

## GENERAL ORDER 46

### CRITICAL INCIDENTS, SPECIAL OPERATIONS, AND HOMELAND SECURITY

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: 46.2.1

#### INDEX OF STANDARDS

##### **46.1 CRITICAL INCIDENTS**

- 46.1.1 PRINCIPAL PLANNER AND ADVISOR IN CRITICAL INCIDENTS
- 46.1.2 "ALL HAZARD" PLAN
- 46.1.3 COMMAND FUNCTION
- 46.1.4 OPERATIONS FUNCTION
- 46.1.5 PLANNING FUNCTION
- 46.1.6 LOGISTICS FUNCTION
- 46.1.7 FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION FUNCTION
- 46.1.8 INSPECTIONS FOR OPERATIONAL READINESS OF EQUIPMENT
- 46.1.9 DOCUMENTED ANNUAL TRAINING ON THE "ALL HAZARD" PLAN
- 46.1.10 ACTIVE THREATS

##### **46.2 SPECIAL OPERATIONS**

- 46.2.1 PROCEDURES FOR SPECIAL OPERATIONS ACTIVITIES
- 46.2.2 TACTICAL TEAM SELECTION
- 46.2.3 TACTICAL TEAM EQUIPMENT
- 46.2.4 N/A
- 46.2.5 N/A
- 46.2.6 VIP PLAN
- 46.2.7 SPECIAL EVENTS PLAN

##### **46.3 HOMELAND SECURITY**

- 46.3.1 AGENCY LIAISON
- 46.3.2 PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING TERRORISM RELATED INFORMATION
- 46.3.3 TERRORISM AWARENESS INFORMATION
- 46.3.4 HAZMAT AWARENESS

**PURPOSE:** These orders outline policies and procedures for response to man-made or natural disasters and specify the relationships with other emergency providers.

## 46.1 CRITICAL INCIDENTS

The following general orders (standards) are covered in the Dublin Division of Police Emergency Operations Plan: 46.1.1, 46.1.2, 46.1.3, 46.1.4, 46.1.5, 46.1.6, 46.1.7, 46.1.8, and 46.1.9. The Dublin Division of Police “Emergency Operations Plan” is an “all hazards” plan and the written plan for responding to critical incidents such as: natural and man-made disasters, civil disturbances, mass arrests, bomb threats, hostage/barricaded person situations, acts of terrorism, and other unusual incidents.

### 46.1.10 ACTIVE THREATS

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for assessing threats and performing rapid intervention tactics to limit serious injury or loss of life during active threat situations. While the term “active shooter” is commonly used to describe this type of threat this policy applies to all situations where there is an active, ongoing deadly threat, to include threats from firearms, explosives, knives, etc. In situations where ongoing deadly force is reasonably likely to be employed by a suspect(s) and delay in taking police action could result in injury or death it is the policy of the Dublin Division of Police that rapid intervention of officers at the scene is authorized when such actions are deemed reasonable to prevent further injuries or loss of life. For detailed procedures, please refer to the Standalone directive on Active Threats.

## 46.2 SPECIAL OPERATIONS

### 46.2.1 SPECIAL OPERATIONS PROCEDURES

A. **Responsibilities those agency personnel are to assume until assistance arrives:** In the event of an incident or event that requires outside special operations assistance (i.e. SWAT), Dublin Division of Police personnel will assume the following responsibilities until assistance arrives:

