

	<b>STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE</b> State Form 39870(R/S-06)	Reference Number <b>ENF-002</b>
	Subject <b>Active Killer, Hostage Barricade, or Barricaded Person</b>	
	Special Instructions Replaces ENF-002 dated January 15, 2015	Effective Date <b>September 15, 2025</b>

## **I. PURPOSE**

Establish guidelines for Department personnel when responding to on-going, life-threatening incidents such as an active killer(s), hostage situations, and/or barricaded individuals.

## **II. POLICY**

Department personnel responding to an on-going, life-threatening incident or hostage situation shall be governed by the effect such response will have on the lives and safety of all persons involved. Officers responding to and at the scene shall adhere to the following procedures.

## **III. DEFINITIONS**

A. **ACTIVE KILLER** – One or more subjects who participate in a random or systematic act(s) of violence demonstrating the intent to continuously inflict death or serious bodily injury on another person(s), and does so while having access to additional potential victims at a school, business, place of worship or other populated area. For the purpose of this policy, the term active killer includes the use of firearms, knives, clubs, bow and arrows, explosives, flammable liquids, etc.

B. **ARREST TEAM** – A team of officers established to contact, control and detain suspect(s). Primary function is to safely and effectively receive anyone exiting a location.

C. **BARRICADED PERSON** – When one or more subjects are confined within a location/ position, fortified or not, and who are possibly armed, believed to have committed a crime and, believed to be a danger to others who is refusing to comply with lawful orders to surrender.

D. **CAR 1000** – An ISP officer at the scene of an incident who is responsible for all radio transmissions to the respective district and responding officers until relieved.

E. **CASUALTY COLLECTION POINT (CCP)** – A designated and secure location for the collection of injured persons.

F. **CONTACT TEAM** – One or more officers working together who are responsible to contact the active killer and control the incident by arrest, containment, or use of force.

G. **EMERGENCY ENTRY TEAM** – A group of four to five (4-5) officers near an entry point of the hostage barricade location. The responsibility of the element is to make emergency entry with the potential of little to no intelligence when there is an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the hostage(s) (e.g. sounds of violence). This team may also be tasked with Arrest Team responsibilities based on available personnel.

H. HOSTAGE – A person held by force or fear by a hostage taker who intends to harm the person or as security that specified terms or an ultimatum will be met.

I. HOSTAGE BARRICADE – When one or more subjects are confined within a location/position; with a hostage(s); and are possibly armed and believed to have committed a crime or believed to be a danger to others and are refusing to comply with lawful orders for surrender.

J. INCIDENT COMMAND (IC) – A command structure in which primary tactical-level, on-scene incident command functions occur.

K. OFFICER IN CHARGE (OIC) – The officer (regardless of rank) in charge of the scene.

L. RESCUE TEAM – One or more officers working together who have the responsibility of locating and assisting victims and safely removing them from immediate danger. ISP led rescue teams should utilize the “T” formation.

M. SCENE CONTAINMENT – The coordinated process of isolating the incident area to prevent the escape of suspects, restrict unauthorized entry, control the movement of persons inside the perimeter, and maintain a secure environment for responders, victims, and public until the situation is resolved.

N. SOUNDS OF VIOLENCE – Sounds of harm being inflicted or about to be inflicted upon the hostage(s).

O. TACTICAL OPERATIONS CENTER (TOC) – The location that supports tactical command decision-making processes by analyzing, assessing, and evaluating information on and activities of the suspect(s).

#### **IV. PROCEDURE**

A. Initial Response to a possible active killer, hostage barricade, or barricaded person.

1. The first officer arriving at the scene shall determine if the incident is an active killer, hostage incident or, a barricaded person.

2. If the situation is or becomes an “Active Killer,” refer to Section B. below on “Response to a Active Killer” for further information.

3. If the situation is a “hostage barricade” incident, refer to Section C. below on “Response to a Hostage Situation” for further information.

4. If the situation is a barricaded person, refer to D. below on “Response to a Barricaded Person” for further information.

5. Upon verification of an Active Killer, Hostage Barricade, or Barricaded Person, the regional duty officer shall ensure notification to the area and district commander.

6. The area commander, or designee, shall contact the SWAT commander and the Investigations Bureau.

## **B. RESPONSE TO AN ACTIVE KILLER**

1. All on or off duty police personnel not on an emergency call and available to assist shall respond to the scene of an “active killer” incident.

2. The initial arriving officer(s) shall:

- a. While enroute to the scene, attempt to have dispatch determine if any agency has established an on-scene IC;
- b. If established, contact the incident commander or Car 1000 prior to entering the location;
- c. If an IC has not been established and either time or the number of officers present allows for it, then an incident commander or Car 1000 should be established; otherwise,
- d. If immediate entry is required to stop the threat, officer(s) shall form contact teams\* (which may include other agencies) and make entry into the location.

\*Note: When circumstances dictate, a single officer may constitute and take on the responsibilities of a contact team. The size of the contact team shall be dictated by the circumstances. The preference shall be for small teams that split up to cover more ground.

