



## **NORTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**



### **SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS TEAM SOP 300.18**

EFFECTIVE DATE: 02-23-22

APPROVED:   
Chief of Police

SUPERSEDES: 06-14-21

CFA: 14.02, 17.03, 17.04, 17.06

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#### **I. PURPOSE**

To establish guidelines for the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team.

#### **II. POLICY**

To utilize the SWAT Team when incidents arise indicating a special risk lies within the scope and capabilities of the Team. The primary focus of the SWAT Team shall be to resolve high-risk situations by utilizing highly-skilled officers trained in the use of special weapons, equipment, and techniques designed to reduce the risk to civilians and law enforcement personnel. Furthermore, having the utmost respect for the sanctity of life, it is the policy of this Department to, whenever possible, expend all reasonable efforts to resolve high-risk incidents peacefully.

### III. SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the Department.

### IV. UTILIZATION

The SWAT Team, upon request by the SWAT Commander, a Section Major or higher authority, will respond to the following incidents when the situation exceeds the capabilities of available resources:

- A. Barricaded subject
- B. Hostage situation
- C. High-risk search warrant execution
- D. High-risk fugitive apprehension
- E. Sniper incident
- F. Any other situations or incidents high risk in nature, including natural disasters, and civil disturbances in which the Team's response would be necessary and/or beneficial.
- G. Terrorist activity
- H. Dignitary Protection/Escort Details: **CFA 17.03**
  - 1. If a request is made to the Department to provide high-level security for VIPs, such as dignitaries or elected officials, it shall be coordinated by the SWAT Commander, once the assignment has been approved by the Chief of Police.
  - 2. The SWAT Team Commander shall prepare, plan and implement the detail and shall consider the following:
    - a. Based on intelligence information and/or threat assessment of the detail, the dignitary, civilian personnel, and/or sworn personnel involved may need to have the use of ballistic vests for protection.

- b. Considerations for weapons, clothing, communications, vehicles and any other equipment, that may be deemed necessary, will be determined by the SWAT Team Commander. The circumstance surrounding the operation could require that various personnel involved in the operation have a specific dress code, utilize certain types of vehicles or communication equipment. In addition, it might be necessary to consider special identification for those individuals carrying concealed weapons.
- c. Travel routes will be, in part, determined by the size of the motorcade/travel party and the threat level of the situation. Primary and alternate routes, "safe haven" areas, reserved parking spaces, possible ambush sites, or situations should all be considered when mapping travel routes. It is also important that the use of alternate vehicles be included in the design of the operation, in the event of a vehicle breakdown or other unforeseen circumstances. All routes should be driven prior to the actual visit to ensure familiarity with the area and road conditions.
- d. As with travel routes, site visits should also be done prior to the actual visit. Advance inspection of the site, which allows for intelligence gathering of the site, should include, but not be limited to, possible site layout, site function, site employees, site hazards or dangerous areas, escape routes, ingress/egress routes, etc.
- e. It is necessary that any operation developed shall outline provisions for emergency medical treatment. This should include, but not be limited to, the location of the nearest hospital(s) along with travel route, as well a local emergency telephone numbers for ambulance and medical treatment facilities.
- f. Intelligence information will vary depending on the specific detail. However, it should include, at a minimum, any possible threats, terrorist activity, analytical studies or profiles. If necessary, additional outside agencies or units within the Department may be called upon to assist the information/intelligence function and/or operation.

- g. A means of identification (i.e., lapel pins, arm bands, etc.) should be utilized for involved personnel and dignitaries.

## **V. TEAM ORGANIZATION**

**A. Team Organization: **CFA 17.04F****

- 1. A Police Officer of rank, designated by the Chief of Police, will be the SWAT Commander. The current complement of Operators comprises one team. Should an additional team be formed, it will be designated as the Bravo Team. Each team will be comprised of a Team Leader, Assistant Team Leader, and support officers.
  - a. SWAT Team Commander: The primary duty is tactical leadership and overall direction of the team. The SWAT Team Commander's duties include
    - 1). Selecting candidates from the ranks of the Department based on the established criteria;
    - 2). Ensuring that officers receive ongoing training;
    - 3). The planning and implementation of all SWAT Team policies and procedures, which include, but are not limited to the following:
      - a). All administrative functions.
      - b). Maintaining all training and after-action reports.
      - c). Evaluating equipment improvements and the requests for those items.
    - 4). Preparation and evaluation of SWAT Goals and Objectives;
  - b. SWAT Team Leader: The SWAT Team Leader shall be appointed by the SWAT Commander. The SWAT Team Leader shall be a certified SWAT Operator and is responsible for:
    - 1). Mobilization of on/off duty personnel.

