

Rapid Response and Deployment

Effective Date:	7/2/25
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Issuing Authority: Chief Probation Officer	

800.1 PURPOSE:

To identify guidelines and factors that will assist the Department in situations that call for rapid response and deployment (i.e. an active shooter, etc.).

800.2 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Violence that is committed in schools, workplaces, and other locations by individuals, or a group of individuals, who are determined to target and/or kill persons and create mass casualties presents a difficult situation for law enforcement. Officers must often decide, under difficult and rapidly evolving circumstances, whether to advance on the suspect, take other actions to deal with the threat, or wait for additional resources.

The Probation Department will endeavor to plan for rapid response to crisis situations and to coordinate response planning with other emergency services as well as with those that are responsible for operating sites that may be the target of a critical incident.

When dealing with a crisis situation, officers should attempt to:

- A. Assess the immediate situation and take reasonable steps to maintain operative control of the incident.
- B. Obtain, explore, and analyze available sources of intelligence/known information regarding the circumstances, location, and suspect involved in the incident.
- C. Attain a tactical advantage over the suspect by reducing, preventing, or eliminating any known or perceived threat.

800.3 GUIDELINES:

- A. All Department personnel, regardless of level of involvement in the incident, shall be afforded the opportunity to seek peer support services and be provided with contact information for the counseling team.
- B. Nothing in this procedure shall preclude the use of reasonable force, deadly or otherwise, by members of the Department in protecting themselves or others from death or serious injury.

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800.4 OFFICER RESPONSE TO INCIDENT:

- A. Unless directed to stand down, officers should be prepared to respond immediately, prioritizing the safety of civilians and themselves, and should be ready to engage the subject if they encounter them.
- B. Officers should consider their distance from the incident location prior to deployment and whether previous directives have been given by the Field Commander, Incident Commander, and/or Administration, etc.
- C. Officers near or at the incident location should broadcast to dispatch and responding officers any relevant information (number of suspects/victims, description, location, type/number of weapons, etc.) when safe to do so.
- D. Officers should remain aware of the possibility that an incident may be part of a coordinated multi-location attack that may require response to incidents at other locations. As such, officers should remain alert and informed and follow any directives relating to the integration of response with other local agencies and/or directives given by the Field Commander, Incident Commander, and/or Administration, etc.
- E. If there is a reasonable belief that acts or threats by a suspect are placing lives in imminent danger, first responding officers should consider reasonable options to reduce, prevent, or eliminate the threat.
- F. If a suspect is actively engaged in the infliction of serious bodily harm or other life-threatening activity toward others, officers should take immediate action, if reasonably practicable, while requesting additional assistance.
- G. In the case of a known barricaded or trapped suspect, with no known hostages and no known immediate threat to others, officers should consider covering escape routes and evacuating persons as appropriate while summoning and waiting for additional assistance (e.g., special tactics and/or hostage negotiation team response).
- H. When deciding on a course of action, officers should consider:
 - 1. Whether to advance on or engage a suspect who is a possible or perceived threat to others. Any advancement or engagement should be based on information known or received at the time.
 - 2. Whether to wait for additional resources or personnel. This does not preclude an individual officer from taking immediate action.
 - 3. Whether individuals who are under imminent threat can be moved or evacuated with reasonable safety.
 - 4. Whether the suspect can be contained or denied access to victims.
 - 5. Whether the officers have the ability to effectively communicate with other personnel or resources.
 - 6. Whether planned tactics can be effectively deployed.
 - 7. The availability of defensive weapons, control devices, and any other appropriate tools, and whether the deployment of these tools will provide a tactical advantage.

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- I. School Probation Officers and their supervisor(s) shall be aware of and consider the School Safety Plan at their assigned districts.

800.5 FIELD COMMANDER/SUPERVISOR:

- A. Shall respond to the incident unless directed to stand down.
- B. Generally, the Field Commander/supervisor should:
 1. Establish a department command post.
 2. Assist and coordinate with leading agency.
 3. Determine the need for additional probation staff and/or resources.
 4. Make notifications to administration.
 5. Implement the Incident Command System protocol when necessary.
 6. Ensure compliance with applicable Department and County procedures.

800.6 TRAINING:

The Training Director should include rapid response to critical incidents in the training plan. This training should address:

- A. Orientation to likely critical incident target sites at the San Bernardino County Probation Department, such as buildings, detention facilities, and parking areas.
- B. Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.
- C. Field supervision first-response training, including patrol rifle and shotgun familiarization.
- D. First aid, including gunshot trauma.
- E. Reality-based scenario training (i.e., active shooter, disgruntled violent worker, etc.).
- F. For Best Practice considerations refer to training guidelines and tactical considerations (e.g. Immediate Action Rapid Deployment "I.A.R.D").