



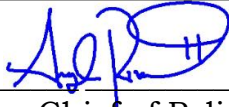
# NORTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES



### ACTIVE ATTACK INCIDENTS 300.26

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07-19-23

APPROVED:   
Chief of Police

SUPERCEDES: 01-05-23

CFA: 10.19

#### I. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines and procedures for assessing and performing rapid intervention tactics to limit serious injury or loss of life during Active Attack incidents.

#### II. POLICY

In situations where ongoing deadly force is being used, or reasonably likely to be used by a suspect, and the delay in taking police action could result in injury or death, rapid intervention of an officer(s) at the scene is mandatory when such actions are deemed reasonable to prevent loss of life.

In an overly simplified methodology, this Department's primary mission during these types of incidents is to first and foremost *STOP THE KILLING*. In recognition that Active Attack incidents generally occur during a short period of time, special emphasis must be placed on the need to neutralize the threat as quickly as possible.

Furthermore, even after the neutralization of the threat during Active Attack incidents, an officer(s) will take action to prevent the loss of life of victims that may have been injured during said attack.

Confirmation that the subject is either dead, in custody, has fled, or has been contained, will allow officers to transition to the second and equally important mission, to *STOP THE DYING*.

Lifesaving efforts that are categorized under the STOP THE DYING phase

include: providing Tactical Emergency Critical Care (TECC), establishing evacuation corridors, establishing Warm Zones, establishing Casualty Collection Point (CCPs) and/or Casualty Exchange Point (CEPs). Every responding officer must be prepared to transition to the STOP THE DYING phase as soon as tactically feasible. In conjunction and concurrently with the STOP THE DYING phase, Officers must be prepared to transition to the EXPEDITE CASUALTY EVACUATION phase. This will require officers to take actions to quickly evacuate casualties out of the crisis site to definitive care.

### III. SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the North Miami Police Department (NMPD).

### IV. DEFINITIONS

**Active Attack:** An incident in which one or more suspects have used or are reasonably likely to use deadly force in an ongoing manner, and where persons have been injured, killed, or are under the imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm by such persons. The overriding objective of the suspect(s) appears to be that of mass murder, rather than other criminal activity.

**Active Assailant:** One or more people who participate in a life threatening assault and demonstrate their intent to continuously or systematically kill or wound others.

**Rapid Intervention:** Immediate response by one or more officers to an Active Attack based on a reasonable belief that failure to take action, pending the arrival of additional officers, would result in death or serious bodily harm to victims.

**Contact Element (CE):** The first officer(s) on scene of an Active Attack is tasked with neutralizing the suspect(s). The goal is to make contact as quickly as possible and neutralize the active assailant(s) by either arrest, containment, or use of force.

**Cold Zone:** An operational area (geographical) surrounding the Warm Zone, where first responders can operate with minimal threat to personal safety (secured area).

**Warm Zone:** An operational area (geographical) with the potential threat to personal safety. The warm zone typically exists between the hot and cold zone. The warm zone is established and secured by law enforcement personnel. At, all times, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR) personnel shall be escorted by law

enforcement personnel while operating within the warm zone.

**Hot Zone:** An operational area (geographical) consisting of the immediate incident location with a direct and immediate threat to personal safety (not a secured area).

**Inner Perimeter:** The immediate area of containment, including the Hot Zone and Warm Zone. This area is initially staffed by patrol personnel until relieved by SWAT Team officers.

**Outer Perimeter:** A control area set up outside the Inner Perimeter to restrict crowd and traffic from accessing the Inner Perimeter. It is staffed by law enforcement officers. The Outer Perimeter is located at the warm to cold interface with perimeter teams focused externally to prevent unauthorized people from breaching security

**Staging Area:** Temporary location for available resources. Ideally, the staging area location will be designated by the Incident Commander (IC) for all personnel to respond to and await operational assignment.

**Staging Manager:** The individual responsible for managing and keeping account of all resources at the Staging Area. In coordination with, and at the request of the IC, the Staging Manager will release available resources from the Staging Area into the crisis site.