- **Avoiding confrontation:** Officers responding to a hostage or barricaded person situation should avoid confrontation in favor of controlling or containing such a situation until trained personnel arrive.
- **QUAD response:** If circumstances arise that indicate an immediate threat to life or personal safety, e.g. hostages have already been injured or killed and some other indication exists of an imminent threat to persons, the responding officer(s) shall make notification of such threat or circumstances and shall be prepared to enter the property to mitigate the hazard, i.e. locate and neutralize the threat to persons, preferably with a team of officers. Officers shall only respond in such manner if the threat is imminent and if other resources are not immediately available and/or there are no other viable alternatives.
  - **Tactical Equipment:** Due the unpredictability of a potential QUAD response or other high risk situation, officers shall have in their cruisers ballistic helmets and rifle-plated vests in the issued carry cases during their normal patrol duty assignments. Officers shall put on the ballistic helmets and rifle-plated vest (when the equipment is immediately available) when responding to calls where there is great likelihood of criminal gunfire (example armed bank robbery, Active Shooter/Quad response, etc.) While in uniform, sworn

personnel shall also all be issued, and required to carry on their person, a tourniquet to apply in the event of injury with traumatic bleeding of a limb.

- **Establishing Perimeters; See 46.1.4(A):** The officer in charge of the scene or incident commander shall be initially responsible for establishing an inside and outside perimeter.
  - The **inner perimeter** will be limited to personnel immediately involved in the incident/event situation. Upon guidance from the Incident Commander or SWAT, anyone exiting the inner perimeter should be identified and interviewed (if deemed necessary).
  - Personnel at the **outer perimeter** should focus on the safe movement of traffic and pedestrians and should control access to the operations area. For instances involving actual or suspected criminal or terrorist acts, the **outer perimeter** should be established to ensure only authorized personnel are allowed in to the area and that no persons exit the area without being identified, without information being recorded, and (preferably) without being interview/interrogated about activities inside the scene.
- **Conducting Evacuations; See 46.1.4(B):** The purpose of the evacuation is to ensure the safe and orderly movement and relocation of people threatened by the hazards of the critical incident the jurisdiction faces. The actual method of contact will be determined by the type of incident. Time constraints and resources will also be a factor in what method is used to notify citizens of an evacuation.
  - Once the evacuation boundary lines have been established by the Incident Commander, the Incident Commander may authorize an emergency broadcast notification to the affected area using the **Dublin Emergency Calling System (DECS)**. The DECS message should include at a minimum the following: request to evacuate, general circumstances of the event, and relocation point(s). At the conclusion of the broadcast notification, a report shall be made immediately and forwarded to the Incident Commander advising who had been contacted and who had not been contacted.
  - In addition to DECS, the Incident Commander may consider using the Dublin Emergency Warning System (DEWS), the city's 1610AM radio, and/or assign officers to assist with evacuation operations.
  - **Hostage/Barricade Evacuation locations** may be established to identify, interview and/or interrogate witnesses or suspects; to provide support resources to persons removed from the scene; and other areas as needed. These evacuation locations will be established by the Incident Commander or SWAT Team Leader.
  - If at all possible, **injured victims shall be evacuated** without threatening the safety of responding agency personnel.

**B. Deployment of tactical teams:** If and when tactical teams are needed, they will normally be requested from the City of Columbus Police Department through the Operations Bureau Commander or the Chief of Police.

- If the Columbus Police Department SWAT Team is unavailable, the agency may consider the use of Delaware County Tactical Team or Franklin County Sheriff's Department.
- Some circumstances may require the shift supervisor to bypass the chain of command when such notification process would adversely affect the resolution of the incident, in that case the shift supervisor may request the SWAT team and shall notify the Operations Bureau Commander or in his/her absence the Services Bureau Commander as soon as practical.
- If a tactical team is requested from another agency, Division personnel will control and contain the

situation pending their arrival.

**C. Coordination of activities:** In the event of a special operation requiring outside assistance, tactical teams, and/or other operational support, the Incident Command System will be activated to ensure cooperation, control, and coordination during the event or incident. Coordination and cooperation between this agency, SWAT, and other supporting operational components will be the responsibility of the Division's Incident Commander.

#### **46.2.2: OFFICER SELECTION CRITERIA**

Any sworn member of this agency may be called to act in an emergency and in response to a civil disturbance or unlawful demonstration. Certain officers, however, will be selected to form a specialized crowd control unit. Members of this unit will be assigned on an ancillary basis, and will be called upon as needed. The steps involved in the selection process for this unit are addressed in the Standalone directive on Responding to Civil Disturbances.

