



DESCHUTES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Title: Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team	Effective Date: March 29, 2022		Policy Number: 3.43
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Attachments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field Threat Assessment Guide (FTAG) (5 pages)	L. Shane Nelson, Sheriff		

I. PURPOSE

The mission of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team is to respond to high-risk situations calling for the use of specialized training, tactics, techniques, and/or the use of specialized weapons and equipment; to first isolate and contain the situation to prevent a further degradation of the situation; and then to permit or cause a peaceful resolution, or to take those steps necessary to counteract and neutralize the threat to the community.

II. POLICY

To define the mission and structure of, and to establish the operational procedures for, the SWAT.

The following policy and procedures govern the mission and structure of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office SWAT. It is the policy of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office that deputies from this agency, after applying and being appropriately selected, will be assigned to SWAT. The number and structure will be sufficient to provide the agency with a true tactical capability to mitigate the danger to the community and agency members in high risk situations. While operating as a member of SWAT, assigned deputies and others involved with SWAT will follow the procedures in this policy.

III. DEFINITIONS

SO Command means the Sheriff and division captains that oversee SWAT and shall be responsible for the effective management, direction, and policies of SWAT.

Field Threat Assessment Guide (FTAG) (Risk Analysis for Tactical Planned Operations and High Risk Warrants Checklist) is a checklist used to assess the amount of risk to deputies from the suspects and circumstances associated with impending or future operations, including the service of high risk arrest and search warrants.

High-Risk means there is a greater chance of serious injury or loss of life to citizens, deputies, inmates or suspects.

Incident Reporting Officer (Scribe) is a member of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office whose primary responsibility is to document the operational commitment of SWAT.

Negotiations Team is a designated negotiations team whose members, under the direction of SWAT Commander(s), participate in operational planning and the agency's negotiations in the response and resolution of a critical incident.

Negotiations Team Leader is a sworn deputy assigned to the Negotiation Team who, under the direction of the SWAT Commander, is assigned to direct the Negotiations Team activities.

SWAT Commitment means the period in time of any operation when the official in charge at the scene passes the authority and responsibility for the resolution of the critical incident to the SWAT Commander(s).

Scenario-Based Training are those types of training events where role players are utilized to represent hostages and suspects in which deputies are tasked with resolving a particular scenario through the use of multiple force options, up to, and including, deadly force as one of the options. Examples of this type of training would include, but not be limited to, barricaded suspects, hostage situations, and other types of training where deputies and role players simulate situations that involve the use of firearms and munitions typically used in controlling or stopping violent or otherwise hostile subjects.

SWAT Assistant Commander is a sergeant or above assigned to act in the place of the SWAT Commander to direct team activities when the SWAT Commander is unavailable. Additionally, the SWAT Assistant Commander will assist the SWAT Commander in those duties specifically assigned to the SWAT Commander or otherwise assigned by the SWAT Commander.

SWAT Commander is a Sergeant or above, selected for the purpose of establishing and reviewing policy relevant to the SWAT; evaluating operational readiness and tactical capability; developing and/or reviewing operational plans and submitting to incident command authority for approval; and advising SWAT Team Leaders on operational and training matters. This individual will be responsible for all supervisory activities, including, but not limited to, team member selection, evaluating individual performance, maintaining discipline, ensuring adherence to all policy and procedural matters, identifying and prioritizing training, planning, directing and executing operations, and maintaining operational readiness of both personnel and equipment.

SWAT Medic Team Member is a team member with training to paramedic status or above deputized by the Sheriff whose primary responsibility is to provide first-aid.

SWAT Members: Sworn deputies who will have primary responsibilities in the Patrol, Corrections or Detectives divisions. Upon being selected as a member of the SWAT, they will have the collateral responsibility of attending SWAT training and being available for SWAT call-outs as work schedules allow. As SWAT members, they may be assigned sub-specialties within the SWAT structure, developing and maintaining advanced areas of knowledge, skills, and abilities in highly specialized areas, and may be assigned by the SWAT Commander(s) to instruct and manage many of the sub-programs within the team's structure.

