

**NIJ RELEASES NEW PERSONAL BODY ARMOR STANDARD  
NIJ Standard 0101.06 (Released 7/21/2008)**

*This standard supersedes NIJ 2005 Interim Requirements, Ballistic Resistance of Body Armor (August 2005) and NIJ Standard 0101-04 Rev. A, Ballistic Resistance of Personal Body Armor (June 2001)*

The result of over 5 years of collaborative effort between the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLEs) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the NIJ has released its revised standard for personal body armor. The revised standard requires new and rigorous testing that takes into account high heat, humidity and mechanical wear before a revised and significantly increased ballistic testing protocol.

The revised standard is the fruit of the Justice Department's Body Armor Safety Initiative following a severe injury of a police officer in Forest Hills, PA in 2003 when a vest failed to prevent penetration for a bullet it was designed to defeat. A principle objective of the new standard is to insure that the vests police officers wear will continue to protect them as the material ages.

The standard will be used by the NIJ Voluntary Compliance Testing Program (CTP) to determine which body armor models meet the minimum performance requirements for inclusion on the NIJ Compliant Products List. Users are strongly encouraged to have this testing conducted in accordance with the NIJ CTP. Procurement officials may also refer to this standard in their purchasing documents and require that equipment offered for purchase meet or exceed these requirements.

The standard is available from the U.S. Dept of Justice website via the following link:

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/223054.pdf>

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