MESQUITE POLICE DEPARTMENT



238.00 BARRICADED SUSPECTS AND HOSTAGE INCIDENT RESPONSE

Effective Date: March, 2013

Approved: Chief of Police

I. Policy Statement

A. The policy of the Mesquite Police Department is to deal with barricaded suspects in a safe and effective manner. Officers involved with barricaded subjects and hostage incidents should strive for a safe resolution and release of any hostages involved to minimize the risk to the community, police personnel and apprehend offender(s) safely.

II. Definitions

- A. Barricaded Subject: An incident in which a person has secured themselves in a location (including vehicles) that has been made inaccessible to law enforcement and that person is reasonably believed to have threatened suicide, threatened to inflict injury or death, or has inflicted injury or death on law enforcement officers or other persons.
- B. Hostage Situation: An incident in which one or more person(s) holds another person against their will with the use, or threatened use of force.
- C. Inner Perimeter: Consists of personnel placement as close to the objective as possible using covered positions. This provides 360-degree visibility and suspect containment at the objective along with the best possible platform for intelligence gathering.
- D. Outer Perimeter: Consists of personnel placement normally surrounding the affected city block, but at all times out of the line of sight and fire from the objective. The outer perimeter will cut off all avenues of approach to the objective allowing no person to breech the outer perimeter. The outer perimeter provides for the safety of personnel operating within the inner perimeter.

III. Procedures

- A. Upon arrival at the scene of an incident, officers should determine the nature of the offense and begin stabilization of the incident. This includes the following:
 - 1. Notify an on-duty patrol supervisor of the incident and circumstance.
 - 2. Set up and maintain Inner Perimeter
 - 3. Set up and maintain Outer Perimeter
 - 4. Establish a 3-4 man team to react to potential threats.
 - 5. Evacuation of people in effected area.
 - 6. Establish temporary/permanent command post sites.
 - 7. Intelligence gathering and reporting of pertinent events.
- B. Supervisor responsibilities
 - 1. Determine what offense, if any has been committed based upon information known at the time.
 - 2. Proper perimeters have been established.
 - 3. A team has been established to react to threats.
 - 4. Affected areas have been evacuated if appropriate
 - 5. Diagrams of location have been obtained, if possible.
 - 6. Officer roster with each officer's location has been completed.
 - 7. Determine if the Tactical Unit is needed, and if so, notify the on-duty Watch Commander.

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