondback Tactical	3.75
MSA	3.9
ForceOne Armor	3.97
Bianchi Body Armor	4.08
Other	4.35
RBR Armor	4.57
SAVVY Armor For Women	5.24
Engarde	5.33
Survival Armor	5.36
PROTECH Corrections	5.4

9. Brands best known for:  
**(Brands are ranked according to how many votes each received)**

### Technology and Innovation

Brand Name	Votes
Second Chance	163
American Body Armor	72
Point Blank	70
Safariland	47
U.S. Armor	24
P.A.C.A.	22
First Choice Armor	20
Diamondback Tactical	19
Paraclete Armor	13
PROTECH Tactical	11
Protective Products International (P.P.I)	10
Bianchi Body Armor	7
GH Armor (formerly GatorHawk)	7
Pacific Safety Products	7
Armor Express	5
ForceOne Armor	5
RBR Armor	5
Survival Armor	5
Other	5
MSA	4
PROTECH Corrections	4
Engarde	2
SAVVY Armor For Women	2

### Service

Brand Name	Votes
Second Chance	135
Point Blank	74
Safariland	59
American Body Armor	52
P.A.C.A.	35
First Choice Armor	21
U.S. Armor	21
GH Armor (formerly GatorHawk)	10
Protective Products International (P.P.I)	8
Bianchi Body Armor	7
MSA	7
Armor Express	6
Diamondback Tactical	5
Pacific Safety Products	5
Paraclete Armor	4
PROTECH Tactical	4
Survival Armor	4
Other	4
Engarde	2
ForceOne Armor	2
PROTECH Corrections	2
RBR Armor	1
SAVVY Armor For Women	0

9. Brands best known for:  
(Continued)

**Comfort**

Brand Name	Votes
Second Chance	144
American Body Armor	77
Safariland	68
Point Blank	46
First Choice Armor	30
P.A.C.A.	24
U.S. Armor	19
GH Armor (formerly GatorHawk)	15
Protective Products International (P.P.I.)	11
Bianchi Body Armor	6
Pacific Safety Products	5
Armor Express	4
Diamondback Tactical	4
ForceOne Armor	4
RBR Armor	4
SAVVY Armor For Women	4
Survival Armor	4
Other	4
MSA	3
PROTECH Tactical	3
Paraclete Armor	2
PROTECH Corrections	2
Engarde	1

**Fit**

Brand Name	Votes
Second Chance	123
American Body Armor	67
Point Blank	59
Safariland	52
P.A.C.A.	27
First Choice Armor	23
U.S. Armor	23
Protective Products International (P.P.I.)	11
GH Armor (formerly GatorHawk)	8
SAVVY Armor For Women	8
Survival Armor	5
Armor Express	4
MSA	4
Bianchi Body Armor	3
Diamondback Tactical	3
Pacific Safety Products	3
Paraclete Armor	3
PROTECH Tactical	3
RBR Armor	3
Other	3
ForceOne Armor	2
Engarde	1
PROTECH Corrections	0