**Command Post (CP):** Field headquarters from which the Incident Commander directs operations, as well as coordination of all planning and responses to the crisis. The CP will be in the Cold Zone away from hazards.

**Immediate Deployment Area (IDA):** The location deemed by the first responding or on scene officer(s) as suitable for the gathering and entry point for additional officers to deploy into the incident site.

**Incident Commander (IC):** The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics, as well as the ordering and release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.

**Scout Element:** Law enforcement officers deployed to conduct a fast-paced sweep of the major arteries and large areas of the structure to obtain enhanced

situational awareness. The goal is to diminish delays in providing emergency medical attention to casualties, which are caused by slow methodical searches.

**Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC):** A set of best practice treatment guidelines for trauma care in a high-threat prehospital environment.

**Rescue Element (RE):** Law enforcement officer(s) deployed after the CE. They will be responsible for locating injured victims. Once injured victims have been located, Rescue Element(s) will also be responsible for providing said victims with TECC, to prevent the further loss of life. When deemed necessary, RE will also be responsible for establishing Force Protection, safety corridors, and/or extracting/evacuating injured victims.

**Casualty Collection Point (CCP):** A specific location within the warm zone, where casualties are to be assembled to receive medical care and await evacuation.

**Casualty Exchange Point (CEP):** A specific location within the Cold Zone, where casualties are to be assembled and transferred over to MDRF personnel in order to be transported to a medical facility.

**Incident Command System (ICS):** A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organized structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, to organize field-level incident management operations.

**Unified Command (UC):** An application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the UC, often the senior person from agencies and/or disciplines participating in the UC, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single incident action plan.

**Direct-to-Threat Response:** A response guided by a driving force or actionable intelligence, where law enforcement moves directly toward a specific location to neutralize the threat.

**Driving Force:** A stimulus that requires an exigent response (e.g. screams, gunfire, etc.)

**Force Protection:** Preventative measures taken by law enforcement to mitigate hostile actions against personnel, resources, and facilities.

**Barricaded Subject:** A person who takes a position of confinement to avoid apprehension (the use or threatened use of force to resist apprehension shall have been displayed through actions or words and the officer shall have reason to believe the suspect will use force to avoid apprehension). A barricaded subject situation is not one where active deadly force is occurring or where there are victims of deadly force with life threatening injuries who need to be immediately rescued, as that is an Active Attack.

**Deceased Victim Staging Area:** An area within the outer perimeter to where deceased victims are transported for identification, processing by the Medical Examiner and subsequent transportation to the Medical Examiner's Office.

**Hostage Situation:** Incidents involving an act or potential act of violence where an innocent person(s) is being held against their will, and may include a situation where the person is used as a bargaining tool or a "shield."

**Reunification Post:** A post established where victims are transported to be reunited with family and friends and for victims' family and friends to await the rescue and debriefing of victims involved in the incident.

**Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program:** The Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program was established in 2018 through the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. Guardians are armed personnel who aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant incidents on school premises. They are either school employees who volunteer to serve in addition to official job duties or personnel hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school guardian.

**Applicable Non-Sworn Personnel:** For the purposes of training, applicable non-sworn personnel are defined as Public Service Aides, Crime Scene Technicians, Police Communications Operators, and Victim Advocates.

### **Language Clarification:**

- **Should:** Indicates a general or expected action, absent a rational basis for failing to conform.

- Shall or Will: Indicates a mandatory action.

## V. PROCEDURES

### **STOP THE KILLING**

#### **Individual Officer Intervention:**

It is important to remember that the Department's primary mission during an Active Attack incident is to save the lives of innocent victims. The exigency associated with lives being lost during Active Attacks is based on the reality that every second a first responder waits for back up could mean the death or serious bodily harm to innocent victims. While a coordinated effort is ideal, a delay in action may result in the loss of life and therefore, will require that even a single officer take action to neutralize the threat. Every effort to neutralize the threat is categorized under the STOP THE KILLING phase of the operation, which includes: arresting the suspect, using the necessary and proper level of force to stop the threat, isolating and containing the suspect, or forcing the suspect to flee from the incident location. The number one priority is to STOP THE KILLING and all initial efforts should be taken in the furtherance of this objective. This concept will require that even a single officer immediately enter the crisis site and take action to neutralize the threat during an ongoing Active Attack.

