

# Standards and Conformity Assessment of Body Armor for Law Enforcement—

## *NIJ Compliance Testing Program Body Armor Manufacturers Workshop*

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# Workshop agenda

## Morning

- Introductions around the room
- NIJ and the CTP
- Laboratories
- NIJ standards

## Afternoon

- Transition from “06” to “07” program
- Follow-up Inspection and Testing
- FAQ and Q&A

# Introductions



**NIJ**

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice.

NIJ establishes and promulgates voluntary standards and conformity assessment for the criminal justice community.

## Focus on the law enforcement practitioner

NIJ fosters development of equipment standards and related conformity assessment programs that specifically address the needs of law enforcement, corrections, and other criminal justice agencies.

## Raises the bar for safety, reliability, and performance

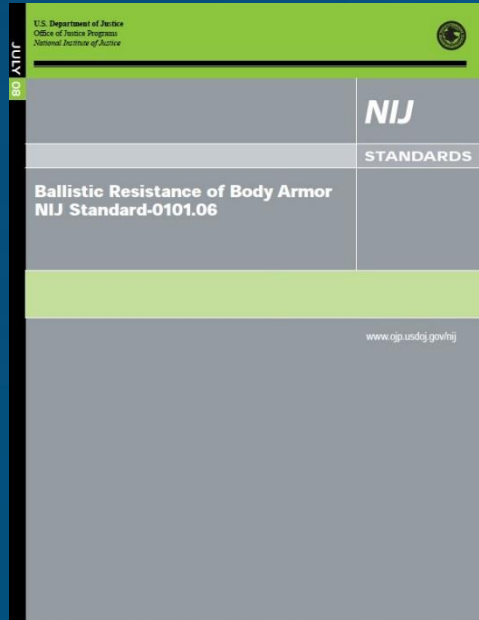
The goal is to ensure to the degree possible that equipment is safe, reliable, and performs according to established minimum requirements.

## Documentary standards and guides

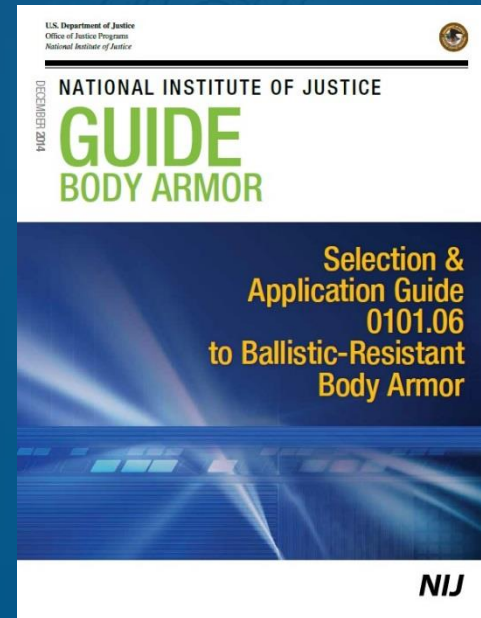
The work products are documentary standards and guides, which can be used as guidance for the selection, procurement, use, care, maintenance, and replacement of technology and equipment for the law enforcement and public safety community.

# NIJ Performance Standards and Guides

## Performance standard



## Guide on selecting and using body armor



## Driven by consensus and stakeholder engagement

NIJ favors consensus-driven processes when developing standards. The inclusive nature of the process involves all stakeholders, from law enforcement end users to manufacturers and industry.

## Coordinate with private-sector SDOs

NIJ has coordinated with private sector standards development organizations (SDO) like ASTM to develop and publish standards relevant to the criminal justice community. Several of these ASTM standards form the building blocks of NIJ Standard 0101.07.

## Testing and certification of products

NIJ certifies models of armor panels and plates through its Compliance Testing Program (CTP). Models that meet NIJ ballistic resistance performance requirements are listed on the Compliant Products List (CPL) and bear the “NIJ Mark” on the label.



