LANCASTER POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

Effective Date September 2, 201	5	Amended Date September 30, 2016	Directive 8.04.1	
Subject Tactical Team Ac	tivation and Respon	se	D 10 1	1
Reference		Approved	Chief of Police	anh-
Distribution All Personnel City Manager City Attorney	TPCA Best Program Refer		Review Date September 30, 2016	Pages

This Operations Directive is for internal use only and does not enhance an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as a creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this Operations Directive, if proven, may only form the basis for a complaint by this Department, and only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

SECTION 1 PURPOSE

This directive establishes the Lancaster Police Department and Southwest Regional Response Group—Special Response Team (SRRG-SRT) and authorize a procedures manual that will govern the operations of the team.

SECTION 2 POLICY

It is recognized that the presence of a highly trained, highly skilled police tactical unit has shown to substantially reduce the risk of injury or loss of life, and be successful in resolving critical incidents. It is the intent of the Lancaster Police Department to provide a highly trained and skilled SRT as a valuable resource tool in handling directed assignments and critical or unusual incidents.

SECTION 3 PROCEDURES

A. COMMAND SYSTEM

- The SRRG-SRT provides police personnel to respond dynamically to critical or unusual incidents that could also require assistance from other Lancaster city departments and surrounding agencies. For this reason, the incident command system will be utilized when the SRRG-SRT is activated.
- 2. SRRG-SRT members become subordinate to the SRRG-SRT Commander until the incident is determined to be over and the "stand down" order is given. SRRG-SRT members will then return to their prior assignments.

B. APPROVED RESPONSES (TPCA 8.05)

- 1. The SRRG-SRT may be activated for the following incidents:
 - a. terrorist and sniper incidents;
 - b. bomb threats:

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- c. hostage situations and barricaded persons;
- d. civil unrest/riots;
- e. mass casualty and mass arrest incidents;
- f. hazardous materials incidents;
- g. fallen aircraft;
- h. evacuations;
- i. natural disasters;
- j. high-risk search and arrest warrants
- 2. The Chief of Police may also use the SRRG-SRT for VIP protection and special assignments, as directed, without utilizing the incident command system.

C. ACTIVATION PROCEDURES

- 1. SRRG-SRT activation will take priority over all other assignments within the Lancaster Police Department.
- 2. All supervisors have the authority to request activation of the SRRG-SRT for critical or unusual incidents within the city's jurisdiction.
- 3. Request for unit activation must be made to the SRRG-SRT commander. The SRRG-SRT commander may be contacted by:
 - a. pager;
 - b. telephone;
 - c. radio;
 - d. mobile computer terminal; or
 - e. in person
- 4. Activation of the SRRG-SRT for incidents outside the city's jurisdiction requires the approval of the Chief of Police. Only the SRT Commander or the Chief of Police may activate the unit, in accordance with the SRRG-SRT Operations Manual.

D. SRRG-SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM OPERATIONS MANUAL

1. The Chief of Police authorizes the SRRG-SRT Operations Manual (manual) to serve as the policy and procedure manual for the SRRG-SRT.

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- 2. The manual shall minimally address:
 - a. the composition and selection process of SRRG-SRT members; (TPCA 8.03, 8.04)
 - b. guidelines relating to activation and approved responses;
 - c. operating procedures; (TPCA 8.05)
 - d. command structure during critical or unusual incidents;
 - e. training and frequency of training for the unit and for negotiators; (TPCA 3.10, 3.11)
 - f. equipment and approved weapons; (TPCA 8.06)
 - g. rules of engagement; and
 - h. after action critiques and reports

E. SRRG-SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM EQUIPMENT INSPECTION (TPCA 8.06)

- 1. SRRG-SRT members are issued different types of equipment that is needed.
- 2. All equipment issued by SRRG-SRT to department officers assigned to SRT will be documented on the SRT Equipment List.
- 3. The SRT Equipment List will at minimum contain the following information:
 - a. type of equipment issued;
 - b. how many were issued; and
 - c. who the equipment was issued to
- 4. The department officer's Division Commander will conduct a quarterly inspection of all equipment issued to the officer by SRRG-SRT.

F. SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

- 1. All members of the department shall know and comply with all aspects of this directive.
- 2. All Division Commanders and supervisory personnel are responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions and intent of this directive.