



1-92 SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS (SWAT) (FORMERLY SPECIALIZED TACTICAL UNITS)

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related SOP(s)

- 1-5 Harassment/Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Formerly 1-12)
- 1-42 Bomb Squad (Formerly 4-03 and 6-7)
- 2-1 Uniforms (Formerly 2-06)
- 2-3 Firearms and Ammunition Authorization (Formerly 2-22)
- 2-20 Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments (Formerly 2-42)
- 2-45 Pursuit by Motor Vehicle (Formerly 2-55)
- 2-52 Use of Force: General (Formerly 3-45)
- 2-53 Use of Force: Definitions
- 2-57 Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel
- 2-70 Execution of Search Warrants (Formerly 2-16)
- 3-31 Physical Fitness Assessment (Formerly 3-83)

B. Form(s)

None

C. Other Resource(s)

Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Handbook

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

- SO 22-24 Amendment to SOP 1-92 Specialized Tactical Units
- SO 23-68 Amendment to SOP 1-92 Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)

1-92-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the tactical duties and processes that are used in response to crisis negotiation team activities, hostage situations, barricaded and armed individuals, high-risk arrests, execution of search and arrest warrants with exigent or dangerous circumstances, major jail disturbances, civil disturbances, and specialized patrol functions.

1-92-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) to use a specialized unit in response to certain critical events.



It is further the policy of the Department to conduct ongoing analysis and review of tactical operations, placing an emphasis on clear command and control protocols. In addition, the Department provides its personnel the requisite tools and capabilities to respond safely to violent and highly dangerous situations in a way that upholds the law, protects the community, and safeguards the constitutional rights of those accused of criminal conduct.

N/A

1-92-3 Definitions

A. Armored Rescue Vehicle

A vehicle that allows the safe movement of individuals through dangerous areas due to hostile gunfire or a threat. An "armored rescue vehicle" may also be known as the "BearCat" or a "ROOK", which is an armored skid-steer with attachments.

B. Assistant Team Lead Leader (ATL)

A SWAT officer selected based on their performance and experience to assist the SWAT Team Leader, as necessary, and substitute for the SWAT Team Leader in their absence.

C. Precision Rifle Observer (PRO)

A Department tactical officer with the additional responsibility of being assigned a precision rifle and PRO duties.

D. Tactical Activation

An Activation of all Special Operations Division (SOD) Units under the command and control of a Tactical Commander, to resolve an incident that is beyond the capability of the Field Services Bureau (FSB) and/or Criminal Investigations Divisions (ISD) personnel in accordance with Department SOPs.

E. Tactical Entry Specialist (Master Breacher)

An experienced SWAT officer who is well-versed in SWAT and has proven repeatedly in training and practical scenarios the ability to perform under pressure. The Tactical Entry Specialist is chosen by the SWAT Sergeant with final approval from SWAT Commander.

F. Team Leader (TL)

A SWAT officer selected based on their performance and experience in assisting the SWAT Sergeant with mission planning, deploying officers during incidents and acting as a SWAT advisor prior to and during tactical activation.

1-92-4 Training and Assessment



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A. General Training Requirements

1. SWAT sworn personnel shall:

- a. Complete all Department-mandated in-service training; and
- b. Conduct internal training on an on-going basis.

B. Physical Fitness Assessment

1. On a quarterly basis, the Training Coordinator with approval from the Health and Wellness Coordinator shall administer physical fitness assessments for each SWAT officer to ensure they meet the threshold performance requirements.

- a. SWAT sworn personnel who do not satisfy the physical fitness assessment standards are allowed to re-test within one (1) month of failing the assessment.
 - i. If SWAT sworn personnel do not meet the performance requirements within one (1) month, they shall be removed from SWAT, unless they have sustained a documented injury.
- b. SWAT sworn personnel at the rank of Lieutenant or above, and SWAT sworn administrative supervisors and personnel shall be exempt from the physical fitness assessment requirements outlined in this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and in SOP Physical Fitness Assessment.
- c. The SWAT Sergeant shall be responsible for scheduling quarterly physical fitness assessments.
- d. Physical fitness assessment standards are outlined in the SWAT Handbook.

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Uniforms and Equipment

A. SWAT sworn personnel shall:

N/A

1. Abide by the Special Operations Division (SOD) uniform requirements outlined in SOP Uniforms (refer to SOP Uniforms for sanction classifications and additional duties);
2. Be dressed in the same daily uniform as directed by the SOD chain of command;
3. For tactical activations;
 - a. SWAT sworn personnel shall wear their green tactical/BDU style pants and matching top with shoulder patches, cloth badges, and cloth name tags or a green Nomex flight suit and green tactical shirt during tactical activations only. Green subdued APD approved patches will be worn on the uniform, including the SOD green tactical carrier. Call sign patches may be displayed on the left shoulder directly above the APD patch and shall be subdued in SOD green with black lettering for officers and gold lettering for supervisors. Any patches adorned on the external carrier will be in a specific fashion as dictated by the chain of command.



4. During day-to-day operations; and
 - a. SWAT sworn personal shall wear a navy blue tactical/BDU top and tactical/BDU style pants, and black boots. SWAT shall wear the Department and unit patch with silver trim (black background) and supervisors shall wear the Department and unit patch with gold trim (black background). Call sign patches will be displayed on the left shoulder directly above the APD patch and shall be black in color with white lettering for officers and gold lettering for supervisors.
 - b. A black external tactical carrier will be used, unless utilizing soft armor with the alternate duty uniform. Only patches authorized by the SOD chain of command are to be worn by tactical personnel.
5. During training days
 - a. The training uniform shall consist of a plain black t-shirt/long sleeve or green BDU top and green BDU style pants.

B. SWAT Unit Patch

SWAT sworn personnel shall be authorized to wear the SWAT patch after achieving the requirements that are outlined in the SWAT Handbook.

5 1-92-6 Department-Issued SWAT Weapons

- 3** A. Sworn SWAT personnel shall only use Department-issued and Department-approved weapons.
- B. SWAT sworn personnel shall be held responsible for securing their firearms in the locked vaults or in the trunk of their assigned Department vehicle.
- C. Only certified Department armorers shall inspect parts, provide parts, and/or modify SWAT-issued weapons and accessories.
- D. SWAT-issued weapons and accessories shall not be modified, painted, or altered in any way without prior written approval from the SOD chain of command.

1. Handguns

- a. Handguns shall meet the requirements set forth in SOP Firearms and Ammunition Authorization.
- b. Each SWAT officer may be issued two (2) handguns.

2. Rifles

SWAT-issued rifles shall meet Department requirements and the needs of the Tactical Section as determined by the SOD chain of command.



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3. Authorized Ammunition

- a. SWAT sworn personnel may carry military ball, soft point, or hollow point ammunition in their rifles, consistent with their training and the specific mission at hand, as determined and authorized by the Tactical Commander.
- b. SWAT personnel may use armor-piercing rounds for unique situations with pre-approval from the Tactical Commander, or in situations of exigent circumstance when prior authorization is not feasible.

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4. Weapons Training and Qualifications

- a. SWAT sworn personnel below the rank of Tactical Commander shall maintain proficiency with their assigned weapons, consistent with SOP Firearms and Ammunition Authorization (refer to SOP Firearms and Ammunition Authorization for sanction classifications and additional duties).
- b. The Tactical Training Coordinator with approval from the firearms range personnel shall conduct, score and document SOD weapons qualifications on a quarterly basis to include PRO weapons qualifications.
- c. Range armorers shall inspect PRO rifles on a quarterly basis and notify the SOD Chain of Command of any repairs or necessary replacements in writing.
- d. The Tactical Training Coordinator shall conduct and document semi-annual 40mm less lethal qualifications for all SWAT sworn personnel at designated targets in order to verify continued proficiency based on Department standards.
 - i. All SWAT weapons qualification requirements shall be documented in the SWAT Handbook.
- e. For the New Mexico Department of Public Safety (NMDPS) daylight and low-light qualification:
 - i. A minimum overall score of ninety percent (90%) is mandatory for both rifle and pistol;
 - ii. If the SWAT officer fails the first attempt, they shall be removed from operational duties. The SWAT officer shall be offered remedial training before a second attempt to score ninety percent (90%) is made. The second attempt must be performed within one (1) week of the first attempt;
 - iii. In the event the first rifle or pistol firearm qualification is below a score of ninety percent (90%), the SWAT officer shall have an additional opportunity to achieve a minimum score of ninety percent (90%) on the same day, following immediate remedial training; and
 - iv. If the SWAT officer fails to achieve a minimum score of ninety percent (90%) on the second qualification, the SWAT officer shall be removed from the SOD.

