



# COTTAGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

## GENERAL ORDER

### SUBJECT: **REQUESTING PG COUNTY POLICE (SERT)**

### NEW REVISED RESCINDS

APPROVED: *GM*  
GEORGIA MILTENBERGER  
ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE

Effective Date 8/22/2018

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#### **I. POLICY**

- A. The Department will have procedures for officers from the perspective as first-responders when officers are called upon to respond to situations in which a person is barricaded in a room, building, or vehicle, or an apparent docile situation to which an officer has already responded, WHICH has erupted into a confrontation with police. {CALEA 46.1.4}
- B. A barricaded situation is an incident where an individual is believed to be armed and is committing or has committed some criminal act and/or is holding a hostage and it is apparent the individual intends to unlawfully defend a fixed position against police entry.

#### **II. EVALUATING THE NEED FOR ERT AND SWAT CALL-OUT**

- A. First-Arriving Officer's Responsibilities
  - 1. Officers dispatched to an incident where a hostage has already been taken or a person has already barricaded himself/herself will evaluate the situation to determine the need for activation of SERT.
  - 2. Request Communications to alert SERT.
  - 3. Request the supervisor and the PGPD on-duty Supervisor to respond, unless already on the scene or in route.

After the Sergeant/supervisor arrives and assesses the situation, he/she will ensure that Command Staff are notified and establish a command post.

4. Take immediate steps, prior to the Sergeant/supervisor's arrival, to ensure the protection of innocent persons in the immediate area and attempt to avoid confrontation in favor of controlling and containing the situation until the arrival of SERT.
5. Request additional officers to:
  - a. Respond to the scene for containment and to establish inner and outer perimeters until SERT arrives and take-up the inner perimeter.
  - b. Assist with diverting vehicular and pedestrian traffic away from the area.
  - c. Evacuate injured persons those in imminent danger and bystanders to a safe area beyond the outer perimeter if this can be done safely.
6. It is imperative that firearms discipline be maintained, especially if a hostage has been taken. Officers must refrain from engaging in fire fights, except to defend the officers or other persons in danger, or to provide cover for personnel engaged in evacuating wounded persons.
7. Isolate all witnesses and evacuated persons for identification and debriefing.
8. Request Fire/Rescue and any other resources from communications (i.e., K-9, air support) and advise communications where the apparatus is to respond or stage until needed.
9. Brief the first-arriving supervisor/Ole and assist him/her as needed.
10. Attempt to gather the following information so that officers of higher rank, members of the SERT can be briefed upon their arrival:
  - a. The location of family members of the hostage-taker/barricaded person.
  - b. The hostage-taker/barricaded person's medical history.
  - c. The names and locations of medical personnel who are/have been caring for the hostage-taker/barricaded person.

- d. The hostage-taker/barricaded person's phone number.
  - e. The number of hostages that have been taken, their ages, names, and nature of their injuries, if any.
11. Once trained Hostage Negotiators have begun a dialogue with the hostage-taker/barricaded person, no officer will become involved in negotiations with the hostage-taker/barricaded person unless directed to do so by the Hostage Negotiation Team Manager.
  12. Once the Hostage Negotiation Team Manager arrives, all personnel at the scene will be placed under his/her command and communications among and between PGPD and Cottage City Officers will be on a radio frequency designated by the Team Manger.
  13. If members of the media have gathered, the Team Manager will be notified. Members from this Department will not speak with the media representatives about the incident, unless directed to do so by the Team Manager.

Since this incident involves a mutual response by this Department and PGPD, the Team Manager will most likely request communications to have a representative from PGPD Public Information Office to respond and brief members of the media.

14. The SERT Team will relieve patrol officers and maintain the inner perimeter during the negotiation process, and will also develop and implement tactical plans, evacuate civilians as necessary, communicate with the Team Manager, assume command of the situation when negotiations are terminated and conduct tactical operations to resolve the situation. At the conclusion of the situation, relinquish control of the inner perimeter and location of occurrence to the District Investigative personnel.
  - If at any time during the negotiation process, the Team Manager finds it necessary to terminate negotiations either at his/her own discretion or upon the recommendation of the negotiators, command of the incident will be relinquished to the senior tactical officer for resolution of the incident. Authority for the use of force and chemical agents rests with the senior tactical officer.
15. The Team Manager will determine and arrange for the need for pursuit/surveillance vehicles and the control of travel routes. If Cottage City vehicles are assigned as

pursuit or surveillance vehicles, the actions of the officers operating them will be governed by our General Orders on Pursuit and Road blocks.

16. After the incident's resolution, the Team Manager will arrange for a critique of the incident and all Department personnel who were involved will participate, unless excused by the Team Manager. Each officer will coordinate with the Team Manager and the officer assigned to write the report so that each officer is identified in the report and the actions each took are documented.
- B. If a call-for-service results in a hostage/ barricade situation, officers will:
1. Assume a position of safety.
  2. Immediately advise communications of the situation.
  3. Request a 10-3 on the radio channel.
  4. Direct additional responding officers to the scene, taking into consideration fields-of-fire and potential hazards generated by the hostage-taker/barricaded person.
  5. Request Fire/Rescue apparatus and specify what type is needed (ladder truck, ambulance, etc.), and direct them to a safe staging area until needed.
  6. As time and man power permits, select a safe staging area for the media personnel to gather and inform PGPD Public Information Office personnel of the location.
  7. Follow the procedures listed in Section II, A of this General Order.