

CITY OF BARSTOW

CALIFORNIA

POLICIES and PROCEDURES MANUAL:

POLICE

Subject: SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (S.R.T.)

I. Introduction

The Barstow Police Department has developed a special unit to conduct high risk entries and other special tactical operations. This detail is identified as the Special Response Team (S.R.T.) Officers chosen for this team shall be specially equipped and trained to deal with unusual tactical situations. The goal of S.R.T. is the effective response to a given incident; with a minimum of force and the prevention of injuries.

Although the S.R.T.'s primary function will be the serving of search and arrest warrants, they may be called upon to deal with other tactical situations:

- . Barricade and hostage incidents
- . Riots or other major disorders
- . Natural disaster/mutual aid
- . V.I.P. security

II. Unit Staffing

The Barstow Police Department S.R.T. shall consist of the following members:

- A. Team Commander-shall have a rank of sergeant
- B. Team Leader-shall have a rank of corporal or have a minimum of four years of field experience.
- C. Five Team Members.

III. Personnel Selection

S.R.T. members are to be selected based on the following:

- . Maturity and decision making ability
- . Loyalty to department and interest in S.R.T. Program
- . Proficiency in present position
- . Physical ability
- . Ability to perform tactical functions
- . Proficiency with weapons and tactical equipment

Reference:

Effective Date

Revision No.

Section

10/01/92

1

Page 1 of 5

337

CITY OF BARSTOW

CALIFORNIA

POLICIES and PROCEDURES MANUAL: POLICE

Subject: SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (S.R.T.)

- Willingness to assume extra duties for training and operational situations

The selection of personnel for S.R.T. shall be made by the Chief of Police with the assistance of the Patrol Commander and the S.R.T. Commander. Officers assigned to the Detective Division will not normally be eligible for the S.R.T.

Personnel may be removed from the S.R.T. if at any time their physical fitness, competence, or availability fails to meet expected standards.

IV. Equipment

All S.R.T. personnel shall wear the following equipment for S.R.T. training and actual tactical situations.

1. Black fatigues
2. Baseball cap, watch cap or helmet with shield
3. Jump or combat-type boots
4. Approved bullet proof vest
5. Approved load vests

All S.R.T. personnel shall use the following equipment as assigned:

1. Department approved or department issued sidearm
2. Leather or canvas belt, holster, ammo pouch, and handcuff holder
3. Pair of handcuffs
4. Streamlight flashlight
5. MP5 2A submachine guns
6. Benelli 12 ga. entry guns
7. Mini 14 semi-automatic rifles
8. Remington 870 shotgun
9. Mini 14 automatic rifle
10. AR 15 semi-automatic rifles
11. 30-06 and 234 cal. sniper rifles
12. Explosive diversion devices
13. Other tactical weapons and chemicals as needed
14. Communication equipment

Reference:

Effective Date	Revision No.	Section
10/01/92	1	2 . 5 337

CITY OF BARSTOW

CALIFORNIA

POLICIES and PROCEDURES MANUAL: POLICE

Subject: SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (S.R.T.) continued

V. Training

Personnel chosen for the S.R.T. shall attend a certified SWAT school as soon as practical. Monthly training shall be conducted by the team commander and other members having completed SWAT training.

Monthly training shall consist of eight hours per month of assigned tactical exercises and weapons training.

VI. Operational Policy

The S.R.T.'s potential capability is based on training available, equipment acquisition, and the dedication of its members. Although the S.R.T. will be used primarily as a entry team, it may also be used for other tactical situations.

A. Use of S.R.T. for Warrant Service

Requests for the use of the S.R.T. for high risk warrant service shall be directed to the Patrol Division Commander. Upon approval, the request shall be directed to the S.R.T. Commander. In most cases the need for the S.R.T. will come from the Detective Division. If at all possible, requests should be made at least 24 hours prior to the anticipated time of warrant service.

The requesting detective shall have the following information available:

1. Accurate address and description of location to be served
2. Names and descriptions of suspects (photos if possible)
3. Floor plan
4. Possibility of weapons
5. Location of evidence
6. Estimate of persons in residence
7. Past history of suspects

Reference:

Effective Date

10/01/92

Revision No.

1

Section

Page 3 of 5

337

CITY OF BARSTOW

CALIFORNIA

POLICIES and PROCEDURES MANUAL: POLICE

Subject: SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (S.R.T.) continued

The detective shall accompany the team commander and/or team leader to the location. Photographs and diagrams will then be prepared.

The S.R.T. shall meet with the assigned detectives and other involved personnel prior to warrant service. The tactical entry procedure shall be explained at that time.

The actual entry shall be made by S.R.T. members only. Perimeter security, crowd and/or traffic control will be handled by non-S.R.T. personnel. Once entry is made and all occupants have been either arrested or neutralized, the team commander shall issue a code four.

Involved detectives shall then take control of the scene for search and processing of suspects.

B. Use of S.R.T. for Barricaded Suspect and Hostage Situations

1. All barricaded and hostage situations shall be handled by the S.R.T. The on-duty watch commander shall call out team members and the hostage negotiator upon approval of the Chief of Police or Patrol Division Commander.
2. When the S.R.T. arrives at the scene and has been properly apprised of the situation, the S.R.T. commander shall take charge of the actual incident scene and inner perimeter. The on-duty watch commander shall continue to be responsible for the security of the outer perimeter, crowd control and the media. (At no time shall the media be allowed to make contact with S.R.T. personnel).
3. All responsible and practical means to insure the safety of the hostages and the suspect shall be utilized. However, the safety of officers, hostages and innocent parties shall not be jeopardized to the benefit of the suspect.
4. A tactical plan shall be prepared by the S.R.T. commander and approved by the most senior supervisor present. This plan may include the forced entry, or the use of special weapons and chemicals if necessary.

Reference:

Effective Date

Revision No.

Section

10/01/92

1

Page 4 of 5

337

CITY OF BARSTOW

CALIFORNIA

POLICIES and PROCEDURES MANUAL: POLICE

Subject: SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (S.R.T.) continued

5. If negotiations fail, S.R.T. may then make entry and neutralize the suspects. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the use of necessary force, deadly or otherwise, by the members of S.R.T. to protect themselves and others from death or serious injury.
6. In those circumstances where it is determined that more assistance is needed, other SWAT units in San Bernardino County may be called for assistance. Any request for allied agency assistance must be with the approval of the Chief of Police or Patrol Division Commander.

VI. Debriefing

All operations conducted by S.R.T. shall be debriefed as soon as possible. Members are encouraged to be totally candid, with no consideration to rank. The debriefing process is the most valuable training tool available. Additionally, a properly conducted debriefing does much to lower the stress level created by a high risk incident.

VII. Documentation

The S.R.T. commander shall be responsible for the assignment of reports regarding S.R.T. operations. The team leader shall maintain ongoing logs concerning S.R.T. activities. These dates/time logs shall include the following:

1. special and on-going training
2. personnel availability
3. equipment usage
4. time spent on operations
5. actual witnesses and related operations
6. documentation as to any injuries to team members or any persons involved
7. any damage to scene as a result of S.R.T. operation

VIII. S.R.T. Call Out

When a decision has been made to have the S.R.T. respond to an incident, the dispatcher shall first call the Patrol Division Commander, or in his absence, the S.R.T. Commander. It shall then be the responsibility of Patrol Commander and S.R.T. Commander to make notification to all other team members.

Reference:

Effective Date

Revision No.

Section

10/01/92

1

Page 5 of 5

337