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Chain of Command and Duties

A. The SOD Commander shall:

- 1. Hold the rank of Commander;



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2. Oversee the SOD and fulfill all responsibilities of a Department Commander; and
3. Successfully complete a nationally recognized tactical command school program as soon as practical, based upon availability.

B. The SOD Deputy Commander shall:

1. Hold the rank of Deputy Commander; and
2. Successfully complete a nationally recognized tactical command school program as soon as practical, based on availability.

C. The Tactical Commander shall:

1. Hold the rank of Lieutenant;
2. Control all tactical operations, critical incidents, and tactical activations;
3. Be directly responsible for the overall operations of the Tactical Section;
4. Coordinate all tactical operations and critical incidents, as well as the deployment of the tactical activations;
5. Successfully complete a nationally recognized tactical command school as soon as practical, based upon availability; and
6. Actively recruit and mentor supervisors who are interested in becoming SWAT team members.

N/A

D. The SWAT Sergeant shall:

1. Directly supervise SWAT sworn personnel during daily activities;
2. Be directly responsible to the Tactical Commander. Duties and responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Notifying the Tactical Commander of any mission changes or conflict of missions as soon as practicable;
 - b. Conducting formal monthly line inspections of all team members' appearance and assigned equipment;
 - c. Directly contacting the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) prior to a team's mission and advising them of the location of the assignment;
 - d. Being responsible for personnel who report to their assignments to ensure they are equipped and on time;
 - e. Working the same assignments and hours as team members;



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- f. Maintaining an up-to-date list of phone numbers and addresses for team members;
- g. Actively instructing and directing subordinates in new methods and techniques to improve efficiency and effectiveness;
- h. Ascertaining the capabilities and special skills of subordinates;
- i. Ensuring the physical fitness of the team;
- j. Monitoring team days off, compensatory time, and vacation time;
- k. Scheduling physical training, physical fitness tests, recertification training, firearms qualifications, and Maintenance of Evaluation (MOE) assessments for all team members;
- l. Training subordinates in their duties so they may assume command if necessary;
- m. Assuming Tactical Commander duties if necessary;
- n. Formulating all tactical planning, subject to the approval of the Tactical Commander;
- o. Making team assignments, such as high-ground, breaching, and entry teams, based upon member performance, availability, and needs of the team or Department;
- p. Successfully complete a Basic SWAT Operator Course as soon as practical, based upon availability;
- q. Successfully complete a SWAT supervisor school program as soon as practical, based upon availability;
- r. Actively recruiting and mentoring officers who are interested in becoming SWAT members; and
- s. Sergeant must meet and maintain the performance requirements per the SWAT handbook.
- t. Failure to perform the duties outlined in this policy or the SWAT handbook can be just cause for removal from the division.

E. SWAT Officer

1. A SWAT officer shall be directly responsible to the SWAT Sergeant. Duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- a. Being assigned to SWAT on a voluntary basis only;
- b. Being prepared to carry out missions of long duration as determined by the Tactical Commander;
- c. Accepting assigned missions, including:
 - i. Maintaining communication between the on-scene supervisor and team members about relevant information in order to fulfill the mission; and
 - ii. Declining to discuss a mission assignment with personnel not assigned to the Team. The SOD Commander shall inform other divisions and personnel, as necessary.
- d. Standing for a formal or informal inspection of their equipment at the discretion of the SOD chain of command;
- e. On a quarterly basis, accounting for all Department-issued equipment by completing an SOD Property Inventory Sheet;

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- i. Officers must meet and maintain performance requirements per the SWAT handbook.
 - f. Refraining from using the Department-issued equipment while off-duty, unless pre-approved by the Tactical Commander;
 - i. This shall not pertain to maintaining proficiency with Department-approved weapons on the firearms range.
 - g. Immediately reporting any shortage, damage, or loss of equipment to the supervisor in order for the equipment to be replaced promptly;
 - h. Responding to tactical activations, unless otherwise directed by the Tactical Commander;
 - i. Actively assisting the SWAT Sergeants in recruiting and mentoring other officers and cadets who are interested in becoming SWAT sworn personnel;
 - j. When not on an activation, training, or tactical assignments, assisting Field Services Bureau (FSB) personnel; and
 - k. Responding to the following critical events as directed by the Tactical Commander:
 - i. Hostage situations;
 - ii. Barricaded individual(s) who meet the criteria outlined in SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments;
 - iii. Sniper situations;
 - iv. Execution of high-risk search and/or arrest warrants;
 - v. Area searches involving violent, fleeing felons who are an active threat to others;
 - vi. Dignitary protection details;
 - vii. Major jail disturbances;
 - viii. Major civil disturbance support; and
 - ix. Mass casualty incidents or active threats to crowds.
 - l. Failure to perform the duties outlined in this policy or the SWAT handbook can be just cause for removal from the division.
 - m. Successfully complete a Basic SWAT Operator Course as soon as practical based upon availability.
2. When a request for assistance is approved by the SOD chain of command, a SWAT officer may be assigned to assist tactical teams from other jurisdictions.
3. A SWAT officer shall participate in an annual appointment with a Behavioral Sciences Section clinician.
4. A SWAT officer shall not:
 - a. Use abusive, insulting, or offensive language or actions toward the public or co-workers. This behavior is prohibited and shall be grounds for dismissal;
 - b. Make offensive jokes or comments, use slurs, or act in a way that might embarrass or offend others. This behavior is prohibited and shall be grounds for dismissal;
 - c. Harass others by making sexual advances or by creating an intimidating or offensive working environment or by making false accusations regarding such

N/A



conduct (refer to SOP 1-5 Harassment/Sexual Harassment in the Workplace for sanction classifications and additional duties);

- i. A SWAT officer shall be familiar with City of Albuquerque Personnel Rules and Regulations on harassment and sexual harassment and SOP Harassment/Sexual Harassment in the Workplace regarding such behavior.

5. A SWAT officer's flagrant or repeated violations of the Department's SOPs may result in discipline and/ or removal from SOD.

F. Precision Rifle Observer (PRO)

1. Selection

- a. An officer may be assigned as a PRO at the discretion of the SOD Chain of Command.
- b. A PRO shall hold the rank of officer and a current member of the SWAT Team.

2. Training

- a. A PRO shall:
 - i. Attend and successfully complete a precision rifle school and consistently attend ongoing PRO team training, as well as Tactical Team training; and
 - ii. Train a minimum of four (4) days a month. Any additional PRO training shall be at the discretion of the SWAT Sergeant and SOD chain of command. All training shall be documented by participating PRO members and evaluated by the SWAT Sergeant and Tactical Section Training Coordinator in consultation with the Tactical Commander.

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3. PRO Weapons and Ammunition Standards

- a. A PRO shall deploy with either a bolt action or semi- automatic .223, .308, .300, or .50 caliber rifle capable of 1 Minute of Angle (MOA) performance. The manufacturer, model, and accessories are determined by the Tactical chain of command based on the availability of weapons, replacement parts, and tactical inventory.
- b. A high-ground PRO shall maintain Data on Previous Engagement (D.O.P.E) logbooks for each issued precision rifle.
- c. On a weekly basis, the high-ground PRO or Training Coordinator shall provide documentation of PRO training days on a training sign-in sheet and a detailed completion of the SOD training narrative to the SOD Administrative Supervisor.
- d. On a quarterly basis, SWAT sworn personnel who are assigned to a high-ground PRO assignment shall be required to qualify with a score of ninety percent (90%) based on shooting at least twenty (20) rounds.
 - i. If a high-ground PRO officer does not achieve a score of ninety percent (90%), they shall be offered remedial training and allowed a second attempt to qualify within the same week but shall not be used operationally until they



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- successfully pass the qualification with a minimum score of ninety percent (90%).
- ii. If the high-ground PRO fails a second attempt to qualify, the member shall be removed from the high-ground team.
- e. Consistent with SOP Firearms and Ammunition Authorization, the Department Armorer/Gunsmith must authorize and perform any modifications to precision rifles assigned to SOD personnel after receiving approval by the SOD Commander.
 - i. The modifications shall be performed by a certified Department Armorer/Gunsmith or licensed designee approved by the SOD Commander.