- 2). Planning and documentation of all SWAT operations and in-service training.
- 3). Direct supervision of his/her respective personnel.
- 4). Conducting line-inspections of all SWAT Operators, including their equipment.
- 5). Planning of all tactical operations, including details and particulars regarding specific tactics, equipment, weapons and personnel allocation.

c. SWAT Assistant Team Leader(s): The SWAT Assistant Team Leader(s) shall be a current SWAT Operator and must be recommended to the position by the SWAT Team Leader and approved by the SWAT Commander. The SWAT Assistant Team Leader(s) is responsible for:

- 1). Assisting with the tactical decisions, manpower allocations during all events, and the supervision of SWAT Operators.
- 2). Assuming the Team Leader's responsibilities and authority, if necessary, in the absence of the Team Leader.

d. SWAT Operator: The SWAT Operator reports directly to the SWAT Team Leader and is responsible for maintaining:

- 1). An approved level of proficiency with all SWAT entry/perimeter equipment.
- 2). All issued and assigned equipment, ensuring that it is in good working order.
- 3). An approved level of proficiency with all SWAT tactics.
- 4). An adequate personal fitness level that meets or exceeds the minimum physical fitness standards.
- 5). Familiarity with all departmental SWAT Standard Operating Procedures pertaining to the deployment and

utilization of SWAT.

- e. SWAT Team Sniper Leader: The SWAT Team Sniper Leader reports directly to the SWAT Commander and is responsible for:
  - 1). Directing all sniper deployments.
  - 2). The direct supervision of sniper operators.
  - 3). Coordinating and implementing lesson plans and training.
  - 4). Ensuring that all snipers' equipment is inspected by each sniper operator.
- f. SWAT Sniper/Observer: The SWAT Sniper reports directly to the SWAT Sniper Leader and is responsible for:
  - 1). Utilization of his/her special training, positioning and specialized equipment to observe and report real time intelligence to the Tactical Command Post; and
  - 2). Providing protection for the SWAT Team, other officers, civilians, and/or hostages.

## **VI. ACTIVATION**

- A. Any supervisor, within any section of the Department, can request activation of SWAT for any in-progress, high-risk situation, to include, but not limited to the incidents below; however, final determination will be made by the SWAT Commander, a Section Major, or higher authority:
  - 1. Barricaded incidents
  - 2. Hostage situations
  - 3. Suicidal person
  - 4. Terrorist Activity
  - 5. Crowd control
  - 6. Developing civil disturbances
  - 7. Any situation in which it is believed advanced monitoring during large gatherings may be necessary to ensure public safety.

B. Any unit within the Department may request the assistance of SWAT to assist during a pre-planned operation. The unit supervisor shall contact the SWAT Commander with the request. Once approved, the SWAT Team Leader shall determine the number of SWAT Operators to be utilized during the operation. For pre-arranged operations, the SWAT Team Leader shall, prior to the operation, notify all participating SWAT Operators.

## **VII. SWAT CALL OUT AND MOBILIZATION PROCEDURES**

A. When a decision is made to mobilize SWAT, the SWAT Commander shall contact the Communications Unit to initiate a call-out of SWAT personnel. For an in-progress callout, SWAT Operators shall monitor the designated operational radio frequency. The SWAT Commander or SWAT Team Leader shall provide further direction to incoming SWAT Operators (location of incident, closed roadways, Tactical Command Post, etc.).

**CFA 17.04D,E**

B. The SWAT Commander will be notified and informed of the developing situation. The Uniform Patrol Section Major will be notified by the Communications Unit. The Uniform Patrol Section Major, or, in his/her absence, any Section Major, will notify the Assistant Chief of the Field Operations Division. The Assistant Chief will notify the Chief of Police. The SWAT Commander will issue directives, which will be relayed to SWAT Operators as contact is made.