SWAT Team Leader is an SWAT member assigned for the purpose of directing team activities when the SWAT Commander is unavailable. This individual will be selected by the SWAT Commanders based on experience and a demonstrated record of high level special operations performance.

Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team is a function of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office established to assist with the resolution of high threat/high-risk incidents. SWAT is comprised of deputies from the Corrections, Patrol and Detectives divisions of the Sheriff's Office.

Training Area (Set) refers to the immediate area where deputies and role players are involved in a training exercise. Multiple areas may be used during a single training scenario.

IV. PROCEDURES

Sheriff's Office Command Staff and SWAT Commanders shall determine the team's composition and the standards by which SWAT members will be selected. Command staff and SWAT Commanders will determine the number of personnel assigned to the SWAT from each division (Patrol/Corrections/Detectives).

A. SWAT Organizational Structure and Chain of Command

1. SO Command
2. SWAT Commander
3. SWAT Assistant Commander

4. SWAT Team Leaders
5. Negotiations Team Leader
6. Incident Recording Officer (Scribe)
7. Sub-Specialties:
 - a) Entry or Assault Team
 - b) Sniper/Observer Team
 - c) Chemical Agents delivery Specialist (Grenadier)
 - d) Breacher
 - e) Medic
 - f) Riot or Crowd Control Specialist
 - g) Negotiation Team
 - h) K-9
 - i) Marine
 - j) Medic Team Members (EMS Personnel)

Medics participate as SWAT members in order to provide for the more immediate treatment of injuries. To the extent possible, medics are to be kept out of the line of fire and are stationed as close as possible to the team's entry point. From this point they will be called forward if needed to treat injuries.

Medics provide first-aid but do not transport injured subjects from the scene. Transport is left to the local Emergency Medical Service (EMS).

B. Qualification Factors

1. Sheriff's Office Applicants

Sheriff's Office applicants to the SWAT will be required to be a deputy sheriff and shall meet the following qualifications to apply for the SWAT:

- a) Be non-probationary sworn deputies with at least thirty-six (36) months of recent full-time law enforcement experience;
- b) Maintain satisfactory annual evaluations which will be reviewed periodically by the SWAT Commander(s);
- c) Pass a thorough background investigation;
- d) Pass a physical agility test;
- e) Pass various firearms qualification courses; and
- f) Maintain satisfactory levels of demeanor and performance in the day-to-day execution of their primary duties and responsibilities of their full-time assignment.

2. Medic Team Member Applicants

Medic Team Member applicants shall meet the following qualifications to apply for SWAT:

- a) Be a non-probationary member of a fire department within Deschutes County; a licensed and Board certified physician or a current SWAT member who;
- b) Possesses a paramedic level certificate or above;
- c) Maintains satisfactory annual evaluations;
- d) Is legally qualified to be deputized by the sheriff, enabling them to legally act with the full authority of a law enforcement officer;

- e) Passes a thorough background investigation;
- f) Passes a physical agility test; and
- g) Passes various firearms qualification courses.

A review of the applicant's personnel file to determine that applicant's suitability for this assignment will be conducted on all applicants (prior to their evaluation in other qualification phases). Those who pass all phases of the qualification review will be placed on an eligibility list by the SWAT Commanders. Prior to appointment to SWAT, the eligibility list will be presented to command staff for further consideration.

C. Application Process

SWAT team applicants requesting to apply for a position on SWAT shall submit the following to the SWAT Commanders:

1. Sheriff's Office Applicants:
 - a) Must meet basic requirements established in the internal recruitment announcement;
 - b) A written recommendation from the applicant's immediate supervisor stating the applicant is eligible to apply for SWAT;
 - c) Approval to apply to SWAT by their Division Captain;
 - d) A current resume detailing individual qualifications. The resume should include all experience and training relevant to the SWAT position; and
 - e) Accompanying the resume, the applicant shall include a written letter of interest explaining the reasons why the applicant wants to become a member of the SWAT.
2. Medic Team Member Applicants:
 - a) Written approval by the applicant's fire department chief or agency head, if serving in such a capacity;
 - b) A written application;
 - c) A current resume detailing individual qualifications. The resume should include all experience and training relevant to the SWAT position; and
 - d) Accompanying the resume, the applicant shall include a written letter of interest explaining the reasons why the applicant wants to become a member of the SWAT.