4. Call-Outs

During call-outs, a PRO shall provide precision rifle support, gather important information, and concisely relay that information to the Tactical Commander.

5. Counter Sniper

- a. High-ground PROs may be deployed:
 - i. To counter potential attackers; and
 - ii. If necessary, with approval from the Tactical Commander, in vantage points that allow for quick observation, identification, and engagement of threats.

6. PRO Mission Support

- a. With approval from the Tactical Commander, PROs may be asked to provide over-watch for other units engaged in the performance of their duties, including but not limited to over-watch for:
 - i. K-9 units;
 - ii. Bomb Technicians;
 - iii. Sworn personnel engaged in crowd management;
 - iv. Undercover sworn personnel engaged in pre-approved undercover operations; and
 - v. Any situation where the Tactical Commander deems it necessary to provide over-watch.

7. The Tactical Entry Specialist shall:

- a. Be certified in Manual, Mechanical, Ballistic, Thermal, Hydraulic, and Explosive/Energetic Breaching;
- b. Train a minimum of four (4) days a month with additional training requirements subject to the discretion of the SWAT Sergeant; and
- c. Maintain proficiency and qualifications as determined by the SWAT Sergeant and outlined in the SWAT handbook.

- G. The Tactical Administrative Sergeant shall be responsible for ensuring that random or directed audits are conducted of all RAM Logs. The audits shall be conducted to



ensure that all matrices are being used properly, consistent with SOP Execution of Search Warrants.

H. TL and ATL

1. The SWAT Team shall determine the method of nominating SWAT sworn personnel to be the TL and ATL. The SWAT Sergeant and Tactical Commander shall have the final approval of the TL and ATL.
2. The SWAT Sergeant shall supervise the TL and ATL.
3. The TL and ATL shall:
 - a. Have two (2) or more years of service with the SWAT Team unless waived in writing with an explanation by a Tactical Commander;
 - b. Have exemplary performance on call-outs and critical incidents;
 - c. Have a satisfactory or higher rating on all Employee Work Plans;
 - d. Be willing to assist the SWAT supervisors in carrying out the goals and mission of the Tactical Section;
 - e. Be responsible for assisting the SWAT Sergeants in tactical planning for critical incidents; and
 - f. Successfully complete a SWAT Team Leader development course as soon as practicable of transfer to the position(s), subject to course availability.
4. Holding the position of TL and ATL shall not preclude sworn personnel from also holding specialty positions such as Precision Rifle Observer or Tactical Entry Specialist. However, the TL and ATL position shall take priority over the specialty position responsibilities during tactical call-outs and critical incidents.

6 1-92-8 Deployments

A. Hostage Situations

1. SWAT shall be called as soon as a hostage situation occurs.
2. The objective of SWAT shall be to use a combined response of negotiations and tactics with the goal of the safe release of hostage(s) and the apprehension of the offender(s).
3. SWAT may assist FSB personnel in containment and evacuation of endangered community members.



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4. The SWAT Sergeant and Tactical Commander shall develop a tactical response to the situation.
5. FSB personnel shall be responsible for maintaining the outer perimeter and shall coordinate their actions through the Tactical Commander.
6. SWAT shall maintain the inner perimeter and high-ground positions until relieved by the Tactical Commander.
7. The Public Information Officer (PIO) shall issue media releases concerning the tactical activation, response, and/or resolution.
8. The Tactical Commander and CNT Team Leader shall:
 - a. Ensure current CNT personnel conduct negotiations with the individual(s); and
 - b. Assess established communication and/or dialog with the individual by the initial on-scene sworn personnel.
 - i. A CNT team member shall assume the role of a Coach to assist in the conversation and relay pertinent information to the Tactical Commander and CNT Team Leader.

B. Barricaded Individual(s)

N/A

1. SWAT sworn personnel shall follow the requirements outlined in SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments for individuals who meet the criteria for tactical deployment (refer to SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments for sanction classifications and additional duties).
2. To reduce response and deployment time, SWAT should be called when the situation meets activation criteria:
 - a. Barricaded individual(s) shall be given time to surrender if safety allows.
 - b. Investigative units have been notified and required warrants are in process.
 - c. The Tactical Commander shall authorize the use of tactical tools and forced entry into a building.
3. SWAT may assist FSB personnel in evacuating endangered individuals.
4. SWAT shall maintain the inner perimeter and high-ground positions.
5. All commands shall be communicated from the SWAT Sergeant to SWAT sworn personnel after consultation with the on-scene Tactical Commander.
6. The Tactical Commander and CNT Team Leader shall:
 - a. Ensure current CNT personnel conduct negotiations with the individual(s);



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- b. Assess established communication and/or dialog with the individual by the initial on-scene sworn personnel; and
 - c. Ensure the CNT team member assumes the role of a Coach to assist in the conversation and relay pertinent information to the Tactical Commander and CNT Team Leader.
 7. Once the situation has been resolved, the Tactical Commander or their designee who is overseeing the activation shall prepare and submit an After-Action Review (AAR) within twenty (20) calendar days to the SOD Commander or their designee. The SOD Commander or their designee shall complete their review of the AAR within ten (10) calendar days.
 - a. The submitting Tactical Commander may request an extension up to seven (7) additional calendar days to prepare and submit an AAR. The requesting Tactical Commander shall specify the reason(s) for the extension request via an email to the SOD Commander.
 - b. The SOD Commander may request an extension up to seven (7) calendar days to complete their review of the AAR. The SOD Commander shall specify the reason(s) for the extension request via an email to the Bureau Head.
 - c. SOD personnel shall receive approval from the chain of command prior to the initial deadline to be considered valid. For any unapproved extension requests, SOD personnel shall adhere to the deadlines outlined in this SOP.
 8. Only during a tactical activation, if a barricaded individual is exiting and fails to yield to SWAT personnel commands, their actions may be considered a continuance of the barricade and active resistance by the individual.
- C. Use of SWAT in Response to Barricaded or Suicidal Individual(s) and Barricaded Situations
 1. SWAT personnel shall respond to barricaded or suicidal and barricaded situations only when one (1) or more of the following conditions is present:
 - a. The individual has a confirmed violent felony warrant;
 - b. The individual is currently committing a violent felony crime;
 - c. The individual is currently committing a non-violent felony crime and has a documented violent history or has recently demonstrated a propensity for violence/disregard for the life and safety of others;
 - d. The individual has a non-violent felony warrant and has a documented violent history or has recently demonstrated a propensity for violence/disregard for the life and safety of others;
 - e. The individual is armed with a firearm and an on-scene officer can confirm that the individual has discharged the firearm;



- f. The individual is armed in a public area and displaying an immediate threat of violence; or
- g. There is positive confirmation of the presence of an unwilling individual who is unable to leave the location of a suicidal and/or barricaded individual.

2. Any other incidents beyond the capabilities of the Field Services Bureau (FSB) or Investigative Services Division (ISD) personnel to safely resolve, after consultation with the commander for each division who confirms that the incident is beyond FSB or ISD personnel's capabilities and when such incidents present:

- a. Exigent circumstances that SWAT personnel are trained to safely resolve; and
- b. A substantial risk of great bodily harm if unsolved.

D. Search Warrants and Arrest Warrants

- 1. SWAT shall be responsible for entering any structure and securing individual(s) in order to permit the investigating unit to safely execute the warrant.
 - a. Pre-planned search warrants shall meet the established criteria of the Search Warrant Risk Assessment Matrix (RAM).

E. Armored Rescue Vehicle

- 1. Armored rescue vehicles shall be deployed in emergency situations only with the authorization of the Tactical Commander.
- 2. Any damage incurred as a result of operating the vehicle shall be immediately reported to an SOD supervisor, in compliance with this Department SOP.

F. Dignitary Protection

To provide for the security and safety of visiting dignitaries, the Tactical Commander shall develop a written SWAT Operational Plan for each dignitary visit.