- A. In some instances, an individual may be present within or nearby the Active Attack location. Whether on or off-duty, in uniform or civilian clothes, they may determine that Rapid Intervention is necessary to stop the threat. Officers are reminded, that if at all possible, to contact Communications via radio prior to taking action and wear visible police markings. When displaying firearms while in plainclothes, officers shall verbally identify themselves as law enforcement officers, and conspicuously display their badges and/or other law enforcement identification to alert security personnel, arriving officers, or civilians who may be armed.

#### **Initial Response:**

The first officer to arrive or on scene at the crisis site will assume the role of the Incident Commander (IC) until relieved by a supervisor and:

- A. Based on available information, establish if the incident is still in progress.

This determination may be based on information provided by Communications personnel, from persons within or exiting the crisis site; from witnesses; by reports of, or sounds of gunfire; or through related means or presence of a Driving Force.

While making the initial assessment, the first arriving officer(s) shall:

1. Notify communications that an “Active Attack” situation exists, providing their unit number, location of the entry point, and a brief description of conditions. While doing so, without delay, deploy and engage in a Direct to Threat response and commence actions to locate, neutralize, isolate, and/or confine the suspect (the Department’s Communications Operator will designate this Officer(s) as CE #1).
  - a. The officer(s) should advise Communications of his/her deployment and, based on the Driving Force or actionable intelligence, the officer(s) will identify the best possible IDA for subsequent back-up officers to deploy from.
  - b. Provide updates as available, to include information about the suspect’s physical description, weapons, equipment such as body armor, and current location and actions; and,
  - c. Provide available information on persons injured or under threat, their locations, emergency resources required, and recommended points of entry.
2. Backup officers that are in route to the crisis site should limit their radio transmissions and maintain radio discipline, thereby giving the deployed officer the ability to transmit pertinent information. Officer(s) arriving after a single officer enters a structure, while engaged in a Direct-to-Threat response, should make every possible effort to locate and connect with the single officer. A supervisor’s approval or on-site observation is not required for this Direct-to-Threat response until the IC establishes different objectives for the arriving units.
  - a. While moving toward the threat during the STOP THE KILLING phase, all Contact Element(s) will communicate the following:

- The number of officers in their Element;
  - Updated information on the Driving Force;
  - Updated actionable intelligence, information on the team's movement; and
  - Other relevant and critical information. The subsequent Contact Elements shall be numbered in ascending order (e.g. Contact Element # 2, 3, etc.).
  - The Contact Element(s) main focus is not to perform a thorough clearing of areas/rooms within the crisis site, but to search those areas to the extent to determine the presence of the suspect(s).
- b. Contact Element(s) will continue to search until the suspect(s) has been arrested, otherwise neutralized, or has fled the incident site.
3. Additional responding Contact Element(s) must work in collaboration with previously deployed Element(s) in order to enhance the speed and efficiency of the effort to STOP THE KILLING.
- a. If there is no driving force or actionable intelligence that demands an immediate direct-to-threat response, the Contact Element(s) will coordinate with each other to designate areas of responsibilities and conduct a search, whereby the teams engaged in fast paced sweeps of the major arteries of the structure in order to obtain a complete understanding of the incident.
- b. Conducting the scout sweep will allow the officers to determine the true nature of the incident and allow for the allocation of resources in the most effective and expeditious manner possible. The scout sweep will prevent the delay of medical attention to casualties resulting from delays caused by slow and methodical searches. Additionally, establishing these Warm Zones will restrict the movement of the suspect, as well as create the possibility of administering emergency medical treatment to casualties and introducing rescue efforts.
- c. When additional officers are available, Force Protection should be used to maintain the security of areas that previous



Contact Element(s) deemed clear, thus creating Warm Zones and/or evacuation corridors.