#### **46.2.3: SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT**

All members of the Division assigned to the Crowd Control Unit will be issued specialized equipment. This is detailed in the Standalone Directive on Responding to Civil Disturbances.

#### **46.2.4 N/A**

#### **46.2.5 N/A**

#### **46.2.6 VIP PLAN**

The Dublin Division of Police "Comprehensive Plan for Security of VIP's and Special Events" is the written plan for handling the security of VIP's, to include: the designation of the coordinator for any given security detail; equipment requirements, to include consideration of vehicles, body armor for VIP's and security officers, and weapons for officers; instructions for planning and reconnoitering travel routes and alternates; advance inspection for gathering intelligence information; coordination of operations within the agency and with outside agencies; identification of EMS providers; communications; and identification by designation.

#### **46.2.7 SPECIAL EVENTS PLAN**

The Dublin Division of Police "Comprehensive Plan for Security of VIP's and Special Events" is the written plan for handling special events, to include: the designation of the coordinator for any given event; written estimate of traffic, crowd control, and crime problems expected for any given event; contingency plan for traffic direction and control; use of special operation personnel; logistical requirements; coordination inside and outside the agency; and after-action report.

### **46.3 HOMELAND SECURITY**

#### **46.3.1 AGENCY LIAISON**

The Detective-Sergeant for the Dublin Division of Police will be the liaison with other organizations for the

exchange of information relating to terrorism. Specifically, the Detective-Sergeant will liaison with the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (Columbus, Ohio), the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, and/or the State of Ohio's Homeland Security Agency in reference to matters or information relating to terrorism.

The exchange of information should facilitate information sharing and multi-jurisdictional preemption of terrorist acts or events. Private agencies (i.e. corporate security) should be considered for participation in information sharing as necessary for various situations.

#### **46.3.2 PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING TERRORISM RELATED INFORMATION**

If an officer encounters a LEADS/NCIC response on a subject that contains a Terrorist Screening Center Handling Code, the following is the response guidelines:

- **Handling Code 1 – Warning – Approach With Caution.** Arrest this individual. This individual is associated with terrorism. Once this individual is arrested, immediately contact the Terrorist Screening Center at (866) 872-9001 for additional directions. If the individual has a handling code of 1, they are considered wanted by the FBI. The FBI will respond to the scene or our facility to take custody of the suspect and should provide us with appropriate documentation as to why we took custody of the suspect.
- **Handling Code 2 – Warning – Approach With Caution.** Please detain the individual for a reasonable amount of time for questioning. This individual is of investigative interest regarding association with terrorism. Immediately contact the Terrorist Screening Center at (866) 872-9001 for additional direction. If the suspect has a Handling Code 2, we should detain the suspect while we contact the TSC and they will provide direction from there. They will likely send an agent to the scene or request that we obtain additional information. Again they should provide us with documentation justifying our detention of the suspect.
- **Handling Code 3 – Warning – Approach With Caution.** The person queried through this search may be an individual identified by intelligence information as having possible ties with terrorism. Contact the Terrorist Screening Center at (866) 872-9001 for additional identifying information available to assist you in making this determination. Do not alert the subject to this notice. Do not arrest this individual unless there is evidence of a violation of federal, state, or local statutes. Conduct logical investigation using techniques authorized in your jurisdiction and ask probing questions to determine law enforcement interest.
- **Handling Code 4 – Warning – Approach With Caution.** The person queried through this search may be an individual identified by intelligence information as having possible ties with terrorism. Do not alert the subject to this notice. Do not arrest this individual unless there is evidence of a violation of federal, state, or local statutes. Attempt to gain sufficient information to positively identify this individual in a manner consistent with the techniques authorized in your jurisdiction. You may be contacted at a later date and asked to forward this information. Note: If your contact with this individual warrants further investigation based on circumstances consistent with terrorist activity, contact the Terrorist Screening Center at (866) 872-9001.
- **The Terrorist Screening Center (TSC) also stressed not alerting the suspect about their status as a suspected terrorist.**
- Complete an Intelligence Report in accordance with General Order 42.1.6.
- If needed, the Joint Terrorism Task Force can be contacted during normal business hours at (614) 224-1183 or after normal business hours call (513) 421-4310.