6 1-92-9 Use of Explosive Entries

- A. Explosive breaching is the use of the minimum amount of explosive necessary to achieve the breaching and mission objective(s). Explosive Breaching shall be done in a manner that is reasonable, responsible, effective, and necessary toward achieving mission objective(s).
 - 1. When entry into a fortified structure is not feasible through other means, such as the robot or Rook, the Tactical Commander may authorize the use of explosive breaching charges to enter the structure.



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B. The SWAT Sergeant, Training Coordinator and Tactical Commander shall be responsible for supervising and directing the Breaching Program and Breaching Team.

C. The SWAT Sergeant shall obtain authorization from the Tactical Commander prior to deploying an explosive breaching charge.

N/A

D. The Tactical Commander may authorize explosive breaching charges in situations needed to preserve the lives and the safety of all persons, such as those in hostage situations.

1. During exigent circumstances where authorization from the Tactical Commander is not feasible, a certified explosive breacher may explosively breach without authorization.

E. Procedures for Using Explosive Breaching Charges

1. Construction of Charge:

a. The explosive charge shall be designed, built, placed, and initiated only by Breaching Team personnel after consulting with the on-scene Tactical Commander.

b. Only charges which have been successfully tested for the specific application shall be used.

2. Only trained breaching team personnel are authorized to build, test, and use explosive breaching charges.

3. Use of Explosive Breaching

a. A breacher certified in explosive breaching shall place and detonate the charge only after receiving authorization from the Tactical Commander.

b. Precautions shall be taken to minimize exposure to known individuals, located inside the structure or near the placed charge.

F. Bomb Technicians shall conduct render safe procedures for misfires during explosive breaching operations.

G. Required Documentation

1. An explosive shot report shall be completed for each explosive breaching, for both practice and actual use.

2. Additional documentation protocols are outlined in the Breaching Handbook.

H. Security and Safety



1. The SWAT Sergeant shall ensure a secure perimeter shall be in place to ensure that no persons are allowed in dangerous proximity during the use of a breaching charge. The distance shall be determined by the type of charge. This shall include evacuating people inside the perimeter as necessary.
2. During a live operation, the Tactical Commander shall request and maintain Albuquerque Fire Rescue (AFR) equipment on scene.

6 1-92-10 Chemical Munitions and Noise Flash Diversionsary Devices (NFDD)

A. Chemical Munitions

1. Chemical munitions manufactured by Defense Technologies and Combined Tactical Systems and approved by the tactical section may be used by SWAT when authorized by the Tactical Commander.
2. The deployment of chemical munitions shall be considered, at a minimum, a Level 2 use of force and shall be reported to and investigated by Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) personnel.
3. Despite the fact that a structure is vacant, the deployment of a chemical munition inside or outside of the structure shall be reported and investigated as a use of force.
4. Authorizing the use of Chemical munitions and NFDD use during a tactical activation shall not be considered the same as ordering force and does not automatically subject the supervisor to force investigations involving each individual SWAT officer who deploys force.

5 B. Noise Flash Diversionsary Devices (NFDD)

1. NFDDs shall be deployed by SWAT personnel only during a tactical activation. Any deployments outside of a tactical activation will be authorized by Tactical Commander, except for those deployed in a training exercise.
 - a. If there are exigent circumstances and a SWAT officer has to react immediately to prevent harm to sworn personnel or civilians, then the SWAT officer may deploy an NFDD without prior authorization from the Tactical Commander.
 - b. When a SWAT officer deploys an NFDD without prior authorization from the Tactical Commander due to exigent circumstances, the SWAT officer shall immediately notify the Tactical Commander once it is safe to do so.
 - c. The deployment of all NFDDs shall be documented. The documentation shall include:
 - i. A description of the reasons for deployment;
 - ii. A description of the exigent circumstances, if any, leading to the deployment of an NFDD without authorization;
 - iii. The method of deployment;



- iv. The effects of the deployment;
- v. A description of any injuries or property damage resulting from the deployment; and
- vi. An assessment of the outcomes of the deployment:
 - 1. The serial number of the deployed NFDD shall be noted in the deploying officer's report;
 - 2. The serial number of the deployed NFDD shall be reported to the on-scene SWAT sergeant at the conclusion of the incident; and
 - 3. The Tactical Commander will receive a copy of all narrative reports, where a NFDD is used, prior to the end of the subsequent shift unless it is utilized as a use of force.
- d. If an NFDD is deployed inside a structure or near a vehicle with open windows or doors, or if using an NFDD causes injury or results in a complaint of injury, it shall be reported to and investigated by the Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) as a Level 2 use of force.
- e. If using an NFDD results in serious physical injury, hospitalization, or death, it shall be reported to and investigated by IAFD as a Level 3 use of force.
- f. NFDD deployments and structures:
 - i. NFDD deployments inside a structure are considered uses of force; and
 - ii. If an NFDD is deployed outside a structure and is used as a means to gain the attention of an individual, it shall not be considered a use of force.
- g. NFDD deployments and vehicles:
 - i. NFDD deployments inside a vehicle are considered a use of force; and
 - ii. NFDD deployments used near a vehicle without an intermediate barrier are considered a use of force. If an NFDD is used as a means to gain the attention of an individual who is inside a vehicle or recreational vehicle, it shall not be deployed close enough for the pressure from the NFDD blast to affect the individual. Such a deployment shall be considered a Level 1 use of force unless the individual complains of pain or exhibits signs or symptoms of pain.
- h. If an NFDD fails to detonate, the Bomb Squad shall be contacted immediately and shall respond to employ render safe procedures.
- i. An NFDD shall not be deployed unless the area for which the device is intended to be deployed can be safely cleared of innocent people who could be injured by the device.
- j. NFDD's shall not be used solely for the reason of fleeing suspects.

7 1-92-11

SOD Annual Review

- A. Tactical Section supervisors shall coordinate an annual meeting to take place within the first quarter of the year to analyze the successes or deficiencies of the previous year.
 - 1. Tactical Section supervisors shall discuss policies, procedures, legal developments, training updates, and Force Review Board recommendations.
 - 2. After the meeting, the SOD Commander shall finalize the annual report.



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REDLINED



1-92 SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS (SWAT) (FORMERLY SPECIALIZED TACTICAL UNITS)

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related SOP(s)

- ~~1-5 Harassment/Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Formerly 1-12)~~ 1-5 Harassment/Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Formerly 1-12)
- 1-42 ~~Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit~~ Bomb Squad (Formerly 4-03 and 6-7)
- 2-1 Uniforms (Formerly 2-06)
- 2-3 Firearms and Ammunition Authorization (Formerly 2-22)
- 2-20 Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments (Formerly 2-42)
- 2-45 Pursuit by Motor Vehicle (Formerly 2-55)
- 2-52 Use of Force: General (Formerly 3-45)
- 2-53 Use of Force: Definitions
- 2-57 Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel
- 2-70 Execution of Search Warrants (Formerly 2-16)
- 3-31 Physical Fitness Assessment (Formerly 3-83)

B. Form(s)

None

C. Other Resource(s)

Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Handbook

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

- SO 22-24 Amendment to SOP 1-92 Specialized Tactical Units
- SO 23-68 Amendment to SOP 1-92 Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)

1-92-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the tactical duties and processes that are used in response to crisis negotiation team activities, hostage situations, barricaded and armed individuals, high-risk arrests, execution of search and arrest warrants with exigent or dangerous circumstances, major jail disturbances, civil disturbances, and specialized patrol functions.

1-92-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) to use a specialized unit in response to certain critical events.



It is further the policy of the Department to conduct ongoing analysis and review of tactical operations, placing an emphasis on clear command and control protocols. In addition, the Department provides its personnel the requisite tools and capabilities to respond safely to violent and highly dangerous situations in a way that upholds the law, protects the community, and safeguards the constitutional rights of those accused of criminal conduct.

N/A

1-92-3 Definitions

A. Armored Rescue Vehicle

A vehicle that allows the safe movement of individuals through dangerous areas due to hostile gunfire or a threat. An “armored rescue vehicle” may also be known as the “BearCat” or a “ROOK”, which is an armored skid-steer with attachments.

B. Assistant Team Lead Leader (ATL)

A SWAT officer selected based on their performance and experience to assist the SWAT Team Leader, as necessary, and substitute for the SWAT Team Leader in their absence.

