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| ALAMEDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SPECIAL RESPONSE UNIT POLICY AND PROCEDURE | NUMBER: 3.02 | PAGES: 1 of 6 |
| | RELATED ORDERS: General Order 1.05, 1.08, 1.21 CALEA 1.39, 46.1.1 thru 46.2.3 POST SWAT Guidelines: 8.2, 8.3 NTOA SWAT Standards: 5.4 | |
| | ISSUED DATE: December 15, 1994 | |
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| CHAPTER: Vehicles and Equipment | SUBJECT: Specialized Weapons, Equipment, Munitions and Chemical Agents | |

- I. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for issuing, maintaining, using and controlling specialized weapons, equipment, munitions and chemical agents approved for use by the Special Response Unit (SRU).

- II. **POLICY:** Missions assigned to the Special Response Unit are generally performed in a hazardous environment. Properly trained members of the Special Response Unit may utilize approved specialized weapons, equipment, munitions and chemical agents, in an attempt to lessen the risk of injury or death to all involved parties during the performance of a tactical operation.

- III. **PROCEDURE:**
 - A. **ISSUED WEAPONS:**
 1. All SRU members will use their departmental issued Sig Sauer P226 pistol.
 - a. The Range Master, or designee, maintains an inventory of Sig Sauer P226 pistols assigned to all Agency sworn personnel, including members assigned to the SRU. The Sig Sauer P226 pistols with serial numbers are maintained on the Agency's Master Weapons Inventory List.
 - b. Maintenance will be conducted in accordance to General Order 1.08.
 2. SRU members will be issued an M-4 or AR-15 Rifle as their primary shoulder fire weapon.
 - a. All rifles will have one of the following sighting systems attached:
 1. EO Tech Fixed Holographic Sight
 2. Elcan Spector Optical Sight (1x/4x switchable)
 3. Each SRU member is responsible for the control, care, and maintenance of his/her issued pistol and shoulder fire weapon. Each member will coordinate necessary repairs, or maintenance beyond his/her scope of capability with the Agency Range Master, or designee.
 4. The SRU Logistics Deputy is responsible for the accountability and inventory of all weapons assigned to the Special Response Unit.

- a. The Logistics Deputy will maintain a current inventory of all weapons issued to team members, including related serial numbers;
- b. The Logistics Deputy will occasionally compare the SRU weapons inventory list with the Agency's Range Master Weapons Inventory List, to ensure information is accurate and all weapons are accounted for;
- c. SRU rifles shall be stored in the ETS Armory when not in use, unless otherwise authorized by the SRU Commanding Officer, or designee;
- d. SRU rifle usage shall be documented on the ETS Armory Inventory Log, with weapons being signed-out and signed-in as appropriate;
- e. The Logistics Deputy shall compare the ETS Armory Inventory Log to the weapons in the Armory, at least twice per month, to ensure all weapons are properly accounted for;
- f. The Logistics Deputy shall complete an Inventory Reconciliation Report of all weapons annually and submit to the SRU Commanding Officer.

B. SPECIALIZED WEAPONS:

1. Specialized weapons utilized by the SRU is any firearm other than those listed in Section "A" of this policy (Sig Sauer P226 pistol, M-4 / AR-15 Rifle) or any weapon fitted with non-standard stocks, sights, scopes, silencers, grips or other non-standard configurations.
2. Rifles issued to the SRU Counter Sniper Team are considered specialized weapons, including:
 - a. .308 Caliber Rifle with Telescopic Sight
 - b. .338 Lapua Sniper Rifle
 - c. .223 Caliber Carbine with Telescopic Sight
3. 40 mm launchers used as a delivery system for less-lethal munitions and chemical agents are considered specialized weapons.
4. Only SRU personnel who have received specialized training and have appropriately qualified with the specialized weapons listed, may be assigned to deploy during a tactical operation, or other non-training event.
5. The Logistics Deputy is responsible for the care, control and maintenance of all specialized weapons, with the exception of Sniper Team rifles and shall:
 - a. Ensure specialized weapons are properly stored in one of the following locations:
 1. ETS Armory

2. ACSO Firearms Training Facility Armory
 3. 2007 Black Water Grizzly Armored Personnel Carrier
 4. 1998 Grumman Olson GMC Tactical Equipment Van
 5. 1991 GMC Tactical Supply Truck
 6. 2005 Ford Passenger Transport Van
 7. 2007 Ford Passenger Transport Van
- b. Ensure all related inventories are accurate and up to date;
 - c. Coordinate with Agency Range Master, or designee, to ensure the Agency's Range Master Weapons Inventory List, is accurate and all weapons are accounted for;
 - d. Coordinate with Agency Range Master, or designee, for required repairs or maintenance;
 - e. Coordinate with the Agency Range Master, or designee, to ensure all weapons are safe and properly functioning, in accordance to [General Order 1.08](#).

C. SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT:

1. SRU utilizes specialized tactical equipment, including but not limited to:
 - a. Ballistic Shield
 - b. Bang Pole
 - c. Electronic Surveillance Equipment
 - d. Ladder
 - e. Mechanical Breaching Devices (Rams, Slide Rakes, etc.)
 - f. Mirror
 - g. Night Vision Devices
 - h. Pole Camera
 - i. Riot Shield
2. Tactical Equipment is stored in the various Tactical Response Vehicles in a constant state of operational readiness, as indicated in [SRU P&P 3.03](#).