D. Selection and Testing Process

Sheriff's Office and Medic Team member applicants who meet the above qualifications and submit the required documentation will be invited to participate in the SWAT testing process. The testing process will consist of three phases:

1. Physical Agility Test: A timed course set by the SWAT Commanders. The timed portion has a maximum time limit allowed. The course will be determined by the SWAT Commanders prior to quarterly qualification and will be of an obstacle course in nature. This test will evaluate the performance of job-related physical activities requiring a demonstration of physical strength and agility, coordination, stamina, and determination.

Additionally, the test may include separate phases or stations, each having its own time frame for completion, requiring demonstration of judgment or decision-making ability while under the stress of physical activity. Details and minimum requirements to pass will be provided for SWAT applicants for the purpose of allowing individuals to train and prepare for the maintenance of the minimum qualification requirements.
2. Firearms Qualification Course: SWAT applicants will be required to pass with a minimum qualifying score of 80%. Details of these courses will be provided for the purpose of allowing individuals to train and prepare for the maintenance of the minimum qualification requirements.

3. Oral Board Assessment: This assessment will be conducted by an interview panel composed of current SWAT members and team leaders (one each) and at least one member of the Sheriff's Office command staff. A scoring system will be applied to the oral board assessment phase.

Applicants who pass all phases of the testing process will be placed on an eligibility pool from which SWAT members will be selected, pending Command approval.

E. Quarterly Qualifications and Training

1. Purpose

Once selected and assigned to the SWAT, all operational team members, regardless of rank or position, and medic team members must maintain minimum standards of performance, as listed below, to ensure that team members are physically fit and trained to participate in SWAT operations.

Failure to meet the minimum standards will result in the team member being placed on temporary, non-deployable status until the minimum standards are met. During this non-deployable status, as staffing permits, members are still required to attend training and meetings but are not available for call-out. The member will have two (2) months to meet minimum standards or be administratively removed from the team. Authorized medical conditions may qualify as an exception to this policy. Written documentation from a physician must be provided to the SWAT Commanders in order for the medical condition to be considered as an exception to this policy.

Medic team members will attend bi-monthly SWAT training and will qualify annually on the SWAT obstacle course and the firearms qualification course.

2. Quarterly Qualifications

Physical Agility Test: A timed course set by the SWAT Commanders. The timed portion has a maximum time limit allowed. The course will be determined by the SWAT Commanders prior to quarterly qualification and will be of an obstacle course in nature.

Firearms Qualification Course: Mandatory firearms qualification courses will determine proficiency in and the safe handling of the handgun and shoulder weapons used by deputies of the Sheriff's Office.

3. Training

A minimum of twelve (12) hours of SWAT training will be scheduled each month and attendance by SWAT members will be based on the operational needs and necessities of the on-duty shifts.

Training outlines and/or lesson plans will be submitted for review and then filed with the Training Unit of the Sheriff's Office.

a) Mandatory Training

- 1) **Firearms:** Firearms training will be held a minimum of six (6) times per year and team members will be required to pass with a minimum qualifying score of 80%. Team members will train in the proper operation of all firearms they may employ in the scope of their duties with the SWAT. SWAT members are expected to be proficient in the use of firearms in all environments and conditions.

Medic team members will be trained in the proper operation of all team weapons sufficient to accomplish disabling the weapon of an injured team member. They will also be required to carry handguns for their own protection during SWAT missions; consequently, they will be trained in the use of handguns during SWAT firearms training. Firearms training provided for SWAT Medics will include making them knowledgeable of the laws governing the use of deadly force.

During firearms training and any live fire exercise, all firearms range safety rules will be observed in accordance with [Policy 3.14](#), VII Safety, Firearms Range Safety Rules and X Firearms Range Rules. As always, every individual at the training site is responsible for being a "range safety officer" and identifying any dangerous or hazardous situations.

