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// J. Bammann //

GENERAL ORDER 46

CRITICAL INCIDENTS, SPECIAL OPERATIONS, AND HOMELAND SECURITY

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 22, 2024

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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 (LE1)

The following General Orders (standards) are covered in the Mansfield 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, 46.1.9, and 46.1.10 and 46.1.13. The Mansfield Division of Police “Emergency Operations Plan” is an “all hazards” plan and the written plan for responding to critical incidents and special operations such as: natural and man-made disasters, civil disturbances, mass arrests, bomb threats, hostage/barricaded person situations, acts of terrorism, and other unusual incidents. The Commander of the Special Operations Bureaus’, Special Investigative Section shall be the primary officer tasked with the critical response and special operations response planning. He/she will also advise the Chief of Police on such planning and assessments.

46.2 SPECIAL OPERATIONS

46.2.1 SPECIAL OPERATIONS PROCEDURES

A. Responsibilities 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/ ASORT), Mansfield 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 specially trained personnel arrive.

- **R.A.I.D.E.R. (Solo Engagement) Deployment 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 make entry into 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 to the unpredictability of a potential R.A.I.D.E.R. response incident or other high-risk situation, patrol officers shall have and wear their ballistic vests during their normal patrol duty assignments. Officers will normally have access to additional equipment such as a ballistic shield and rifles located in the command vehicle when responding to calls where there is great likelihood of criminal gunfire (example armed bank robbery, active shooter etc.)

- **Establishing Perimeters; See EOP 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/ ASORT supervisor, 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 interviewed /interrogated about activities inside the scene. Information shall be forwarded to the Incident Commander or his/her designate.

- **Conducting Evacuations; See EOP 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 special operation or 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 local media and/or reverse 911 type systems. The 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.

- The Incident Commander may consider using the local radio stations, 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 through the on-site commander or following consultation with the Chief of Police.

C. Tactical Team Authorization: Activation is normally initiated by contacting the Communications Center and need not require the approval of the Chief of Police during emergency situations. However, the Chief shall be notified by the Incident Commander as soon as practical.

If the Mansfield Police Department SWAT/ASORT Team is unavailable, the agency may consider the use of OSP Tactical Units as well as adjoining counties. Some circumstances may require the shift supervisor to bypass the chain of command completely when such notification process would adversely affect the resolution of the incident; in that case the shift supervisor may request the SWAT/ASORT team and shall notify the Deputy Chief or Bureau Commander in the confirmed absence of the Chief of Police as soon as practical.

- If a tactical team is requested from another agency, Division personnel will control and contain the situation pending their arrival.

D. The ASORT/SWAT Commander or his designee is the primary officer in charge of all tactical operations. The ASORT/SWAT Commander will report to and consult with the scene Incident Commander during a tactical operation. Decision making authority for tactical operations will be the responsibility of the ASORT/SWAT Commander and/or his designee.

E. 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/ASORT, and other supporting operational components will be the responsibility of the Division's Incident Commander.

46.2.2 – Selection of SWAT Members

Selection of SWAT members will follow the guidelines established by the Richland County Chief's of Police Association and outlined in the Allied Special Operations Response Team (ASORT) Manual. Current labor agreements shall also be considered prior to final selection.

46.2.3 – SWAT Team Equipment

The Tactical Team equipment is assigned to the individual officers of the team. Group equipment is maintained at the Mansfield Division of Police and mobile SWAT van. A complete list of individual equipment is listed in the ASORT Manual.

46.2.4 Selection of Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) Members

Selection of CNT members will follow the guidelines established by the Richland County Chief's of Police Association and outlined in the Allied Special Operations Response Team (ASORT) Manual. Candidates must pass psychological screening prior to being assigned to CNT duties. Current labor agreement shall also be considered.

46.2.5 Search and Rescue

The Mansfield Division of Police does not have a formal search and rescue team. In the event of an emergency refer to the Emergency Operations Plan and call for additional search and rescue resources. Lost or missing child or adult emergency, refer to the checklist in this manual and call for additional search and rescue resources such as K-9 or FEMA urban search and rescue teams as needed. The Richland County Emergency Management Office also can supply additional resources in the event a search and rescue is necessary.

46.2.6 VIP PLAN

The Emergency Operations Plan is the written plan for handling the security of VIP's, to include: the designation of the coordinator by the Chief of Police for any given security detail; equipment requirements, to include consideration of vehicles, body armor for VIP's and security officers, (normally tactical team members) and weapons for assigned personnel; 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 (LE1)

The Mansfield Division of Police Emergency Operations Plan is the written plan for handling special events, to include: the designation of the coordinator, normally the Traffic Section Commander 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.

46.2.8 EVENT DECONFLICTION (N/A)

46.3 HOMELAND SECURITY

46.3.1 TERRORISM AWARENESS INFORMATION AND AGENCY LIAISON

- The Mansfield Division of Police will post terrorism awareness information and/or links on its website and promote terrorism awareness information. Such efforts will include TAP Training (Terrorism Awareness Program) to include methods for identifying and reporting suspicious activity that may be related to terrorism.
- The Special Investigations Commander or his/her designate will be the liaison with other organizations for the exchange of information relating to terrorism. Specifically, Section personnel will liaison with the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (Northern District, Ohio), the Richland County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, and/or the State of Ohio's Homeland Security Agency as well as the Richland County Chiefs of Police Association which includes Homeland Security and private organizations members 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.

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.**

– 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.

If an officer encounters a person or group who is **under suspicion of terrorism activities** and no terrorist center screening handling code has 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 Special Investigations Section and/or the local office of the FBI who will contact the Joint Terrorism Task Force for guidance.

46.3.2 AWARENESS LEVEL GUIDELINES (LE1)

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 **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.

Primary responders will be issued **gas masks and first responder suits** in accordance with standards provided by the Richland County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency to the extent they have been made available by the Department of Homeland Security. 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 4; 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 Mansfield, Mansfield City Schools; EOC Forms (checklists, logs, phone lists); Emergency Operations Plan; Crime Scene Log; Tactical Equipment Checklist.