3. Officers/Contact teams entering a location shall:

- a. Prior to entering the location, ensure Car 1000 or the applicable regional dispatch center (RDC) is aware of the contact team’s proposed point of entry, number of officers entering the location, and if possible, the approximate location/area of the active killer(s);
- b. Actively search for and control the active killer suspect(s);
- c. Not complete a thorough search of the location (at that time);
- d. Not stop to assist victims or attempt an evacuation of the location (at that time);
- e. If a possible explosive device is encountered the device/area should be marked and passed by; and
- f. As time and the situation permits notify the IC and/or RDC of the suspect(s) status and location.

4. Subsequent officers arriving at the scene shall contact the Incident Commander/Car 1000 for assignments.

5. Following the end of the active killer, or containment of, the Incident Commander/Car 1000 shall:

- a. Maintain command responsibility;
- b. Prioritize tasks, including:

- (i) Utilization of rescue teams
- (ii) Investigative response

6. Rescue teams shall utilize a “T” formation to systematically search and clear the location in which the active killer event occurred.

## **C. Response to a Hostage Situation**

1. When a situation develops which involves a hostage taker(s), the following steps should be taken by initial arriving officer(s):

- a. Establish Scene Containment - ensure the suspect cannot escape from the scene undetected and a perimeter has been established.
  - b. Establish an Emergency Entry Team.
  - c. Confirm emergency entry element(s) are capable of making entry (i.e. ram, h-tool, sledgehammer, etc.)
  - d. Assign responsibilities within the Emergency Entry Team (i.e. breacher, hostage, hostage-taker, contact-cover, etc.).
  - e. If possible, serve as Car 1000 and the IC until relieved;
  - f. Establish an Incident Command and Tactical Operations Center;
  - g. Deploy personnel to contain any crowd beyond the perimeter;
  - h. Assign personnel to thoroughly debrief all hostages released during/after the incident; and
  - i. Notify the appropriate RDC of the situation, existing conditions and request:
    - (i) Signal 100 (hold all but emergency radio traffic),
    - (ii) Additional assistance (law enforcement, EMS, fire, etc.) based on the situation,
    - (iii) Command personnel respond to the scene to serve as the IC; and
    - (iv) Assess the situation and gather intelligence pertaining to any suspect(s), potential hostage(s), etc.
2. No one shall be permitted to enter the incident location unless authorized by the incident commander.
  3. Conversation with the suspect(s) should be conducted by a qualified negotiator (when possible).
  4. Uniformed personnel of all ranks, police vehicles, equipment, and weapons should be kept out of view of the hostage taker(s), when possible.

#### **D. Response to a Barricaded Person**

1. When a situation develops which involves a barricaded subject(s) the following steps should be taken by initial arriving officer(s):
  - a. Establish Scene Containment - ensure the suspect cannot escape from the scene undetected and a perimeter has been established;
  - b. Establish an Arrest Team;
  - c. If possible, serve as Car 1000 and the IC until relieved; and
  - d. No one shall be permitted to enter the incident location unless authorized by the IC.
  - e. Establish an Incident Command and Tactical Operations Center
  - f. Deploy personnel to contain any crowd beyond the perimeter
  - g. Notify the appropriate RDC of the situation, existing conditions and request:
    - (i) Signal 100 (hold all but emergency radio traffic);
    - (ii) Additional assistance (law enforcement, EMS, fire, etc.) based on the situation;
    - (iii) Command personnel to respond to the scene to serve as the IC; and
    - (iv) Assess the situation and gather intelligence pertaining to any suspect(s).
2. Conversation with the suspect(s) should be conducted by a qualified negotiator (when possible).

#### **E. Incident Commander**

1. The incident commander, or designee, responsibilities:

- a. Establish a command post location;
- b. Determine if additional emergency entry/arrest teams should be deployed;
- c. Establish secure inner and outer perimeters to control pedestrian and vehicular traffic;
- d. Permit no person to enter the incident location or area unless authorized to do so.
- e. Evacuate the area and assign uniformed personnel to do a door-to-door notification.
- f. Use extreme care to select safe notification/evacuation\* routes from the area.

\*NOTE - Department personnel cannot force people to evacuate private property, but once they leave they may be refrained from returning while there is danger to their safety;

- g. Establish and maintain security of evacuated premises and buildings;
- h. When appropriate, identify and deploy a rescue team(s);
- i. Ensure Operations and the applicable RDC are kept informed of developments at the scene, as conditions allow.

2. Once a SWAT action has been authorized by incident command, the SWAT Commander shall be in charge of the tactical intervention. However, the incident command shall retain the authority to suspend any action;

3. At the conclusion of the incident, the Incident Commander shall conduct a debriefing with all personnel involved and ensure proper reporting of their assignment and action taken during the incident.

4. The Incident Commander shall direct a complete/accurate investigation to be completed of the incident to include:

- a. Thorough background reports on all suspects and victims;
- b. Actions of the suspect(s) from the beginning to the end of the incident;
- c. All police actions; and
- d. A chronological log is included in the report.

#### **F. Investigative Responsibilities**

1. Detective supervisors shall report to the Incident Commander for specific assignment(s).

2. District detectives (not involved in the negotiations) shall be responsible for correlation of all data and information concerning the incident.

G. This procedure is to be used in conjunction with all relevant Department regulations, rules, policies, and procedures.