- 2) **Chemical Agents:** There will be required annual reviews and testing on the use of chemical

agents. Team members will be required to be familiar with the recognition, effects of contamination, use and operation of various types of chemical agents and their methods of delivery, and the use of protective equipment.

- 3) Flash/Sound Diversionary Devices: There will be required annual reviews and testing on the use of flash/sound diversionary devices. Team members will be expected to be familiar with the effects, use and delivery of these devices; and
 - 4) Riot and Crowd Control: Team members will be trained annually on riot and crowd control techniques.
 - 5) Tactical Specialty Impact Munitions: Team members will annually review and test in the application of impact munitions.
4. Scenario-Based Training. Whenever scenario-based training is utilized, where deputies and role players simulate shooting at each other, there will be no lethal ammunition or weapons loaded with lethal ammunition present within the training area or training set. This rule applies to ALL members - deputies, safety monitors, observers, and role players involved in the training. **NOTE: Absolutely no one will be allowed on the training set or area with lethal ammunition or weapons loaded with lethal ammunition. Observers will be required to remove any lethal ammunition and/or weapons loaded with lethal ammunition and secure those items off the training set. Safety Officers and/or safety monitors will be employed during all such training to ensure adequate inspections are conducted before and during training in order to comply with this policy.**
- a) A minimum of one deputy will be designated as a safety officer at each scenario-based training exercise.
 - b) Prior to training, there will be a check of all firearms. Weapons will be checked for lethal ammunition and then marked as checked and safe by placing colored plastic tape around the barrel of each weapon checked.
 - c) Prior to the beginning of training, the safety officer will check the training set, all persons involved, and all weapons for lethal ammunition. Any lethal ammunition found will be removed from the training set prior to training.

F. Deployment Process

High risk situations may require a specialized tactical response by law enforcement. It shall be at the direction of the Sheriff or designee that the SWAT may be utilized in the following types of situations:

- a) High-risk/profile trial or inmate transport
- b) High-risk correctional facility incidents
- c) High-risk cell and area extractions
- d) County building or facility response or protection
- e) High-risk search or arrest warrant executions
- f) High-risk arrest situations
- g) Hostage incidents
- h) Barricaded suspect incidents
- i) Sniper incidents
- j) Large area searches
- k) Dignitary protection/personal protection; security of special persons such as VIPs, witnesses, suspects, or defendants, based on the threat to the well-being of those persons.
- l) Any other assignment, approved by the SWAT Commander(s), based upon a high level of perceived or known threat information.

m) Outside agency assistance

1. Call-Out Criteria

- a) The suspect has committed or demonstrated the ability to commit a violent or otherwise dangerous criminal act or is in a dangerous mental condition; or
- b) The suspect is believed to be armed; or
- c) The suspect has refused to submit to arrest; and by the nature of the situation, an unacceptable level of risk is presented to deputies/officers or the public; or
- d) In the event of a disaster, natural, or man-made, where a large scale search and/or rescue recovery effort is under way, the SWAT may be utilized to augment those efforts by providing safety and security for the search and rescue personnel involved in such a high-risk situation.

2. Call-out Procedures

a) Corrections Call-out

- 1) In the event of an emergency situation in the Jail, Work Center or Courthouse that requires the response and assistance of the SWAT, the on-duty supervisor will continue to adhere to and follow the Deschutes County Adult Jail Emergency Operations Policy relative to the incident. The on-duty supervisor will continue as the designated Incident Commander until relieved by a higher authority. The on-duty supervisor will be responsible for maintaining the safety and security of the areas of the Jail or Work Center not affected by the emergency situation.
- 2) Utilizing the attached FTAG, the on-duty supervisor will evaluate the situation. If response by the SWAT is deemed necessary, the on-duty sergeant(s) shall notify the Captain or Sheriff. Once authorized to activate the SWAT, the on-duty supervisor shall notify the SWAT Commander(s) of the call-out, outline the situation and discuss the appropriate tactical response.
- 3) In the event of an extremely high risk court proceeding, the transport sergeant shall notify the Captain or Sheriff. Once authorized, the transport sergeant shall notify the SWAT Commander(s), outline the situation and discuss the appropriate tactical response.

