



Las Cruces Police Department
GENERAL ORDERS
FIELD OPERATIONS VOLUME 2
GO-225 SWAT/HNT CALL-OUTS (CRITICAL)
Revised 7/12/2012

225 SWAT / HNT CALL-OUTS

PURPOSE

This General Order establishes procedures for requesting the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team and Hostage Negotiations Team (HNT) for tactical support during high risk incidents.

POLICY

It is the policy of the Las Cruces Police Department (LCPD) to maintain SWAT and HNT for use during incidents involving a threat of loss of life or serious injury.

APPLICABILITY

This General Order applies to all commissioned employees. This General Order supersedes all previous versions.

REFERENCES

- CALEA 46.2.1
- NMML OPR.06.01

225.01 USES FOR SWAT/HNT

- A. SWAT and HNT fall under the command of the Deputy Chief of Operations (DCO). The teams are available for use through an on-call rotational list.
- B. SWAT provides the capability to mitigate high risk or armed resistance through deployment of special tactics by officers with the appropriate training and equipment not readily available to others. SWAT may be utilized for:
 1. Service of high-risk arrest/search warrants.
 2. High risk arrests.
 3. Barricaded subjects / hostage situations.
 4. Injured officer / civilian rescue.



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5. Active shooter
6. High risk fugitive searches
7. Out-of-town operations in accordance with previously established Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with the requesting agency
8. Any incident that involves a high risk to officers.

C. HNT responds with SWAT at the direction of the SWAT Commander. HNT attempts to resolve high risk situations by communicating with suspects to bring about a peaceful resolution with minimal injury or loss of life. HNT shall not respond without SWAT.

225.02 REQUESTING SWAT / HNT

- A. Supervisors have the authority to request SWAT to the scene of a high-risk incident or pre-planned event. The supervisor requesting SWAT shall contact the SWAT Commander and advise him/her of the situation. The SWAT Commander or on-scene supervisor shall authorize the Mesilla Valley Regional Dispatch Authority (MVRDA) to contact on-call team members and order them to respond to the incident.
- B. The supervisor should be prepared to answer questions regarding:
 1. Nature of the incident
 2. Location of the incident
 3. Current tactical situation
 4. Location of a safe staging area
 5. Location of the Command Post (CP)
- C. The SWAT Commander shall determine the number of SWAT/HNT officers needed to respond to an incident.
- D. The DCO or his/her designee shall be notified as soon as practical of SWAT activation.
- E. Pre-planned SWAT operations shall require pre-authorization from the DCO or his/her designee.



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225.03 COMMAND AND ON-SCENE SECURITY

- A. The on-scene supervisor shall act as the Incident Commander (IC) unless relieved by a higher authority. The IC shall:
 - 1. Secure communications
 - 2. Identify the danger zone
 - 3. Establish an inner perimeter
 - 4. Establish an outer perimeter
 - 5. Establish the Command Post (CP)
 - 6. Establish the staging area
 - 7. Request additional resources as needed
 - 8. Coordinate and conduct evacuation of the public or notify the public to shelter in place. If any member of the public refuses to comply with an evacuation notice, such refusal shall be logged with MVRDA.
 - 9. Keep the chain of command informed of the ongoing incident
- B. The IC may delegate individual responsibilities but shall retain overall responsibility for the incident.
- C. The SWAT Team Commander shall report to the IC. The IC shall provide direction as to the desired outcome and shall work with the SWAT Commander to achieve an appropriate resolution to the situation. The IC shall assist the SWAT Commander but retain logistical and overall responsibility for the incident.
- D. The SWAT Commander shall be in tactical command of the incident and be responsible for tactical deployment and operations of SWAT/HNT personnel.
- E. In the event an incident becomes immediately life threatening, and SWAT has yet to arrive on scene, officers present shall take action necessary to address and stabilize the situation on their own initiative as appropriate.



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225.04 FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATIONS

Once the incident is resolved and the scene is secure, the IC shall designate officers or request the Criminal Investigation Section (CIS) to conduct any follow-up investigation as needed and the SWAT team shall be relieved.

225.05 SWAT/HNT DEBRIEFING AND REPORTS

Upon completion of a SWAT/HNT deployment, all team members shall return to a designated location and conduct an after-action debriefing pertaining to the call-out. All SWAT/HNT personnel involved will call in a supplement report indicating their actions and responsibilities during the call-out. The SWAT/HNT Commander shall also complete an after-action report of the incident.