# NIJ Compliance Testing Program

## Compliant Products List



Used by BJA's Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP)

Used by NASPO ValuePoint, a state government cooperative purchasing consortium

Used by individual law enforcement agencies and officers

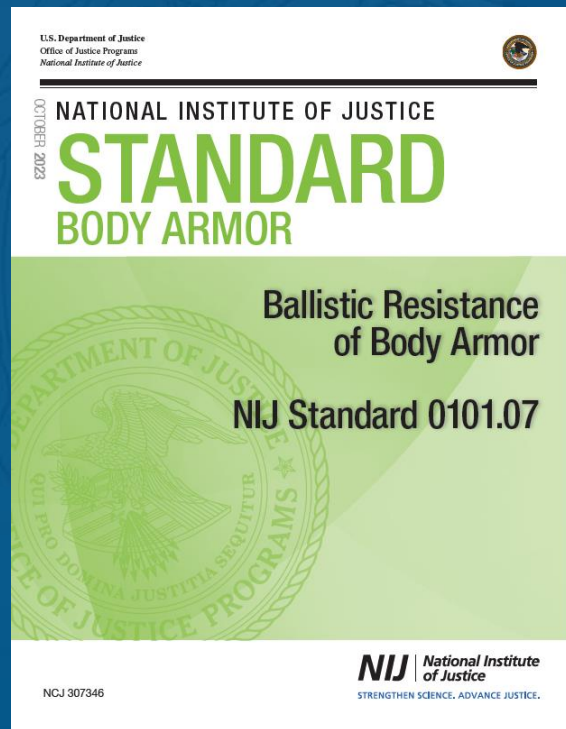
"NIJ Mark" on every label of armor produced since late 2016 for models listed on the CPL



# Overview of NIJ Standard 0101.07

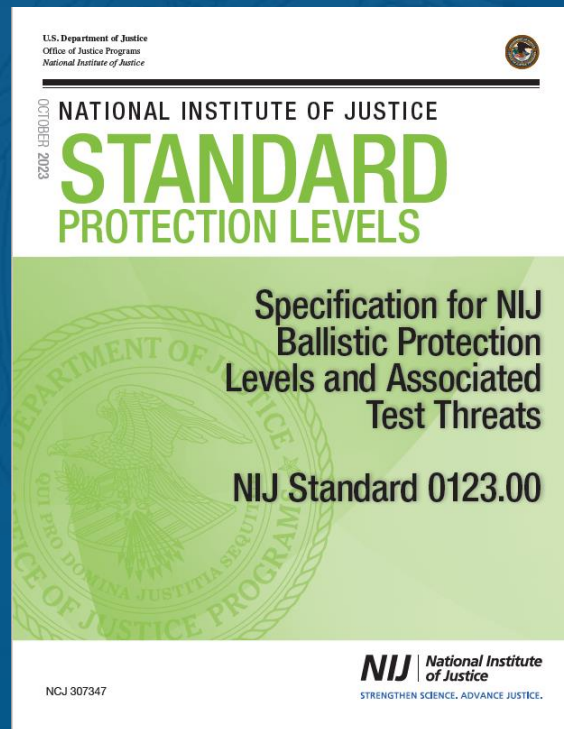
Specifies the minimum performance requirements and test methods for the ballistic resistance of body armor used by U.S. law enforcement that is intended to protect the torso against handgun and rifle ammunition.

Revision of NIJ Standard 0101.06, published in 2008.



# Overview of NIJ Standard 0123.00

Specifies the NIJ ballistic protection levels and associated test threats identified by U.S. law enforcement as representative of current prevalent threats in the United States.



# ASTM Standards Referenced in NIJ Standard 0101.07

D5264-98(2019) – Practice for **Abrasion Resistance** of Printed Materials by the Sutherland Rub Test

E3004-22 – Standard Specification for Preparation and Verification of **Clay Blocks** Used in Ballistic-resistance Testing of Torso Body Armor

E3005-20 – Standard **Terminology** for Body Armor

E3062/E3062M-20 – Standard Specification for **Ballistic Test Ranges** for Small Arms and Fragmentation Testing of Ballistic-resistant Items

E3068-20 – Standard Test Method for Contact Measurement of **Backface Deformation** in Clay Backing During Body Armor Testing

# ASTM Standards Referenced in NIJ Standard 0101.07

E3078/E3078M-23 – Standard Practice for **Conditioning of Hard Armor** Test Items

