120.03
Tactical Support Team
11-04-2026

PURPOSE
The purpose of this order is to identify the roles and responsibilities, duties, call out procedures, physical requirements, and the issuance and use of specialized equipment of the ancillary Tactical Support Team (TST).

POLICY