


**SUBJECT****ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENT
RESPONSE****NUMBER****408/61****EFFECTIVE DATE:****08-18-09****AMENDS:****07-16-08****RESCINDS:****DISTRIBUTION: Administration, CID, Patrol,
Communications, Clerical****REFERENCES:****CALEA 46.2.1 / IACLEA 46.2.
TPCAF Chpt. 8 / <http://www.alerrt.com/>**


- .10 OBJECTIVE:** To establish guidelines and assign responsibility for the appropriate police response to an active shooter situation.
- .20 POLICY:** It is the policy of this department to protect life by any legal means possible. Officers responding to an active shooter incident will use any legal means to make contact with the active shooter and stop him/her.
- .30 PROCEDURE:**
- A. Definitions
1. Active shooter – One or more subjects who participated in a random or systematic action demonstrating their intent to harm others. Their objective appears to be that of mass murder, rather than other criminal contact. Their weapons may be firearms, explosives, knives, bow and arrow, etc.
- B. Responsibility
1. The officer's objective is to stop the active shooter before he can take the life of any others.
 2. The initial responding officers have the duty to use all legal means to stop the active shooter. Their prioritization of activities are:
 - a. Stop the active shooter.
 - b. Rescue victims.
 - c. Provide medical assistance.
 - d. Preserve the crime scene.
- C. Tactics
1. The dispatcher will immediately notify the San Antonio Police Department and initiate the department emergency notification procedures.

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2. Contact team – The first responding officers, up to four, will form a contact team and go in immediate pursuit of the active shooter. The objective is to make contact as soon as possible and stop the shooter by arrest, containment or use of deadly force. The team will be subject to 540 degree vulnerability (360° horizontal and 180° vertical) and will not do a thorough building clearing. They will continue on past victims or harmless distractions. The location of the victims may be relayed to a rescue team if available.
3. Rescue team – The second set of officers (up to four) arriving on the scene will form a rescue team which will locate and remove injured victims and direct uninjured victims out of the building.
4. Officers should make entry at a location other than a main entrance to avoid an ambush or explosives.
5. Only emergency radio traffic will be authorized.

D. Incident Command

1. The first supervisor on the scene who is not a part of the contact team or rescue team will be the incident commander and will establish a command post at a safe location. He/she will:
 - a. Choose a safe staging area for arriving personnel.
 - b. Ensure that dispatch has initiated the emergency notification procedure.
 - c. Coordinate with arriving SAPD Officers as they arrive and form additional contact and rescue teams as needed.


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- d. Assign an officer to assist media to be in a safe location for briefings. News media will not be allowed at the initial scene.
- e. Arrange safe staging area for medical units and treatment of injured.
- f. Post additional officers to guard crime scene.

E. Communications/Dispatch

1. One dispatcher will coordinate radio communications with officers at the active shooter scene.
2. The dispatcher should request assistance from any available staff in the office to answer the telephones.
3. The dispatcher will be expected to contact the San Antonio Police Department and request assistance for our officers.
4. The dispatcher will likely have to give detailed directions to the scene to responding law enforcement agencies and advise the responding agencies that our officers are engaging the shooter.
5. The dispatcher should radio patch the Alamo Colleges Police Department primary channel with the appropriate SAPD Patrol frequency when directed and relinquish control to the SAPD Communications Operator.
6. The dispatcher will keep Emergency Medical Service informed and direct them to appropriate staging areas.

- F. Training: The department will utilize instructors who have attended [the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training](#) Train the Trainer Course to train department officers in rapid response tactics or similar training.

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G. Counseling

1. All enforcement personnel involved in a deadly force encounter will attend at least one counseling session with a qualified counseling professional of the department's choosing.
2. No report on the session will be made to the department except to verify employee's attendance.