b) Patrol Call-out

Utilizing the attached FTAG, the on-duty Watch Commander will evaluate the situation. If response by the SWAT is deemed necessary, the Watch Commander shall, as soon as possible, notify a Captain or the Sheriff. The Watch Commander(s), once authorized to activate the SWAT, shall notify the SWAT Commander(s) of the call-out and:

- 1) Outline the situation;
- 2) Discuss the appropriate tactical response; and
- 3) Supply the assistance requested by the SWAT Commander(s).

The SWAT Commander(s) will initiate a SWAT call-out and designate an assembly location for the team. A call-out for SWAT will include all available team members. Only the SWAT Commander(s) can decide to activate a limited number of team members.

3. Watch Commander Responsibilities

The Watch Commander at the scene will establish:

- a) Inner perimeter
- b) Outer perimeter
- c) Command post (CP)
- d) Staging area to include press liaison, press area

- e) Develop appropriate intelligence information
- f) Begin evacuation procedures, if appropriate.

When the SWAT Commander(s) or first SWAT Team Leader arrives at the scene, the Watch Commander will brief the SWAT Commander(s) or Team Leader of the situation, outlining known factors.

The Watch Commander and the team leader are responsible for maintaining communications with each other and for coordinating their respective efforts. Unless relieved by a higher-ranking authority, the Watch Commander shall have authority to direct the operation until he commits the SWAT to a tactical solution.

4. SWAT Commander(s) Responsibilities

The SWAT Commander(s) shall be responsible for developing the tactical plan to resolve the situation. He shall take the necessary and appropriate steps to inform himself of all possible facts concerning the situation in order to determine the appropriate tactical action, and will rely on the assistance of his team leaders for the plan development. He shall brief a member of the SO Command of the tactical plan and solicit approval of the plan.

The SWAT commitment shall be authorized only by a Captain or the Sheriff. Once committed, tactical control of the situation passes to the SWAT Commander(s), or, in his absence, to a Team Leader.

The SWAT Commander(s) shall assume full authority and responsibility for the tactical methods employed to resolve the situation in accordance with the approved tactical plan.

5. Team Leader Responsibilities

- a) The SWAT Team Leader(s) shall direct and oversee the actions of team members during the implementation of the tactical plan developed by the Team Commander.
- b) The SWAT Team Leader(s) shall act in place of the Team Commander(s), if unavailable.

G. High Risk Warrant Operations

1. Warrant Services Process and Operations

Purpose and advantages of using the SWAT for warrant services:

- a) Provides detectives and others with a safer method of serving high risk warrants and, according to national research, reduces the potential for police use of deadly force. (Balance of Force IACP 1988); and
- b) Assists SWAT in maintaining proficiency when activation for other purposes is infrequent.

2. Criteria for Requesting the SWAT for Warrant Services:

- a) The location in question is barricaded against entry or the suspect is believed to be inside a location, vehicle or hidden from view and refuses to submit to arrest; or
- b) There is reason to believe the suspect(s) is (are) armed and will use the weapon against law enforcement officers; or
- c) There is no practical way the suspect can be arrested outside the location.

3. Operational Sequence on Warrant Services

- a) A request for the SWAT will be made by the supervisor responsible for the execution of the warrant. The request will be made to the appropriate division captain or the Sheriff. This request will be accompanied by a completed copy of the Field Threat Assessment Guide. All planned operations will be planned as time and circumstances permit. This is in contrast to an unplanned or spontaneously occurring event.