- Ohio Homeland Security also has established the Strategic Analysis and Information Center (SAIC), as a one-stop shop for terrorism-related information. You may contact the SAIC with your information by calling the Ohio Terrorism Tip Line at 1-877-OHS-INTEL or 877-647-4683. You also can email Ohio Homeland Security at [homelandsec@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:homelandsec@dps.state.oh.us).

If an officer encounters a person or group who is **under suspicion of terrorism activities** and no terrorist center screening handling code have been identified, the officer should record or document his/her contact and take enforcement action as appropriate. Even though an individual is not on the Terrorist Screening Center's watch list, he/she may still be of interest to law enforcement. Contact the Detective-Sergeant or Services Bureau Commander and the local FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force for guidance.

### 46.3.3 TERRORISM AWARENESS INFORMATION

The Dublin Division of Police will post terrorism awareness information on the City of Dublin website. This terrorism awareness information will include methods for identifying and reporting suspicious activity that may be related to terrorism.

### 46.3.4 HAZMAT AWARENESS

Personnel who are likely to witness, discover, or be sent out to initially investigate an event involving an **actual or suspected chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear weapons, or hazardous materials** should generally conduct their actions from an outer perimeter position or in the cold zone. If personnel find themselves in the inner perimeter, warm or hot zone, they are to move from that zone and encourage others, if ambulatory, to move to a staging area away from the immediate threat. They should attempt to minimize further contamination.

In the case of an actual or suspected chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear weapons, or a hazardous materials event, the response management, command and control, and situation assessment will be deferred to the **Washington Township Fire Department commanding officer**.

At the very least, the **on-duty patrol supervisor** will be involved in on-site planning for and managing scene security services and traffic management. They will help set up scene perimeters, the crime scene investigation and evidence gathering that will be coordinated with the command post at the scene. The on-duty patrol supervisor is expected to manage on-site law enforcement resources and assist the Incident Commander (IC) in bringing the event to a successful conclusion. Generally, all of the actions to be taken by the on-duty patrol supervisor should be conducted from within the cold zone. It is expected that the on-duty patrol supervisor will be integrated into the overall command structure that is implemented for the management and supervision of resources and assets being deployed to mitigate and recover from the overall emergency event.

**Hazardous Materials:** When responding to a hazardous material situation and establishing perimeters, responding officers should refer to the **“Emergency Response Guidebook”** for guidance and direction. Each front line police cruiser has an “Emergency Response Guidebook” assigned to it.

- If the hazardous material is unable to be identified, an **inner perimeter of at least 1/2 mile away from the incident site** should be established that allows only emergency personnel into the area.

**Hazardous Materials Evacuation** may depend upon the location of the incident, type of hazardous material, weather conditions, etc. The decision to evacuate or shelter-in-place should be made in conjunction with the on-scene fire department commanding officer.

Officers will be issued **gas masks and first responder suits** in accordance with standards provided by the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency. In addition, officers will be

provided training on the use of the issued equipment.

**CROSS REFERENCE TO STANDARDS AND POLICIES:** General Order Chapter 2, 81; General Orders Section 1.3; General Order 41.1.4, 53.1.1, 43.1.4; 17.5.1; 43.1.5

**CROSS REFERENCE TO FORMS:** Emergency Operations Plans – Division of Police, City of Dublin, Dublin City Schools; EOC Forms (checklists, logs, phone lists); Siren/Public Address System Utilization Evaluation; Comprehensive Plan – Security of VIP’s and Special Events; Operational Guidelines Plan; Crime Scene Log; Unusual Occurrence Equipment Testing checklist.

**SAMPLE POLICY**  
This may not represent this agency's current procedure.