2-27  RESCUE TASK FORCE

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

- Related SOP(s)
- 2-1 Uniforms
- 2-2 Department Property Related SOP(s)

Form(s)

- PD X Form Title

Other Resource(s)

- (Placeholder. For example, Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Police Officers’ Association)

- Rescinded Special Order(s)
- SO X Subject

2-27-1  Purpose

The purpose of this Division/Section/Unit/Program/policy is to...

2-27-2  Policy

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department to assist Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel with the rescue of injured patients during critical incidents when a scene has not yet been fully secured.

N/A

2-27-3  Definitions

A. Rescue Task Force (RTF)

A temporary team of personnel composed of a law enforcement element and an EMS element, whose primary function is to enter the critical incident scene in order to provide emergency medical care and evacuation. This task force will be created on scene with available personnel.

B. Warm Zone

An area with potential risk to life and health that can be mitigated with proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), tactics and procedures. The title of defined word or unit.

2-27-4  Rules and Procedures
A. Incident Commander

1. During critical incidents involving injured patients, the APD Department Incident Commander shall convene with the EMS supervisor (i.e., AFR Battalion Chief) to establish a unified command.

   a. A human-caused mass casualty incident is a crime scene, therefore, it falls under the purview of Law Enforcement.

2. The APD Department Incident Commander and EMS supervisor shall consider possible risks to the public, officers/sworn personnel and EMS personnel, as well as the risk versus the benefit to the patient(s), when determining if the Rescue Task Force will be activated.

   a. The APD Department Incident Commander and the EMS supervisor must agree the area the RTF is to be deployed meets the definition of a warm zone.

3. The incident commander shall designate an officer as the RTF team leader. The IC shall designate the other members of the law enforcement element or delegate that responsibility to the RTF team leader.

4. The IC shall identify the area and entry point the RTF will deploy to. Upon being briefed on the plan to accomplish the assignment by the RTF team leader, the incident commander will authorize the RTF plan of action before implementation.

B. Rescue Task Force Team Leader

   The RTF team leader shall:

   1. Be responsible for all actions and direction of the team;

   2. The RTF team leader shall ideally designate four officers/sworn personnel as RTF team members;

   3. The RTF team leader shall develop a plan of action to enter the scene, contact and evacuate the patient(s);

   4. The RTF team leader shall brief EMS personnel who are a part of the RTF;

   5. The RTF team leader shall brief the incident commander on the RTF plan of action; and.
6. Ensure all personnel assigned to the RTF are wearing the required ballistic PPE.

C. Rescue Task Force Team Member

--- The Rescue Task Force team member shall:

1. Be adequately marked and recognizable as a law enforcement officer.

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2. Have all-duty gear, consistent with SOP Uniforms per SOP 2-2-4E.

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3. The primary duty of the RTF team member is to ensure the safety of the EMS personnel and the patients who are being treated.

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4. RTF team members shall follow the directions of the RTF team leader and:

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a. Utilize the tactics and procedures covered in APD RTF Training.