- b) A planning meeting will be held involving the SWAT Commander(s), Team Leaders, designated SWAT scouts and investigators to:
 - 1) Obtain and evaluate available intelligence information;
 - 2) Identify and address all jurisdictional issues and plan for appropriate interagency notifications and/or cooperation;
 - 3) Determine and assign areas of responsibility for operation; and
 - 4) Define the mission objectives, i.e., arrest of suspect(s), seize evidence, coordination of multiple sights, simultaneous or synchronized activities, etc.
- c) At a minimum, obtain information from the following sources:
 - 1) Investigators
 - 2) Corrections deputies and patrol deputies
 - 3) Reconnaissance of the location
 - 4) Informants/witnesses/victims
 - 5) Photos/maps/video tapes/etc.
 - 6) Law enforcement computer data sources, e.g., criminal history records, firearm registration records, past police reports, warnings, field contact reports, etc.
 - 7) Deschutes County Behavioral Health (i.e., Mobile Crisis Assessment Team), if possible

4. Tactical Plan Preparation

When time and circumstances permit, an operations plan will be formulated using the Field Threat Assessment Guide.

- a) The overall operations plan will be submitted internally for approval.
- b) Approval by division captain shall be indicated in writing on the approved operations plan and that document shall be recorded within the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office records.

5. Briefing on Warrant Services

When time and circumstances permit, briefings will be conducted. Briefings will include "brief backs" by involved personnel.

- a) The primary briefing will be held and will include all personnel for all agencies involved in the operation.
- b) A secondary briefing will be held involving SWAT personnel.

6. Warrant Service Rehearsal

- a) When time and circumstances permit, rehearsals will be conducted.
- b) Rehearsals will include order of march; the order of movement from transport vehicles will be practiced, when possible.
- c) Members to be used as convoy drivers and as drivers for delivery of SWAT will conduct reconnaissance of the primary and secondary routes to be used for the operation. This will be done with SWAT Commander(s), when appropriate, and may be considered the SWAT Commander(s)'s recon.

7. Warrant Services Deployment

- a) Non-SWAT personnel not involved in the initial service of the warrant will respond to a pre-selected staging area(s) and will remain there until called into the target area(s) after it has been secured by the SWAT.

- b) Time and circumstances permitting, long rifle teams (SWAT Sniper teams) will be deployed at least two (2) hours prior to service of the warrant. This allows for the reporting of intelligence to SWAT Commander(s) for conveyance to entry and perimeter teams prior to execution of the warrant. This information will include information on suspects and their movement, vehicles leaving or arriving, lights on or off, doors used, areas avoided by the suspects, etc.
- c) A Command Post (CP) will be established and made operational. The CP will be staffed by the SWAT Commander(s), Watch Commander, negotiators, and other personnel as needed.
- d) The SWAT perimeter and entry teams will respond to the location at the direction of the SWAT Commander(s):
 - 1) When possible, perimeter teams will be inserted covertly and will be in position when entry teams arrive.
 - 2) When appropriate, at the time of entry, diversions and distractions will be utilized to promote the safety of team members and suspects.
 - 3) Whenever tactically practical, a public address system will be used for the “knock and announce” requirement to advise the suspects and neighbors of the warrant being served by law enforcement.
 - 4) The entry team will knock and announce then enter and secure the residence and other locations specified by the warrant.
 - 5) If shots are fired, the location will be contained and treated as a barricaded suspect situation.
 - 6) The investigative units at the staging area will be provided with periodic situation reports over the radio by the SWAT.
 - 7) Once the location is cleared and secured, the investigators will be called to the location from their staging areas to take control of the sites which will be handed off to them by the SWAT Commander(s). Investigators will then be responsible for conducting authorized activities pursuant to the warrant.
 - 8) All SWAT activities will be logged by an assigned Incident Recording Officer. The documentation will be reviewed and attached to the after action report.