C. Due to the volatile nature of critical incidents, SWAT Team Operators shall utilize their Department-issued cell phones and are requested to respond to the call-outs. SWAT Team Operators who do not have Department-issued cell phones will be contacted on their personal cells, home number, or any other designated number and the time of the call will be logged. If a team Operator cannot respond to a call-out, the Operator will notify the Communications Unit, and the Communications Unit will notify the SWAT Commander. The SWAT Commander will make the determination if sufficient Operators are available to accomplish the mission. In the event that sufficient personnel are not available, the SWAT Commander will then summon tactical assistance from the North Miami Beach Police Department's Special Response Team.

D. All SWAT Team Operators are expected to respond to a call-out while on duty. If a SWAT Team Operator is off-duty, and cannot respond to a

SWAT call-out, no punitive action will be taken against the Operator. SWAT Team Operators are not considered to be on an “on-call” status so as not to restrict off-duty activity.

- E. The SWAT Team Operators will be advised that it is a SWAT call-out, and given any necessary instructions.
- F. If necessary, the Crisis Negotiation Team members will be notified at the same time via Department-issued cell phones, or other contact information on file.

## **VIII. USE OF FORCE**

SWAT personnel will follow the procedures established in the Department’s Response to Resistance policy, 300.16, for all less-lethal and deadly-force options.

## **IX. PERSONNEL SELECTION**

All SWAT Team Operators are active officers serving on a volunteer basis. Applicants must have a minimum of two years of police experience and be on permanent (non-probationary) status to qualify. When a SWAT position becomes available, and the vacancy is announced, interested applicants will submit a written request to the SWAT Commander to be considered for the position. Selection will be done by the SWAT Commander, along with the SWAT Team Major, or his/her designee, with the approval of the Chief of Police, based on the following: **CFA 17.04A**

- A. Reliability
- B. Emotional stability
- C. Maturity
- D. Past performance
- E. Interview
- F. Firearms proficiency
- G. Physical ability: Applicants must be in excellent physical condition and be capable of performing:

1. 1.5 mile run in 12 minutes or less
2. 100 yard dash in 16 seconds or less
3. Climb a 25-foot rope
4. 100 yard dash carrying a 180-pound man on his/her back in 45 seconds or less
5. 5 pull-ups
6. 30 push-ups in one minute or less
7. 60 sit-ups in two minutes or less
8. Successful completion of an obstacle course within a specified amount of time

H. Passing a psychological exam to be administered by a Department-approved psychologist.

I. Other requirements may be added to coincide with the Team's needs, or the training entity's requirements.

## X. SWAT OPERATOR LONGEVITY

The SWAT mission is a vital one, which involves hazardous assignments. SWAT Team Operators must be well-disciplined, team players, and have a steadfast devotion to tactical principles. Operators who fail to maintain these characteristics jeopardize the safety of other Operators and will be recommended for termination from the Team. The Chief of Police, or his/her designee, will make the final determination.

## XI. TRAINING

A. Initial training will be conducted at a certified Basic SWAT school.

B. Additional training in the use of all SWAT weapons; distraction devices, and chemical munitions is required for any SWAT Team Operator to be able to use said items.

C. In-service training/readiness exercises will be conducted at a minimum of eight hours per month. The training session content will be designed to improve overall Team performance and capability. **CFA 17.04C**

1. The SWAT Commander will document and retain all tactical training records.

- D. Physical ability re-qualification will be conducted semi-annually to ensure that all SWAT Team members continue to meet the physical conditioning required to perform the SWAT mission. **CFA 17.04D**
- E. Firearms qualification will be conducted semi-annually, and operators must shoot a qualifying score in the required course(s).
  - 1. The SWAT Commander will document and retain firearm qualification records.
- F. Operators who fail the re-qualification of physical ability and/or firearms proficiency tests will be offered a make-up. Those failing to meet the standards will be removed from the Team.

