

FLORENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER

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I. POLICY

It is the policy of this Department to provide and maintain a team of highly trained explosive ordnance technicians who follow established guidelines to provide for the safest possible resolution to incidents involving explosives and improvised explosive devices, and other related incidents involving potentially explosive materials.

II. PURPOSE

This written order describes the objectives, guidelines, and duties of EOD, including provisions for the deployment and management of EOD during emergency operations.

III. SCOPE

This written order is applicable to all personnel.

IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF EOD'S ROLE

- A. Render safe and/or remove suspected improvised explosive devices, incendiary devices, explosives, explosive chemicals (as currently defined by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms) pyrotechnics and ammunition.
- B. Provide for legal, proper & safe transportation, disposal and/or storage of explosives and other items referred to above.
- C. Conduct post bomb crime scene investigation (see ANNEX).
- D. Collect and preserve evidence.
- E. Prepare and provide court room testimony.
- F. Store, maintain and inventory bomb squad equipment.
- G. Provide technical support to special operations, i.e., Marijuana Fields, Drug Labs, Arson/Suspicious Fires, Explosives Permit/Storage Inspection, SWAT Support, Arson/Fire as well as Special Searches/Canines.
- H. Provide dignitary protection (if called upon).
- I. Prepare and participate in explosive related training programs.
- J. Maintain and be familiar with a technical library of FBI Bomb Data Center publications and other explosive related materials.

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- K. Maintain professional liaison with other state and local bomb squads, military Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) units, Federal agencies and professional associations.
 - L. Compile and report technical data on explosive devices and incidents.
 - M. Develop and promulgate bomb threat awareness and safety programs for public and private organizations.
 - N. Report found or recovered military ordnance to military EOD units. Contact and follow their direction.
 - O. Fireworks Disposal
- V. TRAINING**
- A. Initial bomb technician training certification required.
 - B. Each technician shall attend the HDS Refresher forty (40) hour course every three (3) years or as soon as possible within a reasonable time frame.
 - C. Advanced/Additional Training
 - 1. Each technician shall maintain professional associations so as to avail themselves of current trends and changes in the industry.
 - 2. Each technician shall participate in advanced training programs including, but not limited, to the following:
 - a. FBI Technicians Court
 - b. FBI Investigators Course
 - c. International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators (IABTI) State, Regional and International Conferences
 - d. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) Investigator's Courses
- VI. DEALING WITH SUSPECT DEVICES/PACKAGES**
- A. EOD will handle in accordance with Special Technicians Bulletin (STB) 87 – 4 and HDS guidelines, practices and procedures pertaining to the above.
- VII. SELECTION AND RETENTION OF PERSONNEL**
- A. EOD candidates shall be recommended by the EOD Commander.
 - B. Meet FBI Bomb Data Center application requirements, i.e., physical examination, credit check, arrest check, etc. Baseline physical for retention to include bloodwork analysis on annual basis.
 - C. Have five (5) years retainability within the public safety agency.

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- D. Be a willing volunteer to engage in basic bomb technician training.
- E. Should possess, by vocation or avocation, familiarity with activities requiring manual dexterity.

VIII. BOMB RESPONSE PRINCIPLES

- A. Do not hand enter pipe bombs.
- B. Human life shall not be placed in jeopardy for the purpose of securing or preserving evidence or property.
- C. A bomb squad response team must include two (2) bomb technicians with essential safety equipment.
- D. Only bomb squad personnel or those requested by the bomb squad shall be permitted within the bomb disposal operation perimeter.
- E. Paramedics and emergency fire personnel will be present when the bomb squad responds to the scene of a suspicious item.

IX. ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT USE OF SUSPICIOUS ITEMS

The overall situation including the circumstances and the physical environment will be used by the senior bomb technician on site in determining the use of the X-ray generator, bomb suit or disrupter. The following general guidelines will be used in making this determination and the senior bomb technician on scene will be responsible for justifying failure to comply with these guidelines.

- A. Bomb Suits
 - 1. Life Threatening Situation – Use/non-use is at the discretion of the senior bomb technician on the scene.
 - 2. Non-Life Threatening Situation – The bomb suit will be worn in all situations except:
 - a. Where it is physically impossible.
 - b. Explosive/Flammable Atmosphere.
 - c. High Potential of Booby traps.
- B. X-Ray
 - 1. Life Threatening Situation – Use/Non-Use is at the discretion of the senior bomb technician on the scene. Normally an X-ray will be taken if possible.
 - 2. Non-Life Threatening Situation
 - a. Suspect Mailed Package/Letter – Normally used
 - b. Low Potential Suspicious Items – Normally used

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- c. High Potential Suspicious Items – Not required (Discretion of senior bomb technician present.)
- d. Checking Components/Explosives for Secondaries – Normally used
- C. Disrupters
 - 1. Life Threatening Situation – Normally not used; however, if in the opinion of the senior bomb technician on scene this is the most probable means of successfully rendering safe the situation, it may be used.
 - 2. Non-Life Threatening Situation
 - a. Low potential suspicious item – Used after X-ray procedures if considered necessary.
 - b. High potential suspicious items – Used with or without X-ray at discretion of senior bomb technician.
- D. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and fire retardant “Bunker” gear will be accessible to bomb squad personnel (i.e. from the fire department on the scene) and utilized at post blast scenes or where deemed necessary.
- E. Additional Equipment
 - 1. Vehicles
 - a. A vehicle suitable for transporting all the team’s equipment and two technicians. It must be capable of towing a trailer and all remote removal equipment.
 - b. A trailer capable of transporting a suspected device. Should safely vent to totally contain a detonation that may occur.
 - 2. Special and Safety Equipment as per STB 87 – 4 and any additional tools or specialty equipment the commander deems appropriate.
 - 3. Inventory of Equipment
 - a. All equipment will be stored in a secure and immediately accessible manner. Provision will be made for constant access to unit’s equipment in the event of the commander’s absence.