C. Precision Rifle Observer (PRO)

A Department tactical officer with the additional responsibility of being assigned a precision rifle and PRO duties.

D. Tactical Activation

An Activation of all Special Operations Division (SOD) Units under the command and control of a Tactical Commander, to resolve an incident that is beyond the capability of the Field Services Bureau (FSB) and/or Criminal Investigations Divisions (ISD) personnel in accordance with Department SOPs.

~~A.E. Tactical Entry Specialist (Master Breacher) Precision Rifle Observer (PRO)~~

~~An experienced SWAT officer who is well-versed in SWAT and has proven repeatedly in training and practical scenarios the ability to perform under pressure. The Tactical Entry Specialist is chosen by the SWAT Sergeant with final approval from SWAT Commander.~~

~~F. Team Leader (TL) ~~Department tactical officer with the additional responsibility of being assigned a precision rifle.~~~~

~~A SWAT officer selected based on their performance and experience in assisting the SWAT Sergeant with mission planning, deploying officers during incidents and acting as a SWAT advisor prior to and during tactical activation.~~

1-92-4 Training and Assessment



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A. General Training Requirements

1. SWAT sworn personnel shall:

- a. Complete all Department-mandated in-service training; and
- b. Conduct internal training on an on-going basis.

~~The Tactical Entry Specialist shall:~~

~~Be certified in Manual, Mechanical, Ballistic, Thermal, Hydraulic, and Explosive/Energetic Breaching;~~

~~Train a minimum of four (4) days a month with additional training requirements subject to the discretion of the SWAT Sergeant; and~~

- b. ~~Maintain proficiency and qualifications as determined by the SWAT Sergeant and outlined in the SWAT handbook.~~

B. Physical Fitness Assessment

- 1. On a ~~quarterly~~ biannual basis, the Training Coordinator with approval from the Health and Wellness Coordinator shall administer physical fitness assessments for each SWAT officer to ensure they meet the threshold performance requirements.
 - a. SWAT sworn personnel who do not satisfy the physical fitness assessment standards are allowed to re-test within one (1) month of failing the assessment.
 - i. If SWAT sworn personnel do not meet the performance requirements within one (1) month, they shall be removed from SWAT, unless they have sustained a documented injury.
 - b. SWAT sworn personnel at the rank of Lieutenant or above, and SWAT sworn administrative supervisors and personnel shall be exempt from the physical fitness assessment requirements outlined in this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and in SOP Physical Fitness Assessment.
 - c. The SWAT Sergeant shall be responsible for scheduling ~~quarterly~~ biannual physical fitness assessments.
 - d. Physical fitness assessment standards ~~are will be~~ outlined in the SWAT Handbook.

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1-92-5

Uniforms and Equipment

A. SWAT sworn personnel shall:

N/A

- 1. Abide by the Special Operations Division (SOD) uniform requirements outlined in SOP Uniforms (refer to SOP Uniforms for sanction classifications and additional duties);
- 2. Be dressed in the same daily uniform as directed by the SOD chain of command;



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3. For tactical activations:

- a. SWAT sworn personnel shall wear their green tactical/BDU style pants and matching top with shoulder patches, cloth badges, and cloth name tags or a green Nomex flight suit and green tactical shirt during tactical activations only. Green subdued APD approved patches will be worn on the uniform, including the SOD green tactical carrier. Call sign patches ~~may~~ will be displayed on the left shoulder directly above the APD patch and shall be subdued in SOD green with black lettering for officers and gold lettering for supervisors. Any patches adorned on the external carrier will be in a specific fashion as dictated by the chain of command.

4. During day-to-day operations: and:

- a. SWAT sworn personal shall wear a navy blue tactical/BDU top and tactical/BDU style pants, and black boots. SWAT shall wear the Department and unit patch with silver trim (black background) and supervisors shall wear the Department and unit patch with gold trim (black background). Call sign patches will be displayed on the left shoulder directly above the APD patch and shall be black in color with white lettering for officers and gold lettering for supervisors.
- b. A black external tactical carrier will be used, unless utilizing soft armor with the alternate duty uniform. Only Any patches authorized adorned on the external carrier ~~will be in a specific fashion as dictated by the SOD chain of command~~ are to be worn by SWAT tactical sworn personnel.

5. During training days:

- a. The training uniform shall consist of a plain black t-shirt/long sleeve or green BDU top and green BDU style pants.

B. SWAT Unit Patch

SWAT sworn personnel shall be authorized to wear the SWAT patch after achieving the requirements that are outlined in the SWAT Handbook.

5 1-92-6 **Department-Issued SWAT Weapons**

- 3** A. Sworn SWAT personnel shall only use Department-issued and Department-approved weapons.
- B. SWAT sworn personnel shall be held responsible for securing their firearms in the locked vaults or in the trunk of their assigned Department vehicle.
- C. Only certified Department armorers shall inspect parts, provide parts, and/or modify SWAT-issued weapons and accessories.



D. SWAT-issued weapons and accessories shall not be modified, painted, or altered in any way without prior written approval from the SOD chain of command.

1. Handguns

- a. Handguns shall meet the requirements set forth in SOP Firearms and Ammunition Authorization.
- b. Each SWAT officer may be issued two (2) handguns.

2. Rifles

SWAT-issued rifles shall meet Department requirements and the needs of the Tactical Section as determined by the SOD chain of command.

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3. Authorized Ammunition

- a. SWAT sworn personnel may carry military ball, soft point, or hollow point ammunition in their rifles, consistent with their training and the specific mission at hand, as determined and authorized by the Tactical Commander.
- b. SWAT personnel may use armor-piercing rounds for unique situations with pre-approval from the Tactical Commander, or in situations of exigent circumstance when prior authorization is not feasible.
- ~~b. SWAT personnel may use armor-piercing rounds for unique situations with pre-approval from the Tactical Commander, or in situations of exigent circumstance when prior authorization is not feasible.~~

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4. Weapons Training and Qualifications

- a. SWAT sworn personnel below the rank of Tactical Commander shall maintain proficiency with their assigned weapons, consistent with SOP Firearms and Ammunition Authorization (refer to SOP Firearms and Ammunition Authorization for sanction classifications an additional duties).
- b. ~~Firearms Range personnel shall conduct, score, and document SOD qualifications on a quarterly basis to include Precision Rifle Observer (PRO) weapons qualification.~~ The Tactical Training Coordinator with approval from the firearms range personnel shall conduct, score and document SOD weapons qualifications on a quarterly basis to include PRO weapons qualifications.
- c. Range armorers shall inspect PRO rifles on a quarterly basis and notify the SOD Chain of Command of any repairs or necessary replacements in writing.
- d. ~~Semi-annually, all SWAT sworn personnel shall fire 40 mm launchers at designated targets in order to verify continued proficiency based on Department standards.~~ The Tactical Training Coordinator shall conduct and document semi-annual 40mm less lethal qualifications for all SWAT sworn personnel at designated targets in order to verify continued proficiency based on Department standards.
 - i. All SWAT weapons qualification requirements shall be documented in the SWAT Handbook.



- e. For the New Mexico Department of Public Safety (NMDPS) daylight and low-light qualification:
- i. A minimum overall score of ninety percent (90%) is mandatory for both rifle and pistol;
 - ii. If the SWAT officer fails the first attempt, they shall be removed from operational duties. The SWAT officer shall be offered remedial training before a second attempt to score a ninety percent (90%) is made. The second attempt must be performed within one (1) week of the first attempt;
 - ~~iii.~~ In the event the first rifle or pistol firearm qualification is below a score of ninety percent (90%), the SWAT officer shall have an additional opportunity to achieve a minimum score of ninety percent (90%) on the same day, following immediate remedial training; and
 - ~~iii.~~ iv. If the SWAT officer fails to achieve a minimum score of ninety percent (90%) on the second qualification, the SWAT officer shall be removed from the SOD.
 - ~~iv.~~ In the event that the first rifle or pistol firearm qualification is below a score of ninety percent (90%), the SWAT officer shall have an additional opportunity to achieve a minimum score of ninety percent (90%) on the same day, following immediate remedial training.

