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## Mobile Response Team (MRT)

### 409.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Tualatin-Sherwood Mobile Response Team (T/S-MRT) provides a high profile tactical response to effectively deal with instances of civil unrest, disturbance or other issues at the specific direction of Joint Command.

#### 409.1.1 OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

Operation and administration of the Tualatin-Sherwood Mobile Response Team lies jointly with the command elements of the Tualatin Police Department and the Sherwood Police Department and is outlined in following sections.

Since situations that necessitate the need for such a police response vary greatly from incident to incident and such events often demand on-the-scene evaluation, the Operational Policy outlined in this manual section serves as a guideline to department personnel allowing for appropriate on-the-scene decision-making as required. The Administrative Procedures, however, are more restrictive and few exceptions should be taken.

#### 409.1.2 DEFINITIONS

**Mobile Response Team:** The Mobile Response Team is a designated unit of law enforcement officers from agencies in Washington County and specific to the Tualatin Police Department, members of the Tualatin Police Department and the Sherwood Police Department, specifically trained and equipped to work as a team in coordination with other units to resolve critical instances of civil disturbance or disorder, crowd control, terrorist acts and instances of the use of weapons of mass destruction.

**Civil Disturbance:** An UNLAWFUL assembly that constitutes a breach of the peace or any assembly of persons where there is imminent danger of collective violence, destruction of property or other unlawful acts.

### 409.2 AGENCY POLICY

To effectively respond to civil disturbance and other like situations, the Tualatin Police Department and the Sherwood Police Department join in the formation of a multi-agency, specially trained, regional response team.

### 409.3 MOBILE RESPONSE TEAM OPERATIONS

The Tualatin Police Department and the Sherwood Police Department will jointly maintain a "Mobile Response Team" (hereafter referred to as the T/S-MRT). The T/S-MRT will provide a tactical response to effectively deal with civil unrest or disturbance or other situations at the specific direction of its joint command. These responses will be directed both locally and on a larger, regional basis. The T/S-MRT may be requested when civil unrest has escalated or is likely to escalate beyond the capabilities of the patrol divisions of either department, or at the request of another agency within the greater Portland Mutual Aid Agreement area or the larger region.

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#### **409.3.1 COMPOSITION OF THE T/S-MRT**

The T/S-MRT consists of its Joint Commanders, the Squad Leader, and members chosen from the Tualatin and Sherwood Police Departments.

#### **409.3.2 ACTIVATION OF THE T/S-MRT**

A request for activation of the T/S-MRT will be made from the requesting Chief of Police to the Chief of Police of Tualatin (per Intergovernmental Agreement). Requests by outside agencies will be made through the Chief of Police of Tualatin and/or Sherwood. The Chief of Police making the request should provide, at a minimum, the following information:

- (a) Contact name, agency and immediate contact phone number
- (b) A thorough description of the incident or event, including as much information as possible
- (c) The type of assistance needed
- (d) A copy of the agency's operational plan for the incident or event
- (e) A secure location for staging the T/S-MRT

Upon granting authorization, the Joint Commanders will initiate a team call-out. The T/S-MRT Squad Leader will re-contact the requestor and provide response information to include estimated time of T/S-MRT arrival. T/S-MRT members will respond to the Tualatin Police Department or other designated location as soon as possible. Based upon the circumstances of the incident/event, or at the request of the requesting agency, the T/S-MRT Commanders or Squad Leader will determine if an alternate uniform is to be worn at any time during the operation.

When a response is initiated, the Squad Leader will make an assessment about the potential to employ tactical munitions (i.e., CS gas, etc.), and inform the Joint Commander(s) and/or host agency Commander. As the incident develops, it is dependent on the Squad Leader to keep the Joint Commander(s) or host agency Commander informed about the potential to employ such munitions. The decision to employ such munitions shall be made by the Joint Commander(s) or the host agency Commander, except in rapidly developing circumstances that put personnel or civilians at imminent risk if such munitions are not promptly utilized.

#### **409.3.3 T/S-MRT CHAIN OF COMMAND AND RESPONSIBILITY**

The Patrol Division Commander of the Tualatin Police Department and the Commander of the Sherwood Police Department will be responsible for joint overall command of the T/S-MRT and the strategic direction of the T/S-MRT. The Commanders will be responsible for designating a Sergeant as the T/S-MRT Squad Leader.

The Squad Leader will be responsible for the tactical operations of the T/S-MRT to include deployment of tactical munitions, squad movement and deployment, and is directly in charge of the T/S-MRT as its supervisor.