8. Warrant Service Post Operation Activities

- a) SWAT Commander(s) will provide pertinent information to investigators prior to being released and before leaving the scene;
- b) All SWAT personnel and equipment will be accounted for;
- c) Unless needed for security, all SWAT personnel will depart in an organized manner and as per the operational briefing as soon as possible after the scene is secured and turned over to investigators; and
- d) A comprehensive post-operation critique will be conducted. All personnel involved in the operation from all involved agencies should participate for the purpose of identifying methods and procedures which worked well and items or activities which did not. This “after-action” procedure is imperative for the professional development and growth of all entities involved in managing critical incidents, identifying needed changes to policy or practices, for the development or adoption of different techniques, tactics and procedures and for continuous improvement in all operations.
- e) In addition to the comprehensive post-operation critique described in the preceding paragraph, the SWAT will conduct its own internal critique to focus on its tactical effectiveness.

H. Outside Agency Aid

Requests for aid outside of the jurisdiction of Deschutes County will initially be referred to the appropriate jurisdiction's tactical team. In the case where the situation is larger in scope than the capabilities of one

tactical team, outside law enforcement agencies, may request assistance from SWAT. Operation approval outside of Deschutes County will be on a case by case basis to be approved by the Sheriff or the Sheriff's designee. The team leaders shall inform the requesting agency's representative of the DCSO SWAT policies and that the provisions of ORS 402.210 through ORS 402.240 apply. The following operational guidelines will be established:

1. Primary Assistance: Primary Assistance denotes that the SWAT will assume primary responsibility or be the lead tactical team with operational control for the tactical resolution of the situation.
2. Secondary Assistance: Secondary Assistance denotes that the SWAT will assume a support role to the requesting agency's tactical team. The requesting agency will retain complete operational responsibility and control of the incident. The SWAT Commander(s) will respond to the scene and will accept mission assignments from the incident commander of the requesting agency.
3. Responsibility of the requesting agency: An on-duty supervisor or person of higher rank from the requesting agency will establish:
 - a) Inner perimeter
 - b) Outer perimeter
 - c) Command post (CP)
 - d) Staging area including Public Information Officer, assigned press area
 - e) Begin to develop intelligence information relative to the situation
 - f) Begin necessary evacuation
 - g) Assign a supervisor or command level deputy/officer to the command post during the length of the incident

I. Media Relations and Press Releases

Media contacts for all SWAT operations will be the responsibility of the Public Information Officer, or PIO's designee, or competent authority of the requesting agency. This includes media contacts at the scene, distribution of timely press releases, and/or scheduling of press conferences.

J. Mission Documentation

All SWAT activities will be logged by an assigned Incident Recording Officer. The SWAT Incident Recording Officer will be located in the command post and will monitor the SWAT Commander(s)'s activities and the radio channel/traffic used by the SWAT. The Incident Recording Officer will log any information broadcasted or discussed relating to the incident, including, but not limited to, any decisions made by the SWAT Commander(s), Team Leaders or other SWAT personnel. The log will contain the names of the parties involved and a brief description of what has occurred. The log will be turned over to the SWAT Commander(s) after the mission is resolved, to be included with all other necessary documentation of the event.

K. After Action Reports

In all cases where an SWAT call-out is authorized, the SWAT Commander(s) or his designee, shall submit a report to command staff. The report shall include:

1. Outline of the critical situation or event;
2. Tactical plan utilized and approved by him;
3. Summary of activities;
4. Injuries to any person;
5. Use of weapons, flash-bangs, explosive breaching, and/or chemical agents;
6. Any property damage;
7. Team and individual performance;

8. Suitability of procedures and appropriateness of call-out; and
9. Recommendations regarding the team's mission, operational guidelines, tactics, composition, equipment and training.

L. Equipment

Standard Equipment

SWAT members will be provided the following equipment:

- a) Multi-Camouflage battle dress uniforms
- b) O D Green Camouflage Battle Dress Uniforms
- c) Cold Weather Gortex coat and trousers
- d) O D Belt
- e) Wool knit Watchcap
- f) Knee and elbow pads
- g) Radio, Magazine, EMT Pouches
- h) Leg Platform
- i) Tactical Belt
- j) M4 Magazine Pouch
- k) Ballistic helmet
- l) Nomex balaclava and gloves
- m) Goggles with impact-resistant lenses
- n) 800 MHz radios with necessary frequencies
- o) Radio headset with microphone and ear connections, push to talk
- p) WMD Protective clothing and equipment, to include law enforcement Gas Mask
- q) Full coverage tactical vest with Level 4 ballistic protective insert
- r) Semi-Auto handgun equipment with weapon mounted light (approved by SWAT Commander(s))
- s) Tactical holster for above handgun
- t) Special weapons as authorized
- u) Shoulder Weapon Sling(s)
- v) Gun Bag(s)
- w) Camelback Water Container or equivalent hydration system
- x) Ammunition for weapons training and qualifications

