

	<p style="text-align: center;">BRIDGEPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">POLICY AND PROCEDURE GENERAL ORDER</p>	Distribution	General Order Number
		ALL PERSONNEL	7.02
		Original Issue Date	Reissue/Effective Date
		02/18/20	3/13/20
Order Title: HAZARDOUS DEVICES		Accreditation Standard: POSTC: 2.5.10	Section
		7	
		Section Title	
		SPECIAL OPERATIONS	
Rescinds:		Armando J. Perez, Chief of Police	

This General Order is for departmental use only and does not apply in any criminal or civil proceeding. This General Order should not be construed as creation of a higher legal standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense with respect to third party claims. Violations of this General Order will only form the basis for departmental administrative sanctions. Violations of law will form the basis for civil and criminal sanctions in a recognized judicial setting

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this General Order is to establish guidelines and procedures for Bridgeport Police Department personnel responding to the scene of calls that may involve explosives. The policy shall also govern the proper, standardized methods of dealing with bomb threats and authorized procedures for handling explosives.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Bridgeport Police Department that bomb threat situations shall be dealt with on an individual basis. The type and magnitude of police response to the threat shall be based upon reasonable actions commensurate with all facts and evidence available. In dealing with bomb threats, the highest priority of this Department will be to protect the lives of citizens and officers, followed by protection of public and private property, and apprehension of offenders.

Officers responding to or coming upon the scene of an actual or suspected bomb, explosive or incendiary device, blasting cap, or military ordnance shall not handle, move, or attempt to dismantle any suspected explosive device. Only bomb disposal technicians are authorized to handle, move, or dismantle a suspected bomb and/or explosive device. Further, officers responding to bomb threat scenes where a device has not been located are to only advise and assist. The decision to evacuate a location, absent a physical device shall be made by a person of authority over the building such as the owner, security director, principal, hospital administrator, etc.

III. DEFINITIONS

Cordon: To identify a perimeter, establish a barricade.

Crisis Situation: Any incident involving violence or potential act of violence in which law enforcement officers are at a disadvantage and subject to extreme danger; and/or, any situation where an individual(s) poses a danger to themselves or others.

Explosive Ordnance Specialists (EOS): Persons trained to handle, deactivate, or detonate explosive materials. Only those persons recognized as certified explosive ordnance specialists or team specialists are authorized to act in this capacity.

IV. PROCEDURE

A. Bomb Threat

1. Members of the Communications Center:

- a. Shall attempt to obtain the following information on ALL bomb threat situations whether the call was received directly or not:



2. Responsibilities:



5. Supervisor/Incident Commander:

The Supervisor(s) responding to the scene shall:

- a. Determine the course of action to be taken and direct personnel appropriately. Request EOD resources, if appropriate, utilizing the State Police Bomb Squad.
- b. Respond to the scene to coordinate the investigation.



- e. Authorize notification of investigators, ID Unit Investigators, and command personnel.

[REDACTED]

- g. Establish a command post and identify a staging area, outside the perimeter.
- h. The on-duty supervisor should consult with the person in charge of the establishment. All the facts then known shall be relayed to the person in charge of the premises. If no device has been located or seen, then that responsible person may decide whether it is necessary to evacuate the premise or not. If the responsible person decides on the evacuation, then that person may order the premises evacuated.

6. Evacuation:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- c. The ranking supervisor at the scene will decide the public notification procedure. It may include one of the following methods: Call public address system, door to door notification by officers, or (reverse 911) by the Communications Center.
- d. Radio and television stations may be requested, via the Shift Supervisor or Public Information Representative (PIR), to assist by broadcasting evacuation requests, but broadcasts alone are not sufficient. Evacuation should be approached in a calm, professional manner that will inspire confidence by the public and prevent panic. Residents should be advised to take their pets with them and to lock their homes.

[REDACTED]

- f. Every reasonable effort must be made to safeguard the homes and property of those evacuated. This includes limiting access to the area and, if possible, patrolling to prevent looting and vandalism.
- g. The supervisor shall notify the Emergency Communications Center to immediately dispatch adequate field units to facilitate the blocking of traffic routes and to assist in evacuation. Tow truck notification should be coordinated through the Emergency Communications Center.

- h. Off duty officers may be called to assist in the evacuation.
- i. Evacuation paths will be routed away from the device area. Major routes should be established and maintained.
- j. Private vehicles will be prevented from entering the area and will be removed if blocking emergency equipment. Roadblocks and alternate routes should be established as needed.
- k. Command staff shall be notified if an evacuation must be conducted.
- l. Evacuees from the threatened establishment shall be instructed to take their personal property with them and open all doors and windows as they leave.

7. Forming a Security Perimeter:

Crowd control measures should be implemented as soon as possible to keep spectators away from the evacuated area as well as from the scene of the incident. This will reduce the possibility of looting and other crimes in the affected area and minimize interference and injury.

8. Notifications:

In the event a bomb or other explosive device is located, the on-scene supervisor should evaluate whether the following agencies should be notified to respond and stage:

- Fire Department
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and/or Advanced Life Support (ALS)
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit (EOD)
- Search and Rescue
- BPD Command Staff (as appropriate)
- Utilities
- Sikorski Control Tower (if device is in an established flight path)
- Department of Transportation
- Media
- Public Works

9. Command Post:



- a. The EOD Technician shall advise the Incident Commander, as soon as practical, as to the action to be taken regarding the disposal of the device.

- b. Explosives shall not be brought into any police department building. All explosives will be transported by EOD for destruction, proper storage, or released to the appropriate Military Explosive Ordnance Unit.

11. Post-Explosion Procedures:

- a. In the event that the device detonates prior to being located, the EOD Technician shall conduct an investigation. Other investigators as necessary may assist the EOD Technician, upon request. The EOD technician initially dispatched to the scene of a bomb threat shall be responsible for completing an incident report if an explosive device is found or detonated.
- b. The location shall be treated as any other crime scene and shall be secured until all evidence is collected for further investigation.
- c. The appropriate medical attention shall be rendered to anyone injured as a result of the explosion.
- d. In incidents involving injury or death due to the explosive, the Detective Division shall conduct the principal investigation with assistance from the EOD Technician.
- e. The on duty supervisor shall notify command staff immediately. Additional officers may be called for assistance when necessary.