- 1). Establishing these Warm Zones/Corridors will restrict the movement of the suspect, as well as create the possibility of administering emergency medical treatment to casualties and introducing rescue efforts, and aid in evacuation.
4. If it becomes apparent that there are sufficient Contact Element(s) actively engaged in the STOP THE KILLING phase, the IC will begin to coordinate the response of additional arriving officers. Once the IC is established, officers should avoid self-deployment and freelancing. The IC will either provide specific assignments via radio transmissions or command that they respond to a designated Staging Area prior to deployment.
    - a. While the primary objective of STOP THE KILLING continues to drive personnel's response, the IC must remain aware that certain situations allow for specific officers to simultaneously transition to the STOP THE DYING in order to minimize the number of deaths. The decision to follow a chronological mission objective of STOP THE KILLING followed by STOP THE DYING, or to transition to a simultaneous mission objective of STOP THE KILLING AND STOP THE DYING, is an incident-by-incident determination made by the IC based on all of the factors present at the time. Some of these factors may be: the number of officers already engaged in a Direct-to-Threat response, the number of officers available, the subject's location in relation to the location of the casualties, whether the subject is actively killing, and the amount of time since the last actionable intelligence update.
  5. Lacking a Driving Force or actionable intelligence that demands an immediate Direct-to-Threat response, the IC may direct Contact Elements to begin a search for the subject, transition to a law enforcement Rescue Element (RE), move to a specific location, provide emergency medical attention to casualties, establish an evacuation corridor, establish a Casualty Collection Point (CCP), and begin to evacuate casualties, or provide force protection. Lacking actionable intelligence, a Scout Element team may be deployed to give the IC enhanced situational awareness.

- a. Especially in instances where there is a lack of a Driving Force or actionable intelligence, if the crisis site is equipped with Closed Circuit TV (CCTV), or other forms of surveillance equipment, the IC, as quickly as possible, should have the surveillance footage reviewed. Reviewing this surveillance footage could help in determining the suspect(s) previous and current location, as well as assist in locating the injured victims who may not be readily apparent.
6. Once it is confirmed that the suspect has been neutralized, arrested, contained, or has fled the crisis site, the Contact Element will immediately communicate this information to the IC and the IC will shift the objective of the mission accordingly.
- a. The subsequent course of action will be determined by the confirmed status of the suspect. Examples:
    - 1). If the only known suspect is dead, the IC may primarily shift the mission to STOP THE DYING.
    - 2). If the only known suspect is confirmed to have fled, the IC can dedicate a large number of resources to STOP THE DYING, while other officers provide Force Protection and building security.
    - 3). If the suspect is contained, the IC should maintain the necessary number of officers to safely maintain containment, designate immediate action teams prepared to enter depending on the Driving Force, while simultaneously dedicating officers to STOP THE DYING. These examples are not exhaustive and are used to illustrate that the specific responses are dictated by the specific facts of the crisis.

### **STOP THE DYING:**

Every responding officer must be prepared to immediately transition to the STOP THE DYING phase as soon as tactically feasible, with the understanding that it is critical to provide emergency medical care, to include Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) expeditiously after a victim sustains a traumatic injury. This is not the sole function of dedicated Rescue Element(s), but it is the responsibility of every officer within the crisis site.

- A. Once it is determined that there are sufficient Contact Element(s) engaged in efforts to STOP THE KILLING, the IC may begin to deploy Rescue Elements either by re-assigning established assault teams, assembling arriving units into Rescue Elements, or having pre designate Rescue Element(s) deploy from the Staging Area.
  - 1. When providing TECC (can include tourniquet application and/or other forms of hemorrhage control, occlusive dressing application, patient assessment, recovery positions), all officers must maintain situational awareness, being cognizant of the possibility of re engagement and/or additional threats.
- B. The IC must constantly re-evaluate the overall response, and make every effort to begin the STOP THE DYING phase in the most comprehensive manner possible.