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1-92-7 Chain of Command and Duties

- A. The SOD Commander shall:
1. Hold the rank of Commander;
 2. Oversee the SOD and fulfill all responsibilities of a Department Commander; and
 3. Successfully complete a nationally recognized tactical command school program as soon as practical, based upon availability.
- B. The SOD Deputy Commander shall:
1. Hold the rank of Deputy Commander; and
 2. Successfully complete a nationally recognized tactical command school program as soon as practical, based on availability.
- C. The Tactical Commander shall:
1. Hold the rank of Lieutenant;
 2. Control all tactical operations, critical incidents, and tactical activations;
 3. Be directly responsible for the overall operations of the Tactical Section;



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N/A

4. Coordinate all tactical operations and critical incidents, as well as the deployment of the tactical activations;
5. Successfully complete a nationally recognized tactical command school as soon as practical, based upon availability; and
6. Actively recruit and mentor supervisors who are interested in becoming SWAT team members.

D. The SWAT Sergeant shall:

1. Directly supervise SWAT sworn personnel during daily activities;
2. Be directly responsible to the Tactical Commander. Duties and responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Notifying the Tactical Commander of any mission changes or conflict of missions as soon as practicable;
 - b. Conducting formal monthly line inspections of all team members' appearance and assigned equipment;
 - c. Directly contacting the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) prior to a team's mission and advising them of the location of the assignment;
 - d. Being responsible for personnel who report to their assignments to ensure they are equipped and on time;
 - e. Working the same assignments and hours as team members;
 - f. Maintaining an up-to-date list of phone numbers and addresses for team members;
 - g. Actively instructing and directing subordinates in new methods and techniques to improve efficiency and effectiveness;
 - h. Ascertaining the capabilities and special skills of subordinates;
 - i. Ensuring the physical fitness of the team;
 - j. Monitoring team days off, compensatory time, and vacation time;
 - k. Scheduling physical training, physical fitness tests, recertification training, firearms qualifications, and Maintenance of Evaluation (MOE) assessments for all team members;
 - l. Training subordinates in their duties so they may assume command if necessary;
 - m. Assuming Tactical Commander duties if necessary;
 - n. Formulating all tactical planning, subject to the approval of the Tactical Commander;
 - o. Making team assignments, such as high-ground, breaching, and entry teams, based upon member performance, availability, and needs of the team or Department;
 - p. Successfully complete a Basic SWAT Operator Course as soon as practical, based upon availability;
 - ~~q~~. Successfully complete a SWAT supervisor school program as soon as practical, based upon availability;



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- ~~q.~~ Immediately documenting, addressing, and notifying the SOD chain of command of any complaints or observations involving work conduct and behavior that is inconsistent with the City of Albuquerque Standards of Conduct and SOP Harassment/ Sexual Harassment in the Workplace; and
- r. Actively recruiting and mentoring officers who are interested in becoming SWAT members; and
- s. Sergeant must meet and maintain the performance requirements per the SWAT handbook.
- ~~t.~~ Failure to perform the duties outlined in this policy or the SWAT handbook can be just cause for removal from the division.

E. SWAT Officer

1. A SWAT officer shall be directly responsible to the SWAT Sergeant. Duties shall include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Being assigned to SWAT on a voluntary basis only;
 - b. Being prepared to carry out missions of long duration as determined by the Tactical Commander;
 - c. Accepting assigned missions, including:
 - i. Maintaining communication between the on-scene supervisor and team members about relevant information in order to fulfill the mission; and
 - ii. Declining to discuss a mission assignment with personnel not assigned to the Team. The SOD Commander shall inform other divisions and personnel, as necessary.
 - d. Standing for a formal or informal inspection of their equipment at the discretion of the SOD chain of command;
 - e. On a quarterly basis, accounting for all Department-issued equipment by completing an SOD Property Inventory Sheet;
 - ~~i.~~ Officers must meet and maintain performance requirements per the SWAT handbook.
 - f. Refraining from using the Department-issued equipment while off-duty, unless pre-approved by the Tactical Commander;
 - i. This shall not pertain to maintaining proficiency with Department-approved weapons on the firearms range.
 - g. Immediately reporting any shortage, damage, or loss of equipment to the supervisor in order for the equipment to be replaced promptly;
 - h. Responding to tactical activations, unless otherwise directed by the Tactical Commander;
 - ~~i.~~ Actively assisting the SWAT Sergeants in recruiting and mentoring other officers and cadets who are interested in becoming SWAT sworn personnel;
 - ~~j.~~ Providing supplemental staffing for other divisions and aiding other law enforcement agencies when designated and approved by the Tactical Commander;
 - ~~k.~~ When not on an activation, training, or tactical assignments, assisting Field Services Bureau (FSB) personnel; and

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k. Responding to the following critical events as directed by the Tactical Commander:

- i. Hostage situations;
- ii. Barricaded individual(s) who meet the criteria outlined in SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments;
- iii. Sniper situations;
- iv. Execution of high-risk search and/or arrest warrants;
- v. Area searches involving violent, fleeing felons who are an active threat to others;
- vi. Dignitary protection details;
- vii. Major jail disturbances;
- viii. Major civil disturbance support; and
- ix. Mass casualty incidents or active threats to crowds.

l. Failure to perform the duties outlined in this policy or the SWAT handbook can be just cause for removal from the division.

m. Successfully complete a Basic SWAT Operator Course as soon as practical based upon availability.

2. When a request for assistance is approved by the SOD chain of command, a SWAT officer may be assigned to assist tactical teams from other jurisdictions.
3. A SWAT officer shall participate in an annual appointment with a Behavioral Sciences Section clinician.
4. A SWAT officer shall not:
 - a. Use abusive, insulting, or offensive language or actions toward the public or co-workers. This behavior is prohibited and shall be grounds for dismissal;
 - b. Make offensive jokes or comments, use slurs, or act in a way that might embarrass or offend others. This behavior is prohibited and shall be grounds for dismissal;
 - c. Harass others by making sexual advances or by creating an intimidating or offensive working environment or by making false accusations regarding such conduct (refer to SOP 1-5 Harassment/Sexual Harassment in the Workplace for sanction classifications and additional duties);
 - i. A SWAT officer shall be familiar with City of Albuquerque Personnel Rules and Regulations on harassment and sexual harassment and SOP Harassment/Sexual Harassment in the Workplace regarding such behavior.
5. A SWAT officer's flagrant or repeated violations of the Department's SOPs may result in discipline and/ or removal from SOD.

N/A

F. Precision Rifle Observer (PRO)

1. Selection



- a. An officer may be assigned as a PRO ~~when they are an experienced tactical officer who is well versed in SWAT operations and the legal requirements for using deadly force, and have proven repeatedly in training and practical scenarios the ability to perform under pressure. PRO personnel shall be chosen by the SWAT Sergeant with final approval from the~~ at the discretion of the SOD Chain of Command.
- b. A PRO shall hold the rank of officer and a current member of the SWAT Team.

2. Training

—A PRO shall:

- a.
 - i. Attend and successfully complete a precision rifle school and consistently attend ongoing PRO team training, as well as Tactical Team training; and
~~and~~
 - ii. Train a minimum of four (4) days a month. Any additional PRO training shall be at the discretion of the SWAT Sergeant and SOD chain of command. All training shall be documented by participating PRO members and evaluated by the SWAT Sergeant and Tactical Section Training Coordinator in consultation with the Tactical Commander.
~~Train a minimum of four (4) days a month. Any additional PRO training shall be at the discretion of the SWAT Sergeant and SOD chain of command. All training shall be documented by participating PRO members and evaluated by the SWAT Sergeant in consultation with the Tactical Commander.~~

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3. PRO Weapons and Ammunition Standards

- a. A PRO shall deploy with either a bolt action or semi- automatic .223, .308, .300, or .50 caliber rifle capable of 1 Minute of Angle (MOA) performance. The manufacturer, model, and accessories are determined by the Tactical chain of command based on the availability of weapons, replacement parts, and tactical inventory.
- b. A high-ground PRO shall maintain Data on Previous Engagement (D.O.P.E) logbooks for each issued precision rifle.
- c. On a weekly basis, the high-ground PRO or Training Coordinator shall provide documentation of PRO training days on a training sign-in sheet and a detailed completion of the SOD training narrative to the SOD Administrative Supervisor.
- d. On a quarterly basis, SWAT sworn personnel who are assigned to a high-ground PRO assignment shall be required to qualify with a score of ninety percent (90%) based on shooting at least twenty (20) rounds.
 - i. If a high-ground PRO officer does not achieve a score of ninety percent (90%), they shall be offered remedial training and allowed a second attempt to qualify within the same week but shall not be used operationally until they successfully pass the qualification with a minimum score of ninety percent (90%).