The Squad Leader will designate another member of the T/S-MRT as Assistant Squad Leader. The Assistant Squad Leader will act as Squad Leader in the actual Squad Leader's absence and as the Squad Leader's aid.

#### **409.3.4 T/S-MRT TEAM MEMBER SELECTION**

Members of the T/S-MRT will be selected from qualified applicants on the same general basis as any other Tualatin Police Department special assignment. At the time of an opening on the team, those interested in applying must be certified police officers and in good

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physical condition (able to fulfill the physical duties of the position at all times). Interested members will submit, in writing, an application to include a resume of their police experience. Prospective members will be subjected to an oral interview by a board to include (but not be limited to) the Patrol Commander of the Tualatin Police Department, the Commander of the Sherwood Police Department and the Squad Leader of the T/S-MRT. Following successful completion of the interview, applicants will be subjected to a standard physical fitness test of a 1.5 mile run (timed under 16 minutes) and 60 second sit-up and 60 second push-up tests (minimum 30 each). Following successful completion of the physical agility test, the Squad Leader will conduct a background investigation to include interviews with the applicant's supervisors and peers.

#### **409.3.5 T/S-MRT TRAINING**

Prior to any deployment, new members of the T/S-MRT will receive initial training from among the Squad Leaders and Commanders of the elements of the Westside Interagency Mobile Response Team, including donning and doffing all equipment, use of force, crowd dynamics, specialized munitions and response to weapons of mass destruction.

The T/S-MRT will participate in regular refresher training and other such training and practical exercises that become available in order to maintain and enhance team skills.

The command element of the T/S-MRT will conduct continuing training needs assessments and will arrange for any necessary or advised training as soon as practical.

#### **409.3.6 T/S-MRT EQUIPMENT**

T/S-MRT members should be adequately equipped to meet the specific mission(s) identified by the team and the host agency of the event.

#### **409.3.7 T/S-MRT USE OF FORCE**

Members of the T/S-MRT shall comply with all aspects of Tualatin Police Use of Force outlined in Policy Manual § 300 and with all aspects of the Sherwood Police Use of Force Policy. Members will also be specially trained in the use of the following systems:

- (a) **42 inch "long" batons:** All members will be issued and carry 42" batons, known collectively as "long batons". Members will receive training in the use of "long batons" under normal and special crowd control circumstances. The use of these batons will not differ from the use of ASP and other batons used by members of either the Tualatin Police Department or Sherwood Police Department.
- (b) **Chemical Munitions:** Specially trained members, hereafter known as "Grenadiers" will have the capacity to deploy special chemical munitions under extreme circumstances. These chemical munitions will consist of "CS" (Orthochlorbenzylmalonnitrile); "OC" (Oleoresin Capsicum); and "AN" (White Smoke - Anthraquinone, also known as "Safe Smoke"). These munitions may be deployed via hand-launched grenades, 37mm or 40mm shoulder fired grenades or through hand-held spray devices. Chemical munitions, by their nature, may be deployed against specific threats, or against broad threat areas, not specifying any individuals. The use of chemical munitions will be strictly regulated by the Commanders of the T/S-MRT and the Squad Leader, and will only be deployed when specifically authorized by the agency of jurisdiction or to effect tactical withdrawal under extreme circumstances. T/S-MRT will maintain an accurate inventory of all chemical munitions and will cycle those munitions as directed by OSHA and the manufacturer (5 years at the writing of this document).

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- (c) **Extended Range Impact Weapon:** Trained members may carry and deploy Extended Range Impact Weapons pursuant with that directive in a specific effort to arrest a specific threat. The Extended Range Impact Weapon will not be used in a non-specific crowd dispersal fashion. The Extended Range Impact Weapon will only be deployed with the prior authorization of the agency of jurisdiction and with the approval of the T/S-MRT Commanders and under the supervision of the T/S-MRT Squad Leader.
- (d) **Pepperball System:** Specially trained members may carry and deploy the Pepperball System pursuant with that directive in a specific effort to arrest a specific threat. The Extended Range Impact Weapon will not be used in a non-specific crowd dispersal fashion. The Pepperball System will only be deployed with the prior authorization of the agency of jurisdiction and with the approval of the T/S-MRT Commanders and under the supervision of the T/S-MRT Squad Leader.
- (e) **M26 or XM26 Air Taser:** Specially trained members may carry and deploy the M26 or XM26 Air Taser System pursuant to Policy § 309. The Taser will not be used in a non-specific crowd dispersal fashion. The Taser will only be deployed with the prior authorization of the agency of jurisdiction and with the approval of the T/S-MRT Commanders and under the supervision of the T/S-MRT Squad Leader.