## **VI. INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM (ICS)/UNIFIED COMMAND (UC)**

Establishing Incident Command initially, and then eventually transitioning to a Unified Command (UC) with other responding entities, including the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR), is of the utmost importance in managing an Active Attack. Establishing control and coordinating the arrival and deployment of supporting units ensures that crucial support actions are taken and maximizes the efforts of available resources. This action should be taken from the onset of the attack without causing any delays in the initial response, once there are sufficient Contact Element(s) actively engaged in the STOP THE KILLING phase. An application of ICS is used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction, or when incidents cross jurisdictions, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single incident action plan. During UC, the NMPD, other police entities, and the Miami-Dade Fire Department will work under a single incident action plan to meet the objectives of STOP THE KILLING, STOP THE DYING, and EXPEDITE CASUALTY EVACUATION.

- A. In accordance with ICS principles, the first officer on the scene (regardless of rank) is considered, by default, the IC, and will command the incident while actively engaging to STOP THE KILLING. The first responding supervisor must assume Incident Command immediately upon his/her arrival, and clearly state on the Air “I have command”. During future radio transmissions, the IC will make his/her unit identifier “North Miami Command”. If responding as part of the initial response, in keeping with

the primary responsibility to STOP THE KILLING, the supervisor may incorporate into the Contact Element, and will maintain command until transferred to a subsequent supervisor. Subsequent responding supervisors must avoid the urge to enter into the crisis site, and must assume IC and establish a Staging Area and CP within the Cold Zone.

- B. When command has not been assumed, the Department's Communications Operator, via the Miami-Dade Police Dispatcher, will request subsequent arriving supervisors to assume command. This request should be taken as an indication that it is critical to establish Incident Command. If unable to establish command within the supervisory structure of the responding Department entity, the dispatcher will request any responding NMPD officer to assume command.
- C. As soon as tactically feasible, and without hindering the STOP THE KILLING efforts, the IC must establish a Staging Area where responding assets can respond. IC must also assign a Staging Manager who will be in charge of those assets. In order to prevent self-dispatching, once a Staging Area has been established, all subsequent responding units will respond to the Staging Area, and will not deploy without the approval of the corresponding Staging Manager.
  - 1. The Staging Manager will communicate with the IC and provide him/her with an inventory of resources. The Staging Manager will coordinate the creation of additional Contact Elements, Rescue Elements, or any other resources requested by the IC.
  - 2. Once the CP has been established, the IC will continue to coordinate the efforts to STOP THE KILLING, STOP THE DYING, and EXPEDITE CASUALTY EVACUATION. The MDR IC will, as soon as possible, respond to the CP to establish UC. Furthermore, representatives with decision-making authority from the affected facility should be present at the CP as soon as practical.
  - 3. While giving priority to the coordination of STOP THE KILLING, STOP THE DYING, and EXPEDITE CASUALTY EVACUATION phases, the IC will also attempt to contain the incident and coordinate the deployment of additional resources. Coordinated through the CP, designated officers should establish an inner perimeter at points around the structure to protect any fleeing persons, apprehend the suspect(s) if he/she tries to escape, and prevent further expansion of the incident. The IC will designate officers to establish an outer

perimeter in order control traffic, block roadway entrances to the area or structure, and facilitate access to emergency vehicles. The CP will also coordinate the issuance to shelter in place warnings or evacuations for nearby locations.

4. The IC through the NMPD's Communications Unit, will initiate a S.W.A.T. call-out, and request the appropriate mutual aid. Other IC responsibilities include:
  - a. The IC should establish rally points/safe zones for evacuees while exercising caution. All evacuees must be carefully monitored, and are to be considered potentially hostile until proven otherwise. Once individuals are logged into these safe zones, they are not permitted to leave unless authorized by the IC. As dynamic intelligence is obtained from evacuees, it must be rapidly funneled back to the Contact Element(s) and Rescue Element(s).
  - b. Officers assigned to the safe zones must maintain custody and control of all persons and document their identities until they can be reunited with family or others. Victims and witnesses suffering from emotional and/or physical trauma or shock should be kept under the observation of medical personnel until such time as they may be safely transported to a hospital or home in the care of family or friends.
  - c. When tactically optimal, coordinate the evacuation of persons (non-casualties) still left inside the crisis site.
  - d. Designate an assembly area for the media. The public information officer (PIO) shall report directly to the IC. Under no circumstances, are members of the media to be permitted inside the outer or inner perimeters, CCE/ Triage area, or rally/safe zones without the approval of the Chief of Police.
  - e. Assign a scribe to document actions at the Command Post.
  - f. During a prolonged incident, the IC should consider the rest and rehabilitation of on-scene personnel, victims, and witnesses.

