



SOUTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

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| GENERAL ORDER NUMBER: 23.2 | DATE OF ISSUE: July 31, 2011 | EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2016 | NUMBER OF PAGES: 03 |
| CFA STANDARD: SUBJECT: <i>Unusual Occurrences and Special Operations – SPECIAL OPERATIONS</i> | NEW (X) RESCINDS (X) AMENDS () OTHER () | By Order Of:  Rene Landa, CHIEF OF POLICE | |

CFA STANDARDS:

SECTIONS:

- 23.2.1 Tactical Team Procedures**
- 23.2.2 Search and Recovery**

RESCINDS: All existing orders in conflict.

PURPOSE: To establish departmental policy and provide guidelines for Special Operations within the South Miami Police Department.

SCOPE: All departmental personnel.

POLICY: It is the policy of the South Miami Police Department to utilize the Miami-Dade Police Department Special Response Team (SRT) and/or Coral Gables Police Department's SWAT team when necessary and for assistance in dealing with high-risk situations. SRT officers are trained to handle high-risk incidents with a minimum of danger to both police personnel and innocent bystanders. When commanders are faced with a hostage or barricaded suspect situation, every effort shall be made to utilize the SRT Team and Miami-Dade Negotiation Team

PROCEDURE:

23.2.1 Tactical Team Procedures

- A. The South Miami Police Department has a tactical team which is tasked with a limited role of response as described in G.O.23-3. When additional resources are needed, such assistance is provided by the Miami-Dade Police Department (SRT), City of Miami Police Department, and/or Coral Gables Police Department's SWAT team under the mutual aid plan.

1. The primary concern of responding units in any high-risk situation is the protection of life. The preservation of lives of innocent persons as well as self-preservation will be foremost in the mind of every police officer.
 2. The use of deadly force in a high-risk situation will be governed by departmental policy, as described in General Order 1.3.
 3. In situations in which a tactical team from another agency is requested, South Miami Police Officers will assume the responsibility of stabilizing and securing the scene or incident to the best of their ability until properly relieved by said tactical team.
 4. The on-duty supervisor will make the decision to request a tactical team from another agency, then notify the Operations Bureau Commander.
- B. Tactical teams may be utilized for special operations, which include but are not limited to the following incidents:
1. Any high-risk situation as defined in General Order 23.1 requiring the use of a special response team including search and arrest warrants;
 2. Hostage negotiations and any other situations requiring the expertise of trained negotiators;
 3. Decoy operations;
 4. Undercover surveillance/stakeout;
 5. Bomb threats;
 6. Coverage of special events;
 7. VIP protection;
 8. Coverage of disasters;
 9. Coverage of civil disorders; and
 10. Coverage of civil defense emergencies.
- C. The use of a tactical team other than one from SMPD in any special operation or situation is by request to the Miami-Dade Police Department in emergency situations, and/or Coral Gables Police Department's SWAT team in pre-planned situations or situations where the need is known in advance. Coordination and cooperation is the responsibility of the on-scene South Miami Police Department supervisors and the applicable tactical team supervisors. The South Miami Police Department Chief of Police, or designee, will make final decisions concerning continuation of the operation but will defer tactical operation decisions to the applicable agency's tactical team supervisor.

23.2.2 Search and Recovery

When regular staffing cannot provide the expertise necessary to provide adequate search and recovery efforts, it will be necessary to call upon other agencies. The Miami-Dade

Police Department has aircraft, boats, and other tools that can assist SMPD in these efforts:

1. In missing person cases, where the person is a juvenile or endangered, the Aviation Unit of Miami Dade Police is usually available to lend their assistance. The shift commander must be advised by the officer on the scene and make the appropriate request for assistance through the Miami-Dade Police radio frequency.
2. The Miami-Dade Police Department Search and Recovery Dive Team will be utilized for search and rescue missions, such as underwater rescue situations, submerged vehicles, etc. The shift commander, will make the determination on when the Miami-Dade Police Department Dive Team is needed, then notify the Operations Captain or his designee, who will then either authorize the request or make the request himself.
3. In cases where police canines are needed for building or area searches, the patrol shift commander is authorized to request assistance from whatever agency has trained canines on duty, if none are available at the time through SMPD. The shift commander can request such assistance through the dispatcher who can check with Miami-Dade, Coral Gables, and Miami Police Departments and request their help.