
Special Response Team (SRT)

459.1 INTRODUCTION

The Barstow Police Department has developed a special unit to conduct high risk entries and other special tactical operations. This unit is identified as the Special Response Team (SRT). Officers chosen for this team shall be specially trained and equipped to deal with unusual tactical situations. The goal of the Special Response Team is the effective response and resolution of high risk critical incidents utilizing the minimal amount of force to prevent injuries.

Although the Special Response Team's primary function will be the serving of high risk search and arrest warrants, they may be called upon to deal with additional tactical situations to include:

- Barricade and hostage incidents
- Riots and other major disorders
- Natural Disasters
- Mutual Aid Requests
- Dignitary protection

459.2 UNIT STAFFING

The Barstow Police Department Special Response Team shall consist of an entry element and a sniper element. The special response team shall consist of the following members:

- Team Commander - shall have the rank of Lieutenant or above
- Two Team Leaders - shall have the rank of Sergeant
- Eight Team Members

459.3 TEAM MEMBER SELECTION

The selection of personnel for the Special Response Team shall be made by the Chief of Police with assistance from the Captain and SRT Commander. The selection process will be in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Promotional and Special Duty Assignments policy. SRT members will also be selected based on the following additional criteria:

- Maturity and decision making ability
- Physical ability
- Proficiency with weapons and tactical equipment
- Ability to perform tactical functions
- Successful completion of the SRT physical fitness course
- Successful completion of the SRT firearms qualifications course with a score of 90% or above

Barstow Police Department

Barstow PD CA Policy Manual

Special Response Team (SRT)

Personnel may be removed from the special response team if at any time their physical fitness, competence, or availability fails to meet expected standards.

459.4 TRAINING

All members selected to the Special Response Team shall attend a POST certified SWAT school as soon as practical. Monthly training shall be conducted by the team leaders with the assistance from any other members that have successfully completed a certified SWAT school.

Monthly training shall consist of twelve hours per month of assigned tactical exercises and firearms training. All SRT members shall complete the monthly firearms qualifications course for all weapon systems with a score of 90% or above. Any member who fails to meet the firearms qualifications standards shall be suspended from the team until a remediation test can be conducted. The Chief of Police may remove those members from the team who fail to pass the firearms qualifications during a remediation.

Members of the SRT assigned to the Sniper element will conduct an additional four hours of training per month.

All SRT members shall successfully pass the SRT physical fitness test twice a year. Any member who fails to meet the physical fitness requirements shall be suspended from the team until a remediation test can be conducted.

459.5 EQUIPMENT

All SRT personnel must be trained to operate any of the equipment assigned specifically to the Special Response Team to include but not limited to the following:

- (a) 37mm Launchers and munitions.
- (b) Recon Scout Robot
 - i. The Recon Scout shall only be used for official law enforcement purposes and in a manner that respects the privacy of our community members pursuant to state and federal law.
- (c) Remington.308 Caliber Model 700 Long Rifle
- (d) SIG SAUER 516 SWAT 11.5" Operator.223 Caliber Rifle
- (e) All Chemical Agents and Smoke canisters and Ferret Rounds
 - i. Only officers who have received POST certified training in the use and deployment of chemical agents are authorized to used chemical agents.
- (f) Distraction Devices
 - i. Only officers who have received POST certified training in the use of Distraction/ Diversionary Devices are authorized to use Distraction/Diversionary devices.

SRT equipment shall not be taken home without approval from the Special Response Team Commander. Equipment taken home must be properly secured in the truck of a City owned vehicle or in the officer's residence.

Barstow Police Department

Barstow PD CA Policy Manual

Special Response Team (SRT)

All SRT equipment shall be used for official law enforcement purposes only and in accordance with this policy, state, and federal law.