#### **409.3.8 T/S-MRT AFTER-ACTION RESPONSIBILITIES**

The T/S-MRT Squad Leader will complete an after-action report and submit it to the T/S-MRT Commanders. The T/S-MRT Joint Commanders will review the Squad Leader's report and send their own report to their respective Chief of Police.

After-action reports contain sensitive tactical information that, if released to the general public, could jeopardize future operations and the safety of team members. Therefore, there will be no public distribution of these reports, nor will they be placed in any case file or forwarded to any agency without the specific approval of the Chief of the Tualatin Police Department and the Chief of the Sherwood Police Department.

If a member of T/S-MRT uses force during the arrest of a person, that member will submit a standard "Use of Force Report". In the event that a member uses force and no arrest is made and the person cannot be located and/or identified, that force will be documented as a part of the T/S-MRT Team Leader's after-action report.

In the event that non-specific force is used in the form of deployment of tactical crowd munitions such as chemical munitions or other munitions, and no individual is arrested based on that application, the deployment of munitions will be documented in the T/S-MRT Team Leader's after-action report.

#### **409.4 MOBILE RESPONSE TEAM DEPLOYMENT VEHICLE POLICY**

To expedite the deployment of the T/S-MRT, the team will have available a specially equipped vehicle for rapid insertion and deployment.

##### **409.4.1 T/S-MRT DEPLOYMENT VEHICLE SPECIFICATIONS**

The Tualatin Police Department has a 1986 Chevrolet four-wheel drive pick-up truck, painted in the black and white scheme and marked with the Tualatin Police door and rear markings. This vehicle has been equipped with commonly accepted red and blue police lighting, a radio and a loud-speaker.

In addition, this vehicle has been specially equipped with removable steel running boards, a standard aluminum canopy and a special steel hand-rail.

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The mentioned running boards are made of extruded metal for a non-slip surface, are secured to the vehicle by receiver hitches and run down both sides of the vehicle from behind the doors and around the rear of the vehicle. The hand-rail has been secured to the bed of the vehicle and mirrors the placement of the running boards.

In the future, this vehicle may be replaced by another specially equipped and/or designed vehicle, for the use of the T/S-MRT.

#### **409.4.2 T/S-MRT DEPLOYMENT VEHICLE PROCEDURES**

This vehicle may be used by members of the T/S-MRT who have been initially trained in the use of this vehicle or other similarly equipped deployment vehicles.

T/S-MRT members and members of other trained teams, will mount the running boards, in numbers not to exceed 18, on the exterior of the vehicle. Members will be distributed as evenly as possible on the running boards so as to maintain stability. Members will secure themselves by grasping the handrail, with two hands whenever possible, until such time as the team is delivered to their deployment zone.

At the point the team is delivered to their deployment zone and the vehicle has come to a complete stop, at the command of the Squad Leader, the team will dismount from the vehicle and deploy appropriately.

The T/S-MRT Deployment Vehicle will be operated by a sworn police officer or sworn reserve police officer who has been briefed and trained on the operation of the vehicle, to include: extreme stable driving, following distances, gradual slowing, stopping, and speed control.

The maximum speed of the T/S-MRT Deployment Vehicle, with team members mounted, shall be no faster than 25 miles per hour, except under circumstances of extreme emergency.

Procedures in the event of falling from the T/S-MRT Deployment Vehicle while the vehicle is in motion shall be as follows:

- The member shall assume a "tuck and roll" position, with the arms, shoulders, head and legs tucked in towards the center of the body.
- The member will make every effort to clear the vehicle with all parts of his/her body.
- At the point of contact with the ground, the member will initiate a "roll", to dissipate the impact and utilize the safety equipment being worn.

T/S-MRT members will be briefed and trained in the use of the T/S-MRT Deployment Vehicle on a regular basis.

#### **409.5 MANAGEMENT/SUPERVISION OF T/S-MRT**

The Commanders of the T/S-MRT shall be selected by the chief executive officer of the agency that holds primary responsibility for the particular unit, upon recommendation of staff of that agency and all partner agencies.

##### **409.5.1 TEAM SUPERVISORS**

The T/S-MRT will be supervised by a Sergeant or Sergeants.

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The team supervisors shall be selected by the chief executive officer of the lead agency for the team upon specific recommendation by staff and the Team Commanders.

The T/S-MRT supervisor's primary responsibility is to supervise the operations of the T/S-MRT, which will include deployment, training, first line participation, and other duties as directed by the T/S-MRT Commander.