

PBP FORM 290  <b>PITTSBURGH BUREAU OF POLICE</b> <i>"...accountability, integrity, and respect."</i>		<b>SUBJECT:</b> <b>SNIPER/HOSTAGE/          BARRICADED SUBJECTS</b>	<b>ORDER NUMBER:</b> <b>42-5</b>
		<b>PLEAC STANDARD:</b> <b>2.2.1</b>	<b>PAGE 1 OF 3</b>
<b>RE-ISSUE DATE:</b> <b>3/14/2016</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> <b>11/15/2012</b>	<b>ANNUAL REVIEW DATE:</b> <b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>RESCINDS:</b> <b>ALL PREVIOUS</b>
			<b>AMENDS:</b> <b>NONE</b>

### 1.0 POLICY OR PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to provide officers with guidelines for handling sniper, hostage, and/or barricaded subject situations.
- 1.2 The Pittsburgh Bureau of Police recognizes and respects the inherently special value of each human life. The law recognizes, however, that police officers; in the performance of their duties; will encounter situations where it is necessary to use force in order to effect an arrest or otherwise protect the public welfare, or as a means of protecting themselves or others. All force that is used in sniper, hostage, or barricaded subject situations shall be utilized in accordance with Procedural Order # 12-10, Use of Force.

### 2.0 DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 Barricaded Subject – Any individual who is reasonably believed to be a threat to commit serious bodily injury and/or death to him/herself, hostages, officers, or bystanders; who is resisting arrest and is in a stronghold position.
- 2.2 Hostage – Any person held against his/her will by force or threat of force, whether expressed or implied.
- 2.3 Incident Commander – The individual responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site, to include the negotiations team, tactical command, and responding agencies.
- 2.4 Negotiations Operations Center- This is where the Primary and Secondary Negotiators will conduct the negotiations operations. It should, if possible, be situated in close proximity to the command post.
- 2.4 Primary Negotiator – The individual responsible for communicating with the subject and developing intelligence.
- 2.5 Secondary Negotiator (Coach) – The individual responsible for monitoring negotiations, providing strategy suggestions and relieving the primary negotiator, if necessary.
- 2.6 Tactical Commander – The individual responsible for the management of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team operations to include perimeter officers, counter-sniper elements, entry teams, and arrest teams. The Tactical Commander shall report directly to the Incident Commander.
- 2.7 Tactical Negotiations Team- An element of at least three trained negotiators who work together to communicate and negotiate with the suspect(s) in an attempt to resolve critical incidents.

### 3.0 DUTIES OF RESPONDING OFFICER

- 3.1 A responding police officer confronting sniper, hostage, or dangerous barricaded subject situations shall not initiate tactical action unless he/she reasonably believes that imminent death or serious bodily injury is likely if no immediate action is taken. Use of force shall be consistent with the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Use of Force Policy (Procedural Order # 12-10, Use of Force).
- 3.2 The responding officer(s) shall immediately notify the shift supervisor of the incident.
- 3.3 Responding officers shall initiate efforts to contain and isolate the incident scene and suspect by establishing an inner perimeter in order to provide a reasonable degree of safety for vehicular and pedestrian traffic and to maintain surveillance on the suspect.

- 3.4 Responding officers shall advise Communications of potential hazards and inform responding units of safe routes.
- 3.5 The first officer on scene shall establish the Incident Command System and shall be considered the Incident Commander until properly relieved.
- 3.6 The ranking officer on scene shall request additional law enforcement resources (e.g. SWAT, hostage negotiators, perimeter security, additional units, etc.) as needed.
- 3.7 In accordance with SWAT and the Tactical Negotiations Team Standard Operating Guide/Procedures, both teams shall be jointly activated in sniper, hostage, and/or barricaded subject situations.

**4.0 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 4.1 Immediately upon notification, a police supervisor shall respond to the incident scene and ensure that the following tasks are initiated:
  - 4.1.1 Establish command and control of the incident.
  - 4.1.2 Inform the appropriate Commander about the nature and circumstances surrounding the incident.
  - 4.1.3 If feasible, consult with the Tactical Negotiations Team to determine whether a negotiable situation exists. If an incident presents a potentially negotiable situation, the supervisor shall summons three negotiators to the scene.
  - 4.1.4 [REDACTED]
  - 4.1.5 Implement a personnel accountability system to include officers, post assignments, and duties.
  - 4.1.6 Ensure that access control points (ACP's) are established and report those locations to EOC.
  - 4.1.7 Determine what resources are required for traffic control, evacuation, staging area security, perimeter security, emergency medical services, and fire response.
  - 4.1.8 Maintain a chronological log of all details and actions taken.
  - 4.1.9 Maintain command and control until specifically relieved by a superior or until the incident is resolved.

4.2 The supervisor shall continuously monitor the above activities until specifically relieved by a superior officer.

**5.0 SWAT TEAM RESPONSE**

- 5.1 [REDACTED]
  - 5.2 [REDACTED]
  - 5.3 [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

**6.0 NEGOTIATIONS**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**7.0 POLICE – MEDIA RELATIONS**

- 7.1 Sniper/hostage/dangerous barricaded subject scenes are crime scenes. Accordingly, unauthorized individuals; including media; are prohibited from entering the scene.
- 7.2 The Incident Commander should request that live broadcasts be limited to ensure the safety of the tactical team.
- 7.3 Members shall refer to Procedural Order # 65-1, Media Policy.

**8.0 DEMOBILIZATION, DEBRIEFING, AND AFTER-ACTION REVIEW PROCEDURES**

- 8.1 The scene shall continuously be monitored by the Incident Commander to determine the need to add or eliminate resources. Consideration should be given to the potential resources that may be needed for unrelated emergency situations. All officers will remain at their posts or assignments until specifically relieved by a supervisor.
- 8.2 Following the incident, a supervisor from each division will conduct an inventory of his/her personnel to ensure that all are accounted for; all equipment issued is accounted for and to identify any special needs and provide officers with access to support services, if deemed necessary.
- 8.3 As soon as is practical for a sniper, hostage, and/or dangerous barricaded subject incident, the Incident Commander shall convene a SWAT incident review and forward any recommendations to the Chiefs.
- 8.4 The Chief of Police, or his/her designee, will review the after-action report with the appropriate Command Staff personnel to determine and discuss any lessons learned from the incident, and to determine if any changes in training or policy procedures are in order.
- 8.5 The after action report, as described in Section 8.4, will not be prepared in those instances when a Critical Incident Review Board is convened.

Approved By:

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Cameron McLay  
Chief of Police