

## Topic: Revision to Foreword of NIJ Standard-0101.06

### Purpose

This administrative clarification to National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Standard-0101.06, “Ballistic Resistance of Body Armor,” (hereinafter, “NIJ Standard-0101.06”) provides additional clarification with regard to NIJ’s original intention concerning a statement in the “Foreword” to the *NIJ Standard-0101.06*.

The statement in question, on page v. of *NIJ Standard-0101.06*, reads—

**Publication of this revision of the standard does not invalidate or render unsuitable any body armor models previously determined by NIJ to be compliant to either the NIJ 2005 Interim Requirements or the NIJ Standard-0101.04 Rev. A Requirements. While it may not [sic] necessary to remove these existing armors from service, agencies are advised to always require their procurements to meet or exceed the most recent and up-to-date version of this standard.**

NIJ’s intent with this particular statement is to make clear to criminal justice agencies that the release of a new standard should not be interpreted as a recommendation to remove body armor from service that had been previously found compliant by the NIJ CTP with a previous version of the standard.

NIJ’s position in this regard is, simply, that an agency’s older armor may be considered preferable to no armor at all until newer armor determined by the NIJ CTP to be

compliant with the current standard can be obtained. The statement that older armors may not necessarily be considered to be “unsuitable” for continued use in service until replaced should not be read to suggest — in any way — that an armor model’s compliance with a predecessor standard somehow equates to compliance under the most current, superseding standard (i.e., NIJ Standard-0101.06).

### Clarification

The above-quoted statement, by way of this administrative clarification, is replaced to read as follows—

**Although agencies are advised always to require their procurements to meet or exceed the most recent and up-to-date version of this standard, this does not necessarily mean that an agency should remove armors that they currently have in use from service.**

Once again, this clarification should not be understood to create a new rule; it clarifies NIJ’s original intention.

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