X. TRANSPORTATION OF SUSPICIOUS ITEMS

- A. Normally, suspect devices will be neutralized on site. The decision to transport a suspect device will be weighed carefully to ensure that the act of loading and transporting does not unduly increase the hazards to the

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technician or the public. Will be done only when it can be safely accomplished by remote procedures.

- B. Transportation will be coordinated with the Traffic Control Division.
- C. Destroying in place will be given first consideration in all non-life threatening situations involving abandoned/deteriorated explosives, explosive chemicals and suspect devices. Normally this will only be done in remote areas, etc.
- D. Vehicular response should be conducted in the most prudent manner consistent with the information regarding the incident.

XI. ANNEXES

A. Annex on Responses

To Suspect Devices

- 1. Initial Actions (all situations)
 - a. Verify/change evacuation
 - b. Determine life threatening non-life threatening
 - c. Verify/ request support- fire and ambulance)
- 2. Life Threatening Situation
 - a. Consider possibilities of reducing situation to non-life threatening situation without working on the device. (Revert to non-life threatening procedures whenever possible).
 - b. Consider time factor
 - c. Due to the extreme nature of a life threatening situation the senior bomb technician on scene is authorized full latitude in determining:
 - 1) The type of RSP to attempt.
 - 2) The type of equipment used.
 - 3) The use/non-use of essential safety equipment.
 - 4) The number and exposure time of bomb technicians/support personnel on scene.
- 3. Non-life threatening situation
 - a. Normally remote procedures will be employed, particularly on closed bombs. Open bombs may require immediate action by the bomb technician life threatening situation must be justified in writing by the bomb response team.

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- b. Wait_____.
 - c. Determine initial course of action/render safe attempt. (if available-ROBOT-1st priority of consideration).
 - d. Limit initial response on the suspect package to one properly equipped technician (if possible). Every attempt will be made to minimize exposure time.
 - e. Render the item or the situation safe. (This may include an attempted render safe; a subsequent detonation and a check for residual/additional hazards; removal and transportation of the suspect item; or determination that the item is not a bomb).
 - f. Suspect items transported to the range for render safe and/or disposal no longer require any type of emergency handling. Time is no longer a factor. Procedures used will be remote and exposure time will be held to an absolute minimum.
- B. Annex on post blast
- 1. Bomb squad will respond to all post blast incidents to:
 - a. Check for secondary devices.
 - b. Check for residual/ unconsumed explosives.
 - 2. Bomb squad will:
 - a. Investigate (or)
 - b. Assist in investigation (or)
 - c. Turn over to crime scene investigation unit.
- C. Range Annex
- 1. Range limits- 200' cleared area around site/2400' to nearest occupied building.
 - 2. Minimum number of personnel- two (2)
 - 3. Procedures for the type of activity: Per HDS procedures
 - a. Training
 - b. Fireworks
 - c. Device Residue
 - d. Deteriorated Explosives
 - e. Explosive Chemicals
 - f. Excess Explosives
 - 4. Radio transmissions- Receiving only/no transmission within 300'.

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5. Grounding procedures
6. Special clothing- No static producing or conductive material is permitted.
7. Communication- radio and telephone available (radio transmission beyond 300').
8. Notification- Coordinate disposal operations with appropriate authorities and surrounding facilities which may be affected.
9. Access- Restricted to EOD personnel and emergency response personnel, or fire apparatus and ambulance. The commander will control access.
10. Range safety officer responsibilities- observe operations and ensure appropriate procedures are adhered to per HDS procedures.
11. Misfires- as per HDS procedures.
12. Lighting

D. Transportation Annex

Devices are to be removed and transported only when the present area cannot withstand a detonation and said device can be safely removed by remote means.

1. Compliance with regulations (DOT, State, Local).
2. Routes (Basic Explosives/Bomb Transport) to avoid heavily populated areas and critical facilities.
3. Type of Vehicle- Trailer capable of venting or containing a detonation, should one occur while device being transported.
4. Placarding
5. General Items:
 - a. Smoking/Flame Producing devices
 - b. Speed Limit
 - c. Blasting Cap/Explosive in same vehicle
 - d. Vehicle left unattended
 - e. Fire extinguisher
 - f. Vehicle Operating Condition

E. Storage Annex

1. Type of Container(s)- BATF guidelines
2. License Requirements

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3. Type Lock (Key) Control- Lock for ATF regulations, keys controlled by commander.
4. Inventory- Conducted by commander. Verification is maintained by the commander with a copy on file in the storage facility.
5. Drainage/ Ground Maintenance
6. Signs/ Markings
7. Distance Requirements
8. Authorization to Store (ATF/State/Local)
9. Housekeeping Requirements
10. Compatibility Requirements/ Limitations