

Office of the Sheriff, Santa Clara County
Critical Incident for Patrol – 4 hours
2270-24203
Revised 01/05/2021

Course Objective:

The students in this course will receive instruction on how to perform basic assessments when dealing with critical incidents. The student will be provided with techniques, tactics, and legal information on how to resolve critical incidents.

Performance Objectives:

Using group discussions and a learning activity, the students will identify what is a critical incident and be able to explain techniques on how to safely resolve the incident.

I. Introduction

- a. Instructor instruction
- b. Course objectives and overview

II. Critical Incidents

- a. Critical incident defined
- b. Types of critical incidents
- c. Agency specific
- d. Criminal v. non-criminal

III. AB392 and SB230 / Use of Force Legal Issues

- a. Emphasis on de-escalation / Tactical repositioning
- b. Emphasis on duty to intervene
- c. Policy Considerations / Changes
- d. Duty to warn
- e. At Risk Populations

IV. Tools for Incident Management

- a. Priorities of Life
 - i. Civilians
 - ii. Law Enforcement
 - iii. Suspect
- b. Establishment of CSTI
 - i. Crime
 - 1. Known and threatened
 - ii. Suspect
 - 1. Description
 - 2. Vehicles
 - 3. Criminal history
 - 4. Mental state/intoxication
 - iii. Threat
 - 1. Types of weapons

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- 2. Standoff distances
- iv. Incident Location
 - 1. Scene diagram
 - 2. Location of resources
 - 3. Breach Points
- v. Systematic approach to disseminating critical information
 - 1. Establishes
 - a. Level of Force
 - b. What resources are needed
 - c. Potential Threats
 - 2. Ensures all personnel on scene have same information

V. Command

- i. Logistics
 - 1. Staging
 - 2. Additional equipment
- ii. Tactical Commander
 - 1. Allocation of resources
 - 2. Security
 - 3. Staffing
- iii. Staging
 - 1. Resources and equipment
 - 2. Separate from command post
 - 3. Personnel accountability
 - 4. Minimizes self-dispatching

VI. Span of Control

- i. Appropriate span of control ratio
 - 1. Assign team leaders to mitigate span of control issues
 - a. Perimeter team
 - b. Staging group
 - c. Contact/search/arrest team

VII. Tactical Considerations

- i. Perimeters
 - 1. Contain/isolate incident
 - a. Outer
 - i. Identify choke points to establish quick outer perimeter
 - b. Inner
 - i. Around immediate scene

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- ii. Use of rovers
 - 1. Suspicious vehicles
 - 2. Uber
 - iii. Drive perimeter to ensure no weak points
- 2. Positioning/Lighting
 - a. Backlighting issues
 - b. Concealment
- 3. Specific roles
 - a. Quick reaction force
 - i. Chase
 - ii. Arrest
 - iii. Search
 - b. Designated communication frequencies
 - i. Perimeter vs. tactical
 - c. Contingencies
 - i. Officer down rescue
 - ii. Active shooter
 - iii. Hostage situation
 - iv. Shots fired
 - d. Resources
 - i. Less Lethal
 - ii. Armor
 - iii. Rifles/Shotguns
 - iv. Hands On
 - v. Commands
 - vi. Radio Communication
- 4. Terminology
 - a. Buildings
 - i. Letter and number of openings
 - 1. Sides
 - a. A,B,C and D
 - 2. Floors
 - a. More than one story (1, 2, 3 etc...)
 - 3. Openings
 - a. Every opening assigned a number
- 5. Barricaded Suspect
 - a. Define what constitutes a barricade
 - b. Contain
 - i. Isolate problem
 - c. Contact

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- i. Attempt to communicate with suspect and obtain voluntary compliance
 - 1. Phone
 - 2. Public Announcement System
- d. Correct
 - i. Take action to resolve incident

VIII. REQUIRED LEARNING ACTIVITY – Scenarios

- a. In small groups, the students will be given a scenario to include, at minimum, the following scenarios:
 - i. Active Shooter
 - 1. Determine if there is a driving force
 - a. Establish Contact Team
 - b. Establish Command Post
 - c. Rescue Task Force
 - d. Corridors
 - ii. Hostage/Barricade
 - 1. Containment
 - 2. Control
 - 3. Communicate
 - 4. Call SWAT & Negotiators
 - 5. Create an immediate action plan
 - iii. Interrupted Burglary
 - 1. Containment or Rescue?
 - 2. Resources
 - 3. Communicate

IX. Closing

- a. Questions
- b. Course Evaluations