## **XII. SWAT WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT**

- A. The SWAT Team requires unique equipment that will only be employed by its Operators. Access to the equipment is restricted. **CFA 17.04B**
- B. Department issued SWAT equipment, including the diversionary devices (NFDD) described in Section XV of this policy, will be stored in the SWAT locker, located within the Police Station. To ensure control and accountability for this equipment, access to the SWAT locker will be limited to SWAT Operators, firearms instructors, the SWAT Major, the Assistant Chiefs, and the Chief of Police, or his/her designee.
- C. All weapons assigned to the SWAT Team will be stored in the SWAT locker, and will be signed out when removed for training purposes or operations. The following firearms are carried by SWAT members:
  - 1. Remington 700 Bolt Action Rifle (.308 caliber)
  - 2. H&K MP5 Semi/Full Auto Submachine gun (9mm)
  - 3. Bushmaster Semi/Full Auto AR 15 (.223 caliber)
  - 4. Remington 870 Shotgun
  - 5. Remington 870 Breaching Shotgun
  - 6. Sig Sauer P320 handgun (9mm) red dot optics equipped.

The following weapons are less-lethal:

- 1. LMT 40mm launcher
- 2. Taser w/2-pronged Taser cartridges

The following ammunition, purchased from an approved City vendor, will be carried by SWAT members:

1. .308 caliber (match grade)
2. .9mm caliber
3. .223 caliber
4. Buckshot rounds
5. Breaching rounds
6. 40mm impact rounds
7. 40mm OC/CS rounds
8. OC/CS hand grenades

D. SWAT Team Operators are responsible for the maintenance and care of any issued equipment. Any equipment, which does not operate properly or which sustained damage, must be brought to the attention of the Team Leader.

E. Only SWAT Team Operators will use SWAT equipment, unless authorized by the SWAT Commander, the SWAT Major, the Assistant Chiefs or the Chief of Police, or his/her designee.

F. Equipment issued to the SWAT Team Operators for training sessions and operations will be controlled by the Team Leader, and an equipment inventory will be conducted by the Team Leader at the conclusion of each training session and/or operation.

### **XIII. SWAT TRUCK**

A. The SWAT Team shall have a SWAT truck assigned for the purpose of transportation to and from scenes and/or training sites. In addition, the vehicle may act as a Tactical Command Post on those situations that require a site for staging, planning, communication, and negotiations. The keys for the SWAT Truck shall be stored in the SWAT locker.

**CFA 14.02A, 17.06E**

1. Use of the SWAT truck by any section of the Police Department for any mission or purpose must be approved by the SWAT Commander and will only be operated by qualified and trained members. **CFA 14.02B**
2. The SWAT Commander, or his/her designee, is responsible for the overall condition, inspection and maintenance of the SWAT truck.

The SWAT truck shall have a check of its fluids, battery, etc., prior to each use. **CFA 14.02C**

3. Equipment kept in the SWAT truck at all times shall include:

**CFA 14.02D**

- a. Ballistic Shields (2)
- b. Mirrors
- c. Ladder
- d. Fire Extinguishers (checked regularly for functionality) and
- e. Entry/Porting Tools.

#### **XIV. INDIVIDUAL TEAM OPERATORS' EQUIPMENT**

A. SWAT Team Operators will be required to have their tactical clothing/equipment in an appropriate gear bag to be stored in the SWAT locker or carried in the trunk of their assigned police vehicle. This will contain, but not be limited to, the following: **CFA 17.04B**

1. Team trousers (Green BDU)
2. Team combat shirt (Green)
3. Team t-shirt (black with green logo)
4. Tactical boots
5. Load bearing ballistic vest
6. Gloves
7. Ballistic helmet
8. SWAT holster
9. Goggles
10. Communication device
11. Gas mask
12. No. 98 tactical (smoke) grenade
13. Flashlight and
14. Other equipment as designated by assignment and/or Team Leader's Instructions.

B. The SWAT issued pistol, if not being carried for daily on-duty use, will be stored in the SWAT operator's gear bag. The gear bag may be stored in the SWAT Team Operator's police vehicle; however, the pistol will be stored inside the gear bag only during on-duty hours.

## **XV. DISTRACTION DEVICES / NFDDs**

The use of distraction devices is an appropriate action to help minimize the danger to officers and others involved in a high-risk situation. Distraction devices are known as Noise/Flash Diversionary Devices (NFDD). NFDD's are devices used in a tactical situation. They are a tool to be used in consideration with a pre-planned tactical response.