- ii. If the high-ground PRO fails a second attempt to qualify, the member shall be removed from the high-ground team.
- e. Consistent with SOP Firearms and Ammunition Authorization, the Department Armorer/Gunsmith must authorize and perform any modifications to precision rifles assigned to SOD personnel after receiving approval by the SOD Commander.
 - i. The modifications shall be performed by a certified Department Armorer/Gunsmith or licensed designee approved by the SOD Commander.

4. Call-Outs

During call-outs, a PRO shall provide precision rifle support, gather important information, and concisely relay that information to the Tactical Commander.

5. Counter Sniper

- a. High-ground PROs may be deployed:
 - i. To counter potential attackers; and
 - ii. If necessary, with approval from the Tactical Commander, in vantage points that allow for quick observation, identification, and engagement of threats.

6. PRO Mission Support

- a. With approval from the Tactical Commander, PROs may be asked to provide over-watch for other units engaged in the performance of their duties, including but not limited to over-watch for:
 - i. K-9 units;
 - ii. Bomb Technicians;
 - iii. Sworn personnel engaged in crowd management;
 - iv. Undercover sworn personnel engaged in pre-approved undercover operations; and
 - v. Any situation where the Tactical Commander deems it necessary to provide over-watch.

7. The Tactical Entry Specialist shall:

- a. Be certified in Manual, Mechanical, Ballistic, Thermal, Hydraulic, and Explosive/Energetic Breaching;
- b. Train a minimum of four (4) days a month with additional training requirements subject to the discretion of the SWAT Sergeant; and
- ~~v.~~ c. Maintain proficiency and qualifications as determined by the SWAT Sergeant and outlined in the SWAT handbook.

G. The Tactical Administrative Sergeant shall be responsible for ensuring that random or directed audits are conducted of all RAM Logs. The audits shall be conducted to ensure that all matrices are being used properly, consistent with SOP Execution of Search Warrants.



H. TL and ATL

1. The SWAT Team shall determine the method of nominating SWAT sworn personnel to be the TL and ATL. The SWAT Sergeant and Tactical Commander shall have the final approval of the TL and ATL.
2. The SWAT Sergeant shall supervise the TL and ATL.
3. The TL and ATL shall:
 - a. Have two (2) or more years of service with the SWAT Team unless waived in writing with an explanation by a Tactical Commander;
 - b. Have exemplary performance on call-outs and critical incidents;
 - c. Have a satisfactory or higher rating on all Employee Work Plans;
 - d. Be willing to assist the SWAT supervisors in carrying out the goals and mission of the Tactical Section;
 - e. Be responsible for assisting the SWAT Sergeants in tactical planning for critical incidents; and
 - f. Successfully complete a SWAT Team Leader development course as soon as practicable of transfer to the position(s), subject to course availability.
4. Holding the position of TL and ATL shall not preclude sworn personnel from also holding specialty positions such as Precision Rifle Observer or Tactical Entry Specialist. However, the TL and ATL position shall take priority over the specialty position responsibilities during tactical call-outs and critical incidents.

~~G.~~

6 1-92-8 Deployments

A. Hostage Situations

1. SWAT shall be called as soon as a hostage situation occurs.
2. The objective of SWAT shall be to use a combined response of negotiations and tactics with the goal of the safe release of hostage(s) and the apprehension of the offender(s).
3. SWAT may assist FSB personnel in containment and evacuation of endangered community members.
4. The SWAT Sergeant and Tactical Commander shall develop a tactical response to the situation.



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5. FSB personnel shall be responsible for maintaining the outer perimeter and shall coordinate their actions through the Tactical Commander.
6. SWAT shall maintain the inner perimeter and high-ground positions until relieved by the Tactical Commander.
7. The Public Information Officer (PIO) shall issue media releases concerning the tactical activation, response, and/or resolution.
8. The Tactical Commander and CNT Team Leader shall:
 - a. Ensure current CNT personnel conduct negotiations with the individual(s); and
 - b. Assess established communication and/or dialog with the individual by the initial on-scene sworn personnel.
 - i. A CNT team member shall assume the role of a Coach to assist in the conversation and relay pertinent information to the Tactical Commander and CNT Team Leader.

B. Barricaded Individual(s)

N/A

1. SWAT sworn personnel shall follow the requirements outlined in SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments for individuals who meet the criteria for tactical deployment (refer to SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments for sanction classifications and additional duties).
2. To reduce response and deployment time, SWAT should be called when the situation meets activation criteria:
 - a. Barricaded individual(s) shall be given time to surrender if safety allows.
 - b. Investigative units have been notified and required warrants are in process.
 - c. The Tactical Commander shall authorize the use of tactical tools and forced entry into a building.
3. SWAT may assist FSB personnel in evacuating endangered individuals.
4. SWAT shall maintain the inner perimeter and high-ground positions.
5. All commands shall be communicated from the SWAT Sergeant to SWAT sworn personnel after consultation with the on-scene Tactical Commander.
6. The Tactical Commander and CNT Team Leader shall:
 - a. Ensure current CNT personnel conduct negotiations with the individual(s);
 - b. Assess established communication and/or dialog with the individual by the initial on-scene sworn personnel; and



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- c. Ensure the CNT team member assumes the role of a Coach to assist in the conversation and relay pertinent information to the Tactical Commander and CNT Team Leader.
7. Once the situation has been resolved, the Tactical Commander or their designee who is overseeing the activation shall prepare and submit an After-Action Review (AAR) within twenty (20) calendar days to the SOD Commander or their designee. The SOD Commander or their designee shall complete their review of the AAR within ten (10) calendar days.
 - a. The submitting Tactical Commander may request an extension up to seven (7) additional calendar days to prepare and submit an AAR. The requesting Tactical Commander shall specify the reason(s) for the extension request via an email to the SOD Commander.
 - b. The SOD Commander may request an extension up to seven (7) calendar days to complete their review of the AAR. The SOD Commander shall specify the reason(s) for the extension request via an email to the Bureau Head.
 - c. SOD personnel shall receive approval from the chain of command prior to the initial deadline to be considered valid. For any unapproved extension requests, SOD personnel shall adhere to the deadlines outlined in this SOP.
 8. Only during a tactical activation, if a barricaded individual is exiting and fails to yield to SWAT personnel commands, their actions may be considered a continuance of the barricade and active resistance by the individual.
- C. Use of SWAT in Response to Barricaded or Suicidal Individual(s) and Barricaded Situations
1. SWAT personnel shall respond to barricaded or suicidal and barricaded situations only when one (1) or more of the following conditions is present:
 - a. The individual has a confirmed violent felony warrant;
 - b. The individual is currently committing a violent felony crime;
 - c. The individual is currently committing a non-violent felony crime and has a documented violent history or has recently demonstrated a propensity for violence/disregard for the life and safety of others;
 - d. The individual has a non-violent felony warrant and has a documented violent history or has recently demonstrated a propensity for violence/disregard for the life and safety of others;
 - e. The individual is armed with a firearm and an on-scene officer can confirm that the individual has discharged the firearm;
 - f. The individual is armed in a public area and displaying an immediate threat of violence; or



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g. There is positive confirmation of the presence of an unwilling individual who is unable to leave the location of a suicidal and/or barricaded individual.

~~a. The individual has a confirmed violent felony warrant or is currently committing one of the following violent felony crimes:~~

~~i. Homicide;~~

~~ii. Armed robbery; or~~

~~iii. Kidnapping, consistent with the definition of "violent felony" in SOP Pursuit by Motor Vehicle.~~

~~b. The individual currently is committing a non-violent felony crime or has a non-violent felony warrant and has a recent documented violent history;~~

~~c. The individual is armed with a firearm and an on scene officer can confirm that the individual has discharged the firearm;~~

~~d. The individual is armed in a public area and displaying an immediate threat of violence; or~~

~~e. There is positive confirmation of the presence of an unwilling individual who is unable to leave the location of a suicidal and/or barricaded individual.~~

2. Any other incidents beyond the capabilities of the Field Services Bureau (FSB) or Investigative Services Division (ISD) personnel to safely resolve, after consultation with the commander for each division who confirm confirms that the incident is beyond FSB or ISD personnel's capabilities and when such incidents present:

a. Exigent circumstances that SWAT personnel are trained to safely resolve; and

~~2.b. A substantial risk of great bodily harm if unsolved. The Tactical Commander shall make the final determination on the use of SWAT on all situations.~~

D. Search Warrants and Arrest Warrants

1. SWAT shall be responsible for entering any structure and securing individual(s) in order to permit the investigating unit to safely execute the warrant.

a. Pre-planned search warrants shall meet the established criteria of the Search Warrant Risk Assessment Matrix (RAM).