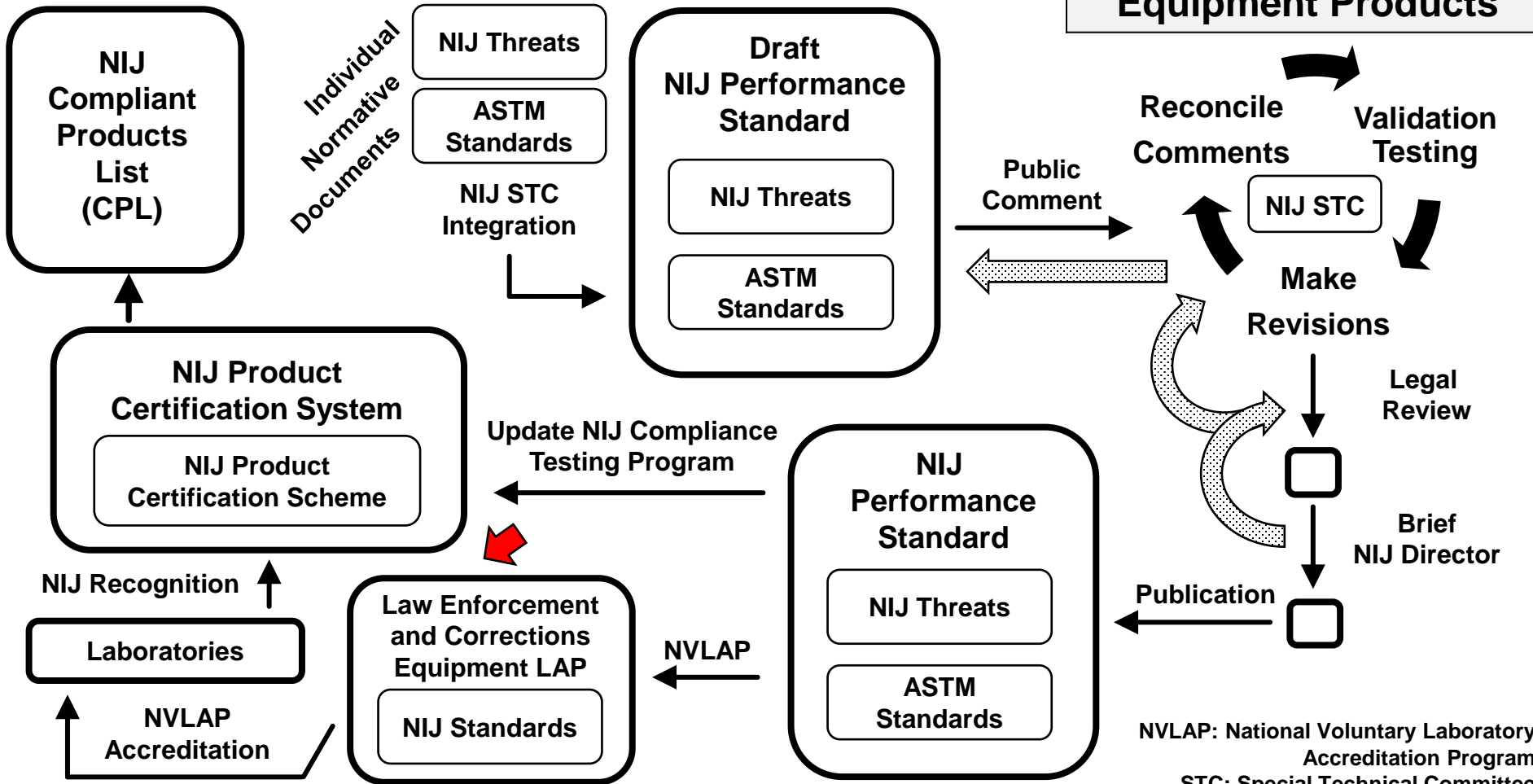
E3107-23 – Standard Test Method for **Resistance to Penetration and Backface Deformation** for Ballistic-resistant Torso Body Armor and Shoot Packs

E3110/E3110M-22 – Standard Test Method for Collection of  $V_x$  **Ballistic Limit Data** for Ballistic-resistant Torso Body Armor and Shoot Packs

E3112/E3112M-20 – Standard Test Method for **Ballistic-resistant Products and Shoot Packs**

E3192-20 – Standard Practice for **Soft Body Armor Conditioning** By Tumbling

# Getting to an NIJ Compliant Products List for Law Enforcement and Corrections Equipment Products



# Anticipated laboratory participation in the NIJ CTP for testing body armor to NIJ 0101.07

Arizona—

Energetic Test Labs, Phoenix, AZ

Kansas—

Element Materials Technology, Wichita, KS

Maryland—

Chesapeake Testing, Belcamp, MD

SMS Testing, Rising Sun, MD

Oregon—

Oregon Ballistic Laboratories, Salem, OR

# Questions

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