



Series 200 Operations	Effective Date 12/16/2022	Review Date Two Years	Directive Number 205.6
Chapter 205 - Emergency Procedures			
Reviewing Office Special Response Team			<input type="checkbox"/> New Directive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
References			

ARMED AND BARRICADED PERSONS

205.6 - 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this directive is to establish guidelines and response actions concerning armed barricaded persons.

205.6 - 2 POLICY

An armed barricaded person situation is defined as a person armed with a firearm or other weapon capable of inflicting fatal or serious injury to themselves or others and has barricaded himself/herself within any building or location. Members responding to an armed barricaded person incident shall utilize the Incident Command System (ICS).

205.6 - 3 Procedure

1. The first officers arriving at a scene of a suspected or actual armed barricaded person shall make no effort to rush the building prior to the arrival of a supervisor. It is imperative that the responding officers and supervisor(s) immediately coordinate the containment of the situation by covering all exits and ensuring the person does not escape. The officers shall assess the situation and notify the zone dispatcher. The zone dispatcher shall relay the information to the patrol supervisor, notify the officer in charge of the precinct station desk, and send the requested assistance including the patrol supervisor. All responding members should adhere to the following response procedures:
 - a. Only those units dispatched to the scene of an armed barricaded person should respond;
 - b. Use extreme caution and park a distance away from the armed barricaded person;
 - c. Ensure open access for emergency vehicles;
 - d. Do not abandon police vehicles blocking access; and
 - e. Utilize cover and concealment.

2. In those instances where members or citizens are being fired upon, members shall keep under cover, attempt to determine the source, and immediately relay that

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information to the zone dispatcher. Members shall maintain firearms discipline. Under no circumstances shall there be indiscriminate firing at the building or at streetlights. The responding patrol supervisor has the following responsibilities:

- a. Determine if an armed barricaded person situation exists;
- b. If necessary, declare an armed barricaded situation;
- c. Determine the nature and seriousness of the offense committed;
- d. Notify the zone dispatcher; and
- e. Assume the role of incident commander until properly relieved.

205.6 - 4 Special Response Team (SRT)

1. Upon notification from the Control Desk of an armed barricaded person, the SRT shall respond to the scene. Further, initial responding units shall deploy to secure the inner perimeter around the target location. In the event it is unsafe to relieve precinct personnel prior to the arrival of SRT, the incident commander will notify the zone dispatcher of designated units to respond to calls for service.
2. The incident commander will assign a mission to the SRT. The commanding officer of the SRT shall assess the situation and select appropriate tactics to be employed. Due to the specialized training afforded the SRT, the actual tactics employed remain the responsibility of the commanding officer of the SRT, subject to review and final approval by the Chief of Police, assistant chief of the Office of Neighborhood Policing or in their absence, the incident commander.

205.6 - 4.1 Containment

The first tactical consideration should be containing the subject and attempting to convince the subject to surrender. A telephone or a loud hailer can be used to make this contact. The longer the subject is given to consider alternatives, the more likely it is that the subject will realize the futility of his/her position. Prior to dispensing a chemical agent or initiating a tactical entry into the building, an attempt must be made to contact the occupants of the building.

205.6 - 4.2 Tactical Alternatives

Once the subject is isolated and escape has been blocked, time becomes a prime defensive tool. At this point the incident commander can consider alternative actions and consider the possible consequences of each.

205.6 - 4.3 Chemical Agent

The use of a chemical agent to force the subject from the building is a second tactical consideration. The decision to deploy a chemical agent will be that of the incident commander when the situation is life threatening. Chemical agents will not be used in tactical situations which are non-life threatening without specific authorization from the Chief of Police or the appropriate deputy chief after full review of the facts in a given situation.

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205.6 - 4.4 Tactical Entry

A tactical entry would normally be attempted when all else has failed and there is imminent danger of serious injury or death to officers or citizens. Prior to authorizing a tactical entry, the incident commander must assess all possible consequences of this action.

205.6 - 5 Hostage Situations

1. Hostage Situations may arise from police intervention in various activities: responses to in-progress crimes, family trouble runs, visits from foreign officials or dignitaries, etc.
2. Depending on the situation, a hostage-taker can be classified as one (1) of three (3) basic types: the criminal caught in a criminal act, the sociopath, or the terrorist. Each of these situations is highly volatile for different reasons. No one approach is adequate to deal with situations as diverse as these.
3. However, members shall bear in mind that in hostage situations, the guiding principle shall be the preservation of human life. All Department members must also be cognizant that a hostage situation may turn into an active shooter/assailant situation, and an active shooter/assailant situation may turn into a hostage situation, in which case responding officers and supervisors **MUST** be able to recognize this and formulate a “hasty” entry plan and be ready to execute that plan in order to save innocent lives should this happen prior to the arrival of the SRT.