## VII. EXPEDITE CASUALTY EVACUATION

During an Active Attack, casualties may require the need of urgent definitive care beyond that of TECC. Without this emergent care, casualties can succumb to their injuries, thereby increasing the amount of fatalities suffered during an Active Attack. This higher level of care is beyond the capabilities of first responders and therefore may require the immediate evacuation of casualties from the crisis site, and be transported to a medical facility. Presently, it will be the responsibility of NMPD personnel to remove casualties from the crisis site.

The rapid evacuation and expeditious transfer of casualties to MDFR personnel or a medical facility can be accomplished by using any of the following methods:

- A. Establishing a Casualty Collection Point (CCP) in an area within the crisis site (Warm Zone) that has been searched and held by police. The CCP will serve as a temporary location used for the holding and medical treatment of casualties. Officers may move casualties to a CCP, from where the evacuation efforts will begin.
  - 1. Officers should establish secure evacuation corridors from a CCP directly to a Casualty Exchange Point (CEP) or to the MDFR Triage area.
  - 2. Rescue Elements will begin to physically carry casualties to the CEP or the MDFR triage area. MDFR will establish triage, treatment, and transport within a Cold Zone. It is essential that NMPD personnel facilitate the transfer of all patients to MDFR expeditiously, and therefore should ensure that entities at the CEP are present and ready to receive incoming casualties.
  - 3. Depending upon the number of casualties, how quickly the scene is unfolding, and the distance of the CEP from the crisis site, officers may begin the immediate removal and transport of casualties to the CEP or triage area by using their police vehicles.
  - 4. In an Active Attack incident where a high number of casualties exist and can therefore potentially temporarily exhaust MDFR's transportation capabilities, officers, as a last resort, may transport casualties to medical facilities. Officers that do begin transporting casualties in their police vehicles, should do so with at least two officers, and will relay the nature of the injuries to dispatch.

B. Inner Perimeter

1. The Inner Perimeter is a portion of the Operational Zone.
2. The Inner Perimeter shall be posted with as many law enforcement officers as needed to prohibit access to the Warm Zone.
3. Only properly identified law enforcement or emergency medical personnel with an operational purpose shall be allowed to enter the Inner Perimeter.
4. Fleeing victims and witnesses shall be allowed to leave the Inner Perimeter and directed to move to either a Reunification Post or Triage Post.
5. Officers assigned to the Inner Perimeter must be aware that suspects may try to escape the scene while blending in with others who are fleeing.
6. Officers assigned to the Inner Perimeter shall remain vigilant and on post until relieved by the SWAT Team or the Incident Commander.
7. The perimeter should start larger and be reduced in size based upon the circumstances.

C. Outer Perimeter

1. The Outer Perimeter is a portion of the Operational Zone and includes the Command Post, Unified Command, Casualty Exchange Point, Reunification Post (if onsite), Outside Agency Resources Staging Area, and Deceased Victim Staging Area.
2. The Command Post/Incident Commander is responsible for the Outer Perimeter.
3. The Outer Perimeter shall be staffed by as many officers or law enforcement personnel from other agencies as needed to prohibit ingress or egress of any pedestrian or vehicular traffic to any of the interior area.
4. The Outer Perimeter shall remain vigilant and on post until relieved by direction of the Incident Commander.
5. The perimeter should start larger and be reduced in size based upon the circumstances.

D. Reunification Post

1. The Reunification Post may be on or off the premises where the incident occurred depending on the nature of the incident and other operational needs.

