



POLICY & PROCEDURE

ELKHART LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: **SWAT TEAM CALL UP PROCEDURE** NUMBER: 13.04
ISSUED: 06/01/2015
SCOPE: All Department Personnel EFFECTIVE: 07/15/2015
DISTRIBUTION: Policy & Procedure Manual RESCINDS
 AMENDS
REFERENCE: WILEAG 4TH EDITION
STANDARDS: 13.1.2

INDEX AS: Mutual Aid
Special Response Team
Special Response Team Call Out Procedure
SWAT
SWAT Team

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Policy & Procedure is to establish the call up procedure for activation of the Sheboygan County SWAT Team by the Elkhart Lake Police Department.

This Policy & Procedure consists of the following numbered sections:

- I. SWAT RESPONSE TO INCIDENTS/SITUATIONS
 - II. ACTIVATION PROCEDURE
 - III. MUTUAL AID
 - IV. SELECTION OF SWAT MEMBERS
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- I. SWAT RESPONSE TO INCIDENTS/SITUATIONS
 - A. High Risk Incidents

1. The SWAT will respond to critical incidents, such as hostage rescue or barricaded suspect. An officer, in consultation with the Sheriff's Office supervisor, may call up the SWAT when all of the following criteria are met subject to activation procedure:
 - a) The suspect(s) is probably armed.
 - b) The suspect(s) is believed to have been involved in a criminal act or is a significant threat to the lives and safety of citizens and/or police.
 - c) The suspect(s) is in a position of advantage, affording cover and concealment; or is contained in an open area and the presence or approach of police officers could precipitate an adverse reaction by the suspect.
 - d) The suspect has refused to submit to an arrest, or has not responded to attempts at communication by the police.

B. High Risk Warrants

1. The SWAT will serve those warrants classified as high risk. Request for warrant service will be made by the Chief of Police. High risk warrants are those in which there is no practical way the suspect can be arrested outside the location, and one or more of the following criteria are met:
2. The location is barricaded or fortified and entry to the location is beyond the normal capability of investigation or patrol units.
3. There is reason to believe the suspect(s) is (are) armed and will use the weapon against law enforcement officers.
4. The suspect(s) background reveals a propensity toward violence; or the suspect(s) is (are) affiliated with a gang which has a propensity toward violence.
5. The incident location contains superior armament to the standard issued Department firearm.

II. ACTIVATION PROCEDURE

- A. The Chief of Police or designee shall be notified of an existing SWAT situation. Approval for activation of the SWAT will be the decision of the Chief or designee if time permits.
- B. In the event of a critical emergency and providing neither the Chief nor designee are able to be contacted, the Sheriff's Office Supervisor in concert with an Elkhart Lake officer shall make the decision whether or not to activate the SWAT. In the event the SWAT is activated, the Chief will be notified as soon as possible.

- C. Upon approval of the activation of the SWAT, dispatch will contact the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office to request the SWAT response for the Department. The Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office will follow their protocol for activating the SWAT and contacting their members to respond.
- D. The responsibilities of operational personnel prior to the arrival of the tactical team include:
 - 1. Establish perimeter
 - 2. Maintain radio communications for all units
 - 3. Maintain visual on target
 - 4. Consider staging area for resources such as EMS and additional units
- E. Coordination between the tactical team and other operational units is the responsibility of the OIC/shift supervisor as outlined in Section II Activation Procedure, B.

III. MUTUAL AID

- A. Members of the Elkhart Lake Police Department who are assigned to assist the SWAT team will assist that team when called out under Mutual Aid.

Elkhart Lake Police Department officers who are assigned to assist the SWAT team will be under the direction of the SWAT team Officer in Charge.

Nothing in this section denies the Chief of Police or designee ultimate supervision and control of members of Elkhart Lake Police Department. Elkhart Lake police officers assigned to SWAT may be recalled to active duty at any time.

IV. SELECTION OF SWAT MEMBERS

- A. Selection to be a member on the Sheboygan County SWAT will be determined by Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office. In the event the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office chooses its SWAT members multi-jurisdictionally, the Chief will post a notice seeking letters of interest from officers. The following criteria will be considered when the selection is made.
 - 1. Number of years of law enforcement/military experience.
 - 2. Training and education.
 - 3. Department evaluations.
 - 4. Oral interview with department administration.

- B. The Chief of Police will make the selection and forward the name of that officer to the OIC of the Sheboygan County SWAT. The Sheboygan County SWAT will conduct their own review of that officer and determine if that officer will be accepted on the team.
- C. The OIC of the Sheboygan County SWAT will set standards for team members such as for decision making, shooting skills, physical fitness and attitude. The OIC of the Sheboygan County SWAT may remove any officer from the team that he/she does not deem acceptable.

Michael Meeusen
Chief of Police

This Policy & Procedure cancels and supersedes any and all written directives relative to the subject matter contained herein.

Initial 06/01/2015