E. Armored Rescue Vehicle

1. Armored rescue vehicles shall be deployed in emergency situations only with the authorization of the Tactical Commander.

2. Any damage incurred as a result of operating the vehicle shall be immediately reported to an SOD supervisor, in compliance with this Department SOP.

F. Dignitary Protection

To provide for the security and safety of visiting dignitaries, the Tactical Commander shall develop a written SWAT Operational Plan for each dignitary visit.



6 1-92-9 Use of Explosive Entries

A. Explosive breaching is the use of the minimum amount of explosive necessary to achieve the breaching and mission objective(s). Explosive Breaching shall be done in a manner that is reasonable, responsible, effective, and necessary toward achieving mission objective(s).

~~A.1.~~

~~When entry into a fortified structure is not feasible through other means, such as robot or the robot or Rook, the Tactical Commander may authorize the use of explosive breaching charges to enter the structure. When entry into a fortified structure is not feasible through other means, such as the robot or Rook, the Tactical Commander may authorize the use of explosive breaching charges to enter the structure.~~

B. The SWAT Sergeant, Training Coordinator and Tactical Commander shall be responsible for supervising and directing the Breaching Program and Breaching Team.

C. The SWAT Sergeant shall obtain authorization from the Tactical Commander prior to deploying any explosive breaching charge.

N/A

D. The Tactical Commander ~~may~~ shall authorize explosive breaching charges in situations needed to preserve the lives and the safety of all persons, such as those in hostage situations.

~~D.1.~~

~~During exigent circumstances where authorization from the Tactical Commander is not feasible, a certified explosive breacher may explosively breach without authorization.~~

E. Procedures for Using Explosive Breaching Charges

1. Construction of Charge:

- a. The explosive charge shall be designed, built, placed, and initiated only by Breaching Team personnel after consulting with the on-scene Tactical Commander.
- b. Only charges which have been successfully tested for the specific application shall be used.

2. Only trained breaching team personnel are authorized to build, test, and use explosive breaching charges.

3. Use of Explosive Breaching, ~~Breaching Trained and Certified Sworn Personnel~~



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- a. A breacher certified in explosive breaching shall place and detonate the charge only after receiving authorization from the Tactical Commander.
- b. Precautions shall be taken to minimize exposure to known individuals, located inside the structure or near the placed charge.

F. Bomb Technicians shall conduct render safe procedures for misfires during explosive breaching operations.

G. Required Documentation

1. An explosive shot report shall be completed for each explosive breaching, for both practice and actual use.
2. Additional documentation protocols are outlined in the Breaching Handbook.

H. Security and Safety

1. The SWAT Sergeant shall ensure a secure perimeter shall be in place to ensure that no persons are allowed in dangerous proximity during the use of a breaching charge. The distance shall be determined by the type of charge. This shall include evacuating people inside the perimeter as necessary.
2. During a live operation, the Tactical Commander shall request and maintain Albuquerque Fire Rescue (AFR) equipment on scene.

6 1-92-10 Chemical Munitions and Noise Flash Diversionary Devices (NFDD)

A. Chemical Munitions

~~1. The following Chemical munitions may be used by the SWAT when authorized by the Tactical Commander:~~

- ~~a. CS/OC Tri-Chamber;~~
- ~~b. CS/OC Triple-Chaser;~~
- ~~c. CS/OC Hand-Ball;~~
- ~~d. OC Vapor Aerosol;~~
- ~~e. 40 mm Ferret Barricade Round, OC; and~~
- ~~f. 40 mm Ferret Barricade Round, CS.~~

1. manufactured by Defense Technologies and Combined Tactical Systems and approved by the tactical section may be used by SWAT when authorized by the Tactical Commander.

2. The deployment of chemical munitions shall be considered, at a minimum, a Level 2 use of force and shall be reported to and investigated by Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) personnel.



~~a. IAFD shall determine whether the deployment was a Level 2 or Level 3 use of force as defined by SOP 2-53 Use of Force: Definitions.~~

3. Despite the fact that a structure is vacant, the deployment of a chemical munition inside or outside of the structure shall be reported and investigated as a use of force.
4. Authorizing the use of Chemical munitions and NFDD use during a tactical activation shall not be considered the same as ordering force and does not automatically subject the supervisor to force investigations involving each individual SWAT officer who deploys force.

5

B. Noise Flash Diversionary Devices (NFDD)

1. NFDDs shall only be deployed by SWAT personnel only during a tactical activation. Any deployments outside of a tactical activation will be authorized by Tactical Commander, except for those deployed in a training exercise.

~~1. during a tactical activation. Any deployments outside of a tactical activation will be authorized by the Tactical Commander.~~

- a. If there are exigent circumstances and a SWAT officer has to react immediately to prevent harm to sworn personnel or civilians, then the SWAT officer may deploy an NFDD without prior authorization from the Tactical Commander.
- b. When a SWAT officer deploys an NFDD without prior authorization from the Tactical Commander due to exigent circumstances, the SWAT officer shall immediately notify the Tactical Commander once it is safe to do so.
- c. The deployment of all NFDDs shall be documented. The documentation shall include:
 - i. A description of the reasons for deployment;
 - ii. A description of the exigent circumstances, if any, leading to the deployment of an NFDD without authorization;
 - iii. The method of deployment;
 - iv. The effects of the deployment;
 - v. A description of any injuries or property damage resulting from the deployment; and
 - vi. An assessment of the outcomes of the deployment:
 1. The serial number of the deployed NFDD shall be noted in the deploying officer's report;
 2. The serial number of the deployed NFDD shall be reported to the on-scene SWAT sergeant at the conclusion of the incident; and
 3. The Tactical Commander will receive a copy of all narrative reports, where a NFDD is used, prior to the end of the subsequent shift unless it is utilized as a use of force.
- d. If an NFDD is deployed inside a structure or near a vehicle with open windows or doors, or if using an NFDD causes injury or results in a complaint of injury, it shall be reported to and investigated by the Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) as a Level 2 use of force.



- e. If using an NFDD results in serious physical injury, hospitalization, or death, it shall be reported to and investigated by IAFD as a Level 3 use of force.
- f. NFDD deployments and structures:
 - i. NFDD deployments inside a structure are considered uses of force: ~~and~~
 - ii. If an NFDD is deployed outside a structure and is used as a means to gain the attention of an individual, it shall not be considered a use of force.
- g. NFDD deployments and vehicles:
 - i. NFDD deployments inside a vehicle are considered a use of force: ~~and~~
 - ii. NFDD deployments used near a vehicle without an intermediate barrier are considered a use of force. If an NFDD is used as a means to gain the attention of an individual who is inside a vehicle or recreational vehicle, it shall not be deployed close enough for the pressure from the NFDD blast to affect the individual. Such a deployment shall be considered a Level 1 use of force unless the individual complains of pain or exhibits signs or symptoms of pain.
- h. If an NFDD fails to detonate, the Bomb Squad shall be contacted immediately and shall respond to employ render safe procedures.
- i. An NFDD shall not be deployed unless the area for which the device is intended to be deployed can be safely cleared of innocent people who could be injured by the device.
- j. NFDD's shall not be used solely for the reason of fleeing suspects.

7 1-92-11 SOD Annual Review

- A. Tactical Section supervisors shall coordinate an annual meeting to take place within the first quarter of the year to analyze the successes or deficiencies of the previous year.
 - 1. Tactical Section supervisors shall discuss policies, procedures, legal developments, training updates, and Force Review Board recommendations.
 - 2. After the meeting, the SOD Commander shall finalize the annual report.