Immediate Action Rapid Deployment

303.1 IMMEDIATE ACTION RAPID DEPLOYMENT PURPOSE

This policy establishes standardized response procedures for members to implement in situations when suspects are involved in committing ongoing acts of violence resulting in immediate or imminent loss of life or serious bodily injury. Applications of this tactic are to be used when traditional methods of containment and static clearing are not sufficient to eliminate / stop the threat quickly and effectively. Examples include an Active Killer or Hostage Situation.

It is the intent of the department to deploy swift and overwhelming force to stop or interrupt the deadly actions of the suspect(s).

303.2 IMMEDIATE ACTION RAPID DEPLOYMENT POLICY

The UPD will endeavor to plan for rapid response to crisis situations, and to coordinate response planning with other emergency services as well as with those that are responsible for operating sites that may be the target of a critical incident.

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the use of reasonable force, deadly or otherwise, by members of the department in protecting themselves or others from death or serious injury.

303.3 IMMEDIATE ACTION RAPID DEPLOYMENT DEFINITIONS

Immediate Action Rapid Deployment (IARD) is an active intervention technique. It is intended to stop acts of immediate ongoing violence and protect life and safety through a timely, effective, and tactically sound law enforcement response.

Active Killer is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a populated area.

Contact Team is an ad hoc group of officers which forms to accomplish one of the four missions of assault, rescue, support, or force protection.

Terrorist Attack is the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.

Hostage Situation can be any of the following:

A terrorist attack where the terrorist(s) secure hostages to prolong the event with continuous fortification, with the ultimate goal of deliberately killing as many as possible.

Armed person(s) who have used deadly force on other persons and continue to do so while having unrestricted access to additional victims.

Suspects utilizing hostages to stage brutal psychological disruptions with increasing viciousness in the hope of attaining political or religious aims.

A hostage situation differs from a static hostage / barricaded subject in both scale and intent. Hostage / barricaded subjects will be handled in accordance with the Hostage and Barricade Incidents Policy.

303.4   IMMEDIATE ACTION RAPID DEPLOYMENT PROCEDURES

Officers need to assess the situation and determine if IARD is required. Assessment of the incident must be constant as it may rapidly change from an IARD incident to a conventional response continually throughout the duration of the incident and officers must respond appropriately. An example would include a terrorist attack becoming a static hostage situation, and then becoming an active killer.

The first priority is to save lives by locating the suspects(s) and stopping the aggressive deadly behavior. Law enforcement first responders shall:

- Form a Contact Team and designate a Team Leader

- Notify dispatch of the Contact Team identifier (Contact Team A, B, C, etc.)

- Communicate via radio a quick overview of the incident while deploying

- Communicate team movement

- Proceed to contact the suspect(s)

- Provide intelligence updates as necessary

Contact Teams have the primary role of stopping the deadly behavior. The Contact Team should consist of four officers, although exigent circumstances may make it necessary to proceed with fewer officers (1 – 3 officers). The first arriving officer may make the decision to enter as a single element. Solo officer entries are extremely dangerous, and officers need to consider the risk, their equipment, and training prior to making entry. This decision will be announced to other members who are still enroute. As additional officers arrive, they will contact the solo officer and form a Contact Team.

Contact Teams are a self-assumed duty, and they will continue to form and deploy until the Incident Commander determines enough tactical response has been implemented toward the threat. Contact Teams may be involved in assault, rescue, support, or force protection missions. Contact Teams should remain flexible and be prepared to transition into any mission. Officers assigned to a Rescue Task Force shall remain with their assigned medical personnel and it is their duty to provide protection to the medical team.

Officers should consider using tactical response maneuvers, such as the "T", "Y", or "Psi" formations, or bounding overwatch to maximize the protection of members entering a dynamic, hostile environment while at the same time delivering aid to persons in immediate or imminent danger of ongoing violence.

Due to the scope of such events, it is likely other agencies will respond to the scene. Members need to be prepared to integrate into formations composed of peace officers from any agency.

After the initial Contact Team has been deployed, Incident Command will be established, and the following critical tasks will be accomplished: establish communications and control; identify the "hot zone"; establish an inner and outer perimeter, a command post, and staging area; request resources as needed. Once sufficient assault Contact Teams are in place, the Incident Commander may identify rescue, support or protection missions as needed. The Incident Commander shall establish Unified Command with the fire department upon their arrival.

303.4.1   IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES (IED)

If IED's are encountered, the contact team must visually inspect the devices for potential detonation mechanisms (timing device, trip wires, lit fuse, etc.). Do not move or touch the device. Consider an alternate route based on the condition of the device, i.e., timer activated or a burning fuse. The officer who sees the IED needs to verbalize its location and move past it, if possible. Do not assume that other team members have seen the device. Report the location of the device to the Incident Command Post.

303.4.2   DECLARATION OF IMMEDIATE ACTION RESPONSE DEPLOYMENT EVENT

If any member believes they have identified an IARD event, they should immediately advise dispatch.

Once an IARD event has been declared, the EOC Command Center may be staffed and may continually monitor and analyze activities in the city, county and region for multiple deadly force incident(s) that are occurring simultaneously.

303.4.3   DEPLOYMENT

When an IARD event occurs, all available resources shall respond. If an incident is occurring, it is highly likely more attacks will occur in other locations and resources will be needed to respond to those incidents. It is important not to leave portions of our jurisdictions defenseless and vulnerable to additional attacks. Deployment will be based on the best available information at the time. Circumstances may arise that necessitate changing the assembly area and this can be accomplished by any on scene officer.

303.5   TACTICAL TEAM RESPONSE AND DUTIES

Tactical Teams (SWAT) will be called out and respond. SWAT members may relieve initial responding members as they arrive and are deployed by the SWAT Commander. Members relieved by SWAT members will report to the Incident Commander for subsequent assignment.

303.6   COMMUNICATIONS

The operational communications frequency for conducting an IARD incident will be established by the Incident Commander or dispatch. Emphasis will be placed on coordinating a frequency that will facilitate the greatest number of potential arriving agencies communicating with each other. It may also be necessary to separate channels for the interior operation and exterior containment.

303.7   IMMEDIATE ACTION RAPID DEPLOYMENT PLANNING

The Incident Commander should coordinate critical incident planning. Planning efforts should consider:

   (a)   Identification of likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment, and sporting event venues.

   (b)   Availability of building plans and venue schematics of likely critical incident target sites.

   (c)   Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.

   (d)   Training opportunities in critical incident target sites, including joint training with site occupants.

   (e)   Evacuation routes in critical incident target sites.

   (f)   Patrol first-response training.

   (g)   Response coordination and resources of emergency medical and fire services.

   (h)   Equipment needs.

   (i)   Mutual aid agreements with other agencies.

   (j)   Coordination with private security providers in critical incident target sites.

303.8   IMMEDIATE ACTION RAPID DEPLOYMENT TRAINING

The department should include rapid response to critical incidents in the training plan. This training should address:

(a)   Orientation to likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, churches, shopping centers, entertainment, and sporting event venues.

(b)   Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.

(c)   Patrol first-response training, including patrol rifle, less lethal munitions, breaching tools, and control devices training.

(d)   First aid, including gunshot trauma.

(e)   Reality-based scenario training (e.g., active killer, disgruntled violent worker).