**A. NFDD Procedures:**

1. **PRIMARY PURPOSE:** An NFDD provides a physiological and psychological advantage through the causation of temporary impairment of vision, disorientation, and confusion. NFDD's may be considered whenever the use of a diversion would reduce the risk of injury to any person. They may also be used when:
  - a. Subject is known or suspected to be armed or has access to a weapon.
  - b. Subject had made threats to use force or violence against the police, rivals, trespassers, etc.
  - c. Immediate entry is required to rescue officers or citizens.
  - d. Vicious or trained attack animals are present or thought to be present.
  - e. There is a barricaded subject or hostage situations, or when danger to life may exist and failure to utilize a distraction device would make the situation more hazardous.
  - f. The use of a distraction device may increase the chance of safely resolving a situation or problem.
  - g. Other risk is present during warrant service, execution.
  - h. Distracting a subject to make apprehension, detention, or there is an armed or unarmed violent person threatening to do bodily injury to self.
2. Only Department approved NFDDs may be used and only trained personnel are authorized to deploy the devices. The decision to deploy NFDDs will be made by the SWAT Commander or Team

Leader(s).

3. TRAINING: All SWAT Team Operators are initially oriented with the utilization of NFDDs during a Basic Special Response Team (SRT) or SWAT school; however, upon the successful completion of school, SWAT Team Operators must successfully complete an approved Departmental training course in the proper use and deployment of NFDDs. SWAT Team Operators will be required to conduct a minimum of an 8-hour annual refresher training in order to continue utilizing NFDDs during SWAT Team operations. SWAT Team Operators, who are certified NFDD instructors, are authorized and responsible for the training. NFDD training will include, but not limited to, the following:
  - a. Familiarization of new NFDDs (If applicable)
  - b. Physiological effects to recipient(s)
  - c. Advantages of utilizing NFDDs
  - d. Disadvantages of utilizing NFDDs
  - e. Recent legal updates (if any)
  - f. Risks to the user
4. DEPLOYMENT: Prior to deploying an NFDD, operators shall consider available intelligence, information and circumstances, to include specifically the presence of elderly persons, children, handicapped persons, etc. The deployment of an NFDD in situations wherein such persons indicated above are present will be avoided, unless it is deemed to be tactically necessary.

Deployment Procedures:

- a. An NFDD can be deployed inside or outside of a structure.
- b. An NFDD will not be deployed into an area not visible to the deploying officer. If an extreme situation exists, the deployment of the NFDD may be altered.
- c. SWAT Operators shall deploy an NFDD after receiving approval, when practical.
- d. Prior to the deployment of an NFDD, a portable fire extinguisher will be readily accessible.
- e. No NFDD will be deployed into a structure known to contain

high concentrations of an accelerant or explosive agents.

- f. Any NFDD deployed will be noted in the After Action Report.
5. INVENTORY: The SWAT Commander shall ensure that an annual inventory of NFDDs is conducted and documented. The documented results of the annual inventory will be forwarded to the Special Services Section Major.

An Inventory Log will be maintained inside the explosive (magazine (storage box) where NFDDs are kept. If more than one location is utilized to store NFDDs, each explosive magazine will have its own Inventory Log. The Log shall reflect the following information:

- a. The date of any addition or removal of any diversionary device.
- b. The serial number of each diversionary device.
- c. The purpose of addition or removal.
- d. The name of the Team member taking the action.
- e. A running balance of all NFDDs.
6. SECURE STORAGE: While exempt from certain requirements, law enforcement agencies are not exempt from the requirement to store explosives (NFDDs included) in compliance with Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) regulations. The Department will store all NFDDs in the SWAT locker, whether attended or unattended, provided the following conditions are met at all times:

- a. NFDDs must be stored in a Type 2 Magazine
- b. The magazine storing the NFDDs must be secured with one of the following:
  - 1). At least one (1) steel padlock, having at least five-tumblers and a case-hardened shackle of at least 3/8" diameter.
  - 2). A steel outer construction, five-tumbler barrel lock or a push button lock, requiring at least a 3-digit combination code.

- c. The SWAT Team must not store any metal tools, metal implements, or other metal devices in the same magazine as the NFDDs.

## **XVI. NFDD TRANSPORT/UNATTENDED VEHICLES**

- A. NFDDs may be transported in the SWAT truck to a place of storage and/or use. NFDDs may be transported within the “Bang Box” located inside the SWAT truck, additionally; they may be kept within an NFDD storage container (“ammo can”), or carried on an Operator’s person.
- B. If NFDDs are being transported in the SWAT truck, and the SWAT truck is parked at any outdoor location, the following additional conditions must always be met:
  1. A Patrol Officer, or other sworn Law Enforcement Officer, must be assigned to protect and remain with the SWAT truck at all times, in the event that the SWAT Team leaves the SWAT truck unattended.