SWAT members will wear appropriate utility-type uniforms of an approved pattern/color determined and directed by an SWAT Commander, based on the needs of the operation or training scenario. Uniforms will utilize clearly visible and identifiable uniform placards, patches, badges or lettering that identifies the wearer of the uniform as a Deschutes County Sheriff's Deputy. All other items of personal wear or equipment must be approved by the SWAT Team Leaders.

SWAT members are individually responsible for any and all departmental equipment they have been issued and will appropriately maintain and care for all issued equipment. Failure to appropriately care for or maintain equipment in full mission readiness will be grounds for removal from the team.

Special Equipment

Recognizing that missions of the SWAT are performed in a hazardous environment and recognizing that the safety of community members, law enforcement officers and suspects is often jeopardized by those hazardous conditions, it shall be the intent of the SWAT to utilize specialized equipment and weapons in an attempt to lessen the risk of injury or death to all involved during the performance of an SWAT operation.

These specialized tools, in combination with specialized training, provide the Sheriff's Office with a capability which, if used appropriately, will mitigate risk to:

- a) the community;
- b) law enforcement personnel;
- c) the suspects who have created the critical incident; and
- d) the correctional facility.

It must be recognized, however, that the use of special equipment in no way implies or guarantees that injury or death will not occur during an SWAT operation.

The following list of weapons and equipment is provided as a general, but not all inclusive, list of the special equipment:

- a) Primary entry weapons such as submachine guns and shorter barreled automatic weapons which, because of their maneuverability in close quarters, enable the team member to acquire targets more rapidly, enhance accuracy levels, and provide greater maneuverability, functionality, and the ability to sustain fire when/if necessary.
- b) High power rifles are commonly referred to as counter-sniper rifles or long rifles. These weapons allow the team member to place highly accurate rounds where needed to help resolve life-threatening incidents.
- c) Less lethal weapons and 37/40 mm less lethal specialty munitions, such as TASERS and "bean bag rounds" are a propelled projectile or device that is not normally lethal in nature. These force options are designed to offer an alternative to the use of deadly force when appropriate.
- d) Flash/Sound diversionary devices are designed to be used in certain situations where, through their use, the SWAT member is provided some degree of tactical advantage over the subject(s) from the momentary distraction they may provide. The device is intended to create a bright flash and loud noise sufficient to momentarily affect the senses of an unsuspecting subject, with the hope that these effects will distract the subject for a period long enough to provide the SWAT a tactical advantage.
- e) Chemical agents such as 2-Chlorobenzalmalononitrile (CS) and Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) irritants are designed to reduce physical resistance by subjects, thus reducing the level of force necessary to subdue them, with the result being fewer injuries incurred by subject(s), deputies/officers and others. The use of chemical agents may be necessary in circumstances where a serious danger to life and property exists and other methods of control or apprehension would be less effective or more dangerous.
- f) Breaching tools and ammunition items such as rams, pry bars, gasoline powered saws, hydraulic or electronic machines, specially designed frangible shotgun rounds, etc., are designed to assist SWAT members in forcing entry into barricaded or fortified areas.
- g) Tactical munitions used to assist in forcing entry into barricaded or secured/fortified areas, or to create an entry point for tactical teams where appropriate speed and surprise can only be accomplished through the use of the explosive. They are also used to create large exterior distractions.
- h) A Tactical Operational Robot is used to see inside rooms or buildings during standoffs, hostage situations, and other volatile incidents. The Robot will only be utilized when accompanied by specifically trained members of the SWAT and only by authorization of SWAT Commander(s).