2. If the Reunification Post is on the premises where the incident occurred it shall, if possible, be inside the Outer Perimeter. However, regardless of where the Reunification Post is located it shall be cordoned off and secured by officers or other law enforcement personnel.
3. At no time will members of the media be allowed in the Reunification Post without express approval from the Incident Commander.
4. The Reunification Post shall be staffed by law enforcement officers and other appropriate personnel. If the event is at a school, the County schools' personnel will provide staff for the Reunification Post and be responsible for the management of the Post, including checking-in and releasing people from the Post. If the event is not at a county school, this responsibility will fall to Agency personnel. Officers at the Reunification Post shall record the identity of all persons at this location and will ensure that no minors are permitted to leave this post unless accompanied by a parent / guardian.
5. The Reunification Post Commander shall release people from this post as appropriate under the circumstances. Whether a person needs to be interviewed by investigators is a factor in determining if they should be immediately released or asked to remain. This decision should be made in consultation with a supervisor in the Investigations Section. An adult who has been reunited, or a minor accompanied by a parent or guardian, will not be required to remain if they ask to leave regardless of their status as a witness. Arrangements will be made to conduct an interview at a later time.
6. It is preferable to locate the Reunification Post a sufficient distance from the Active Attack so as not to interfere with the incident and/or the post-incident investigation and crime scene processing.

## **VIII. INVESTIGATION**

Any Active Attack, by definition, will result in multiple injuries and/or fatalities. This will necessitate that the appropriate departmental investigative personnel immediately respond and initiate investigative efforts. The preservation of the scene for identification and evidentiary purposes should be taken into consideration, and appropriate direction given to personnel on the scene. The Investigative Section Commander will respond to the CP to ensure appropriate investigative and support efforts are being employed during the Active Attack, and to ensure a smooth transition from the initial police response.



- A. Once the crisis site has been secured, or at the discretion of the IC, the Investigative Section Commander, or his/her designee, will assume command and control of the scene and investigation. This case will be handled as any other major case investigation.
1. In Active Attacks where three or more people are killed in a public place, and with the approval of the Chief of Police, the Investigative Section Commander shall request assistance from the Attorney General as defined in the Investigative Assistance for Violent Crimes Act of 2012.
  2. Members of the Investigative Section will respond to the rally points/safe zones to initiate intelligence gathering on possible suspect(s). They will debrief victims/witnesses, and keep a record of any person(s) entering this area.
  3. Active Attacks will almost certainly result in the separation of families, friends, and groups. Police actions may increase the separation of these individuals. The Department has a vested interest in keeping families, friends, and groups together, and/or reunified as soon as practicable. To complete this task, the Investigative Section will have the responsibility to coordinate this function by accomplishing the following goals:
    - a. Establish a family reunification location to facilitate this process and accommodate family members of persons still within the crisis site.
    - b. Establish transportation for victims/witnesses to accomplish reunification.
    - c. Coordinate with the Office of Emergency Management.
  4. The Investigative Section will handle family death notifications.
    - a. The Investigative Section Commander or his/her designee, will ensure that the Victim Advocate responds and will contact chaplains and peer support officers to provide information to relatives of victims.

## IX. INCIDENT DEMOBILIZATION/OPERATIONAL REVIEW

Incident demobilization is the orderly, safe, and efficient return of an incident resource to its original location and status. The IC will approve the demobilization of critical resources. In adhering to personnel release priorities:

- A. No resources are to leave the incident until authorized to do so by the IC.
- B. The documentation of all on-scene personnel, to include all external agencies will be completed.
  - 1. The IC should, as soon as practical, meet with key personnel from the Department and other agencies involved to coordinate an objective, critical review of each phase of the operation.
  - 2. Following the after-action debriefing, the IC shall complete an After Action report and submit it thorough his/her Chain of Command.

## TRAINING

- A. Training
  - a. The Agency shall establish and conduct initial response to Active Attack training for all sworn and applicable non-sworn personnel.  
**CFA 10.19A**
  - b. All sworn law enforcement members, and applicable non-sworn personnel, shall attend Active Attack response refresher training at least annually. Supervisors are encouraged to offer periodic reminders about appropriate tactics and responses to an Active Attack. **CFA 10.19B**
  - c. An after-action report shall be completed to evaluate the response to the Active Attack training.