



DAYTON MMRS RESCUE TASK FORCE (RTF): LAW ENFORCEMENT & EMS: INTEGRATION WITH DURING ASI

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by

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Objectives

- Roles of EMS
- Roles of LE
- Working together! 



Goals

- Law Enforcement and EMS both have the same primary goal
 - To save lives
- The priorities and missions do differ
 - LE mission is to stop the time line of violence
 - EMS mission is to triage and treat the wounded



Dayton MMRS Active Shooter Rescue Task Force (RTF)

- Rapid treatment for casualties in an active shooter scenario
- Concept endorsed by International Association of Firefighters



Rescue Task Force

- Provide immediate life-saving interventions at earliest time
 - Enter scene with rescue team
 - Establish casualty collection point
 - Triage/treat casualties where found or at Casualty Collection Point (CCP)
 - Facilitate evacuation to outside of perimeter



RTF Procedures

- Authorization for entry must be obtained from Law Enforcement
- RTF personnel must wear appropriate protective equipment
- RTF comprised of two EMS personnel and law enforcement escort; preferably two



EMS and Active Shooter Response

- Personal Protective Equipment
 - Ballistic vest & Rifle plates
 - Ballistic helmet
 - Proper identification



Law Enforcement Expectations of EMS at an Active Shooter Event



DEFINITIONS:

- **Contact Teams: up to four or five LEOs who immediately deploy to contain or eliminate AS**
 - **Most critical response to Active Shooter Incident (ASI)**
 - **May need multiple Contact Teams prior to assigning personnel to RTF(s)**



Rescue Team

- Follows contact team temporally or physically
- Identify individuals and:
 - Remove from scene
 - +/- Initial triage
 - +/- Initial treatment



DEFINITIONS:

- **RTF: Two RTF-trained EMS personnel in tactical PPE with two law enforcement personnel**
 - Able to operate in the Warm Zone at ASIs
 - As with LE Contact Teams, there may need multiple RTFs



LE Priorities

- Hostages
- Citizens (Potential hostages or victims)
- Police
- Suspect/Subject



EMS Priorities

- Triage of injured victims
- Treatment of injured victims
- Removal of victims
- Transportation of victims



LE Mission

- Law enforcement's primary mission: stop person or persons committing violence
- LE will not take part in the rescue of victims until either suspect(s) are stopped or plenty of officers arrive to start rescue



LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS

- RTF plan predicated on LE responding aggressively, with initial officer(s) immediately making entry
- May be multiple Contact Teams used, especially in large, complex settings



LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS

- Contact Team officers move quickly with single goal of engaging and eliminating active threat
- Work with other responders on scene, activate UC/IC, and develop unified objectives
- Call for additional resources: law enforcement, EMS, and RTF
- Entry officers relay recon info to Unified or Incident Command (UC/IC)
 - Helps RTF quickly locate casualties



RESPONSE :

- RTFL will form RTFs as EMS and LE personnel and RTF equipment become available



LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS

- Assign two armed LEOs to each RTF




Communication

- Communication will be chaotic for some time
- Radio communications may be difficult
- Check egos at the door
- Must listen to LE on scene for your own safety
 - Especially two officers on the RTF
 - Especially Unified Command
- We are on the same team!
- No freelancing!



Obey Commands

- LEO will have communication contact with operations/Command 
- In this very fluid environment EMS personnel must follow commands given by their law enforcement escorts



Consider Casualty Collection Points (CCP)

- Internal security
- Corridor lockdown
- External egress
- Three possible types:
 - Warm Zone CCP
 - Extraction CCP
 - Cold Zone CCP
 - More info in another lecture



Zones of Care

- **Cold Zone:** area where Incident Command does not anticipate threat
- **Warm Zone:** area where potential for hostile threat exist, but the threat is not direct and immediate
 - Main zone of operations and staging for RTF personnel
- **Hot Zone:** any area in which there is a direct and immediate threat to persons and providers
 - RTF plans and training not intended for Hot Zone response
- You may be asked to abandon a safe zone and exit back to your vehicles or Command Post



PROCEDURES FOR LE OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO AN RTF

- Roles of LEOs assigned to an RTF are security and coordination of team movement only
- LEOs assigned to RTFs will not assist in lifting, carrying, or treatment of any patient
 - Until UC confirms all perpetrators have been contained



PROCEDURES FOR LE OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO AN RTF

- Safety of RTF is primary concern for LEOs assigned to RTF
 - Includes searching for other secondary threats (e.g., IEDs, tripwires)
- One LEO will have 180 degree front security and one will have 180 degree rear security



PROCEDURES FOR LE OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO AN RTF

- Front LEO will communicate with Police/Unified Command
 - All movement in building should be directed by Police/Unified Command
 - Allows for accountability
 - Precludes accidental entry into hot zones
- At no time will RTF LEOs 'freelance' or move outside directed destination/area of operation




Procedures for LEO assigned to RTF

- At no time will LEOs assigned to an RTF leave the EMS personnel further than close line of sight
- LEOs must be able to provide effective defensive fire cover for the RTF at all times
- The RTF will move as a team, with the LEOs controlling the speed of movement



Procedures of RTF

- First one or two teams move deep inside to stabilize as many casualties as possible
- RTF stabilize only life-threatening wounds on each casualty  they encounter, but leave casualties where they are found and move on
- Emphasis on treatable immediate life threats and move on
- Walking wounded and uninjured individuals are directed to exits away from threats




ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS:

- RTF team communications may function on different radio channels:
 - RTF LEOs communicating with one Branch
 - RTF EMS personnel communicating with another Branch



ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS:

- Communications within a single RTF are typically face to face
- In any case, it is important to relay information to IC/UC such as:
 - RTF location within building 
 - Number of casualties and injuries
 - Updates on location of injured, activities of LEO contact teams, and possible threats
 - Allows for accountability and effective use of the teams as well as for planning and management of both the external CCP and additional EMS resources



ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS:

- Nearly any ASI will require multiple RTFs
 - Assign each RTF a number as they are formed (e.g., RTF-1, RTF-2, etc.)
- Remember that LE uses different nomenclature for building descriptions than Fire/EMS (Side 1 vs. A side)
- Crucial that ALL communications be in plain language
- Communications from an RTF to Command are typically via the LE personnel



SCABE: MAINTAIN SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Be aware of surroundings
 - Consider IEDs and other threats
 - Maintain open routes for rapid egress
- Consider potential for multiple attackers
- Consider possibility attacker may circle around...
 - ...turning warm zone into hot zone




SCABE: MAINTAIN SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Know difference between cover and concealment
 - And benefits of each
- Consider tactical positioning in case team comes under fire
- Consider need for forcible entry equipment
 - Get from on-scene apparatus if needed
- Consider possibility of chemical or IED threat at scene
 - And related scenes, e.g., perpetrator's home



EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES

- If RTF's location changes from Warm to Hot (indirect threat to direct threat), evac immediately
 - On direction of RTF  element or IC/UC
 - May be partial or complete evac from building
- Injury to any RTF member = immediate evac



 **STAY SAFE!**