## **XVII. CHEMICAL AGENTS**

There are occasions when the use of chemical agents is an appropriate response during a situation, or the use of chemical agents may be necessary when danger to life exists, and other methods of control or apprehension would be ineffective or more dangerous. At all times, it is intended that deployment of chemical agents will serve to minimize risk of injury to officers, suspects, and other persons.

- A. The SWAT Commander or Team Leader(s) will determine the need for chemical agents and have the authority to direct their deployment. The SWAT Commander or Team Leader(s) will ensure all equipment is inspected, up-to-date, and well maintained.
- B. Gas Masks will be donned by SWAT Team Operators prior to chemical agents being deployed.

## **XVIII. WARRANT SERVICE SCOPE AND PROCEDURES**

Warrants should be served by the SWAT Team when there exists a possibility that the safety of an officer would be in jeopardy without the use of the special equipment and training that the SWAT Team can provide. It is the SWAT

Team's responsibility when assisting in serving warrants to render the premises safe. **CFA 17.04E**

- A. The SWAT Commander, or his designee, has the authority concerning tactics and personnel deployed.
- B. When at all possible, the SWAT Commander should be given a 24-hour advance notice that the SWAT Team will be needed to serve a warrant.
- C. When the decision has been made to use the SWAT Team, the SWAT Commander shall select a Team Leader and together they will determine the number of officers necessary to serve the warrant and the equipment that will be needed.
- D. Member Responsibilities:
  1. The Team Leader will appoint a scout who will respond to the scene of the warrant. Unless special circumstances exist that will compromise the mission, the scout will:
    - a. Verify the address and/or apartment number.
    - b. Verify that the scene is accurately described in the warrant.
    - c. Be prepared to advise the Team Leader of an accurate layout of the scene and any special problems or circumstances that the Team may encounter.
  2. The Team Leader and SWAT Commander will make the necessary assignments to bring forth a successful completion of the objective.
  3. The Team Leader and SWAT Commander will meet with the supervisor of the entity or unit that obtained the warrant and will coordinate the manner in which the perimeter surrounding the warrant location will be manned. If sufficient SWAT Team members are available, they will man the inner perimeter. If not, the perimeter will be manned by officers/detectives who designated by the Team Leader or SWAT Commander.
  4. Prior to the execution of the warrant, all involved personnel will be briefed in a general briefing. In addition, the SWAT Team will have a tactical briefing. All personnel involved will be fully aware of their responsibilities and assignments.
  5. Prior to the execution of the warrant, all personnel involved in the execution will also be briefed on the applicable method of approach, which will be as follows:

- a. Warrants emanating from non-violent criminal cases (i.e., narcotics, fraud, etc.) should be approached with a “surround and callout” method to allow the persons within to acknowledge the police presence and afford them the opportunity to comply. Only after a reasonable effort has been made to gain the attention of the persons within to alert them of the police presence outside, will the team proceed to enter the premises pursuant to F.S.S. 933.09.
- b. The above method must be used except:
  - 1). Where the officers are justified in the belief that a person(s) within is in imminent peril of bodily harm, or reasonably believe the peril to officers would be increased if they demanded entrance and stated their purpose.
  - 2). Where those within, made aware of the presence of someone outside, then engaged in activities which justify the officers in the belief that an escape or destruction of evidence is being, or will be, attempted.
6. When the premises described in the warrant and all people within the premises have been secured, the officers/detectives who obtained the warrant will conduct all searching of the premises, arresting of offenders, and reading of the warrant.
7. The SWAT Team will clear the scene when the Team Leader determines that the safety of all officers on the scene is not in jeopardy. This decision will be in consensus with the on-scene supervisor conducting the search.
8. The Team Leader will be responsible for preparing an After Action Report detailing the SWAT Team response. The After Action Report, along with a copy of the warrant, will be forwarded to the SWAT Commander for filing. An additional copy will also be forwarded to the SWAT Major.
9. If, during the course of the SWAT operation, property is damaged, photos will be taken of the damage, and the SWAT Commander will provide a copy of the Property Loss Report (if applicable) to Risk Management.