3. The SRU Logistics Deputy is responsible to conduct a monthly inventory of all Specialized Equipment using the SRU Equipment Inventory Log.
4. SRU shall conduct training over the course of the year to ensure team members are familiar and proficient with the usage of all specialized equipment, as indicated in [SRU P&P 1.06](#).
5. Only SRU members who have received training and demonstrated proficiency shall be assigned to use specialized equipment during a tactical operation, or other non-training event.

D. LIGHT-SOUND DIVERSIONARY DEVICES:

1. The Agency approved Light Sound Diversionary Devices (LSDD), are instruments used to temporarily disorient suspects. The device is designed to use noise and flash to distract, disorient or overwhelm persons.
2. Diversion Devices should be deployed when the diversion effect caused by the device will safely provide operators a tactical advantage during a rapid entry. This device should not be utilized in a potentially hazardous environment including chemical and/or Methamphetamine Labs, or when known children are present at target location.
3. Diversionary devices may be considered whenever the use of a less-lethal distraction would help facilitate entry, enabling arrest and potentially reducing the risk of injury by disorientation of potentially dangerous suspects. Circumstances include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Barricaded suspect and/or hostage situations;
 - b. High-risk warrant service;
 - c. In order to distract a violent person, mentally deranged persons, or persons believed to be under the influence of alcohol/drugs and necessary to facilitate apprehension;
 - d. When the Incident Commander or Tactical Commander deems the usage necessary to safely resolve an incident.
4. The deployment of the device during tactical operations shall be restricted to SRU members who have been properly trained in its usage.
5. The following safety practices should be utilized when deploying a diversionary device in an actual mission, or during related training and exercises:
 - a. The operator deploying the device shall identify the area in which the device will come to rest, looking into the area prior to throwing device. The device should never intentionally be thrown at or near anyone.
 - b. The operator deploying the device shall wear proper eye protection;

- c. The operator deploying the device shall wear Nomex hood and gloves;
 - d. The operator deploying the device shall understand the potential of the device to ignite flammable materials. Because of this, the following should be considered prior to deployment if time allows:
 1. Have a fire extinguisher available near the target location;
 2. Notify fire department and request unit on standby if possible.
6. The SRU Logistics Deputy shall maintain and control the LSDD inventory as follows:
- a. The Agency Range Master, or designee, shall order and maintain the master LSDD inventory, as well as complete all related federal documentation;
 - b. The SRU Logistics Deputy will receive a designated number of LSDD, documenting the serial number of each device;
 - c. The SRU Logistics Deputy will secure the LSDD in the various Tactical Response Vehicles and update the related equipment logs as appropriate;
 - d. If deployed, the device and serial number will be documented on the related Equipment Inventory Log, the casing will be collected and disposed of, and the information will be provided to the Range Master, or designee, for replacement and proper documentation as required by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF).
- E. LESS-LETHAL MUNITIONS AND CHEMICAL AGENT:
1. SRU has the authority to deploy less-lethal munitions or chemical agents to assist with the de-escalation of potentially violent confrontations.
 2. Only SRU members who have successfully completed training and demonstrated proficiency in the proper use of less lethal munitions or chemical agents, shall be authorized to deploy them during a tactical operation, or other non-training event.
 3. SRU will conduct less-lethal and/or chemical agent deployments in accordance to [General Order 1.21](#).
 4. The SRU Logistics Deputy will receive a designated supply of less-lethal munitions and chemical agent canisters from the ETS Executive Officer or Range Master.
 5. The SRU Logistics Deputy will ensure the tactical response vehicles are properly supplied and each related Equipment Inventory Log is accurate and up to date.
 6. When deployed, the SRU Logistics Deputy will ensure such usage is documented on the related Equipment Inventory Log and the items are replaced.

F. SRU AMMUNITION INVENTORY:

1. SRU members will be issued an appropriate amount of approved duty ammunition for their pistol and assigned shoulder fire weapon. Members are responsible to keep and maintain their issued ammunition at all times.
2. Duty ammunition fired at SRU ranges or training days will be replaced immediately.
3. The SRU Tactical Equipment Van shall have a sufficient amount of ammunition to conduct tactical operations and training exercises.
 - a. All other ammunition is stored at the ACSO Regional Firearms Training Facility Armory.
 - b. Ammunition will be stored in a locked and secure location at all times.

G. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT INVENTORY:

1. An SRU member will be assigned as Communications Coordinator, responsible to maintain accurate inventory control of all radios assigned to the SRU Unit.
 - a. The Communications Coordinator will be responsible for maintaining an inventory of all radios and communications equipment;
 - b. The Communications Coordinator will maintain all communication equipment in working order.
2. SRU Member's Responsibilities:
 - a. All SRU members will be assigned a radio, headset and related communications equipment as indicated in [SRU P&P 3.01](#);
 - b. SRU members shall bring all issued radio equipment to training, exercises and all missions;
 - c. SRU members shall immediately report missing or damaged radios, headsets, etc. to their Team Leader;
 - d. The Team Leader will direct members to the Communications Coordinator for repairs or replacement.