E. Additional entry method legal considerations:

1. The Team Leaders and SWAT Commander will ensure that the provisions of F.S.S. 933.09 are followed.
  - a. F.S.S. 933.09 states: "The officer may break open any outer door, inner door or window of a house, or any part of a house or anything therein, to execute the warrant, if after due notice of his authority and purpose, he/she is refused admittance to said house or access to anything therein."
  - b. In accordance with F.S.S. 933.09, the team serving the warrant shall not use a "no knock" tactic, and shall announce their purpose and authority by knocking on the door and saying, "**North Miami Police, we have a search (or arrest) warrant, open the door.**" The Team should wait a reasonable time for the door to be opened before using force to enter the premises.
  - c. The above announcement must be made except:
    - 1). Where the person(s) within already know of the officers' authority and purpose.
    - 2). Where the officers are justified in the belief that a person(s) within is in imminent peril of bodily harm, or reasonably believe the peril to officers would be increased if they demanded entrance and stated their purpose.
    - 3). Where those within, made aware of the presence of someone outside, then engaged in activities which justify the officers in the belief that an escape or destruction of evidence is being attempted.
  - d. F.S.S. 933.17 states: "Any officer, who in executing a search warrant, willfully exceeds his authority or exercises it with unnecessary severity, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree."

## **XIX. BARRICADED SUBJECT AND HOSTAGE SITUATIONS**

- A. When the decision has been made to mobilize the SWAT Team, it will be the responsibility of the SWAT Commander to notify the Communications Unit, who will initiate the call-out of the SWAT Team and Crisis Negotiation Team personnel. **CFA 17.06A 17.04E**
- B. A perimeter will be developed and manned in order to reduce the possibility of deaths or injuries to innocent civilians and police officers, and to prevent the escape of the offender(s). **CFA 17.06C**
- C. If applicable, the evacuation of innocent civilians from within the perimeter will be carried out. **CFA 17.06D**
- D. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue will be requested to respond and stand by for the possible evacuation and treatment of injured persons. **CFA 17.06B,D**
- E. Generally, as the scene is contained, a condition may prevail where the risk of loss of life, or the suffering of great bodily harm by victims, is not imminent. During this condition, officers on the scene will not risk further direct action if it unnecessarily endangers their own safety, or that of innocent civilians. However, while maintaining the scene pending arrival and deployment of the SWAT Team, there exists the possibility that, at any time, the perpetrator(s) may display irrational behavior, which significantly threatens and endangers life and may demand direct action from the officers present. As the threat to life becomes greater, the officers and supervisors present must take action toward the neutralization of the threat, as noted in the Department's Active Attack Incidents policy, 300.26.
- F. With the arrival of the SWAT Commander and Team Operators, efforts will be made to ensure that certain actions have been carried out, or are to be carried out, such as:
  - 1. Establishment of a Tactical Command Post. **CFA 17.06E**
  - 2. Intelligence gathering.
  - 3. Establishment of tactical plans.
  - 4. Removal or evacuation of innocent neighbors or bystanders.

5. Formal crisis negotiations will coincide with the deployment of SWAT personnel.
6. As soon as practical, the SWAT Team will relieve uniform personnel from the inner perimeter (defined as the immediate area surrounding the incident location).
7. The outer perimeter (defined as that area surrounding the inner perimeter) will continue to be manned by uniform personnel, who will be responsible for keeping all unauthorized persons and vehicles from entering the incident location, and for pursuit of persons/vehicles fleeing outside of the inner perimeter.

G. In the event it is decided to carry out a tactical action, the SWAT Commander will determine the appropriate method and time to implement the plan and maintain direct control over SWAT personnel.

H. The SWAT Commander may, upon notification that a hostage situation or barricaded subject exists, call upon another SWAT Team to respond to the staging area. This is done to pool necessary resources, and to provide personnel relief if the incident lasts several hours or more. **CFA 17.06A**

I. Surrender/Termination of the hostage/barricaded situation: At the conclusion of the operation, an After Action Report that accounts for the Team's response to the crisis situation is to be completed. This report shall be forwarded through the Chain of Command, to the Chief of Police, within seventy-two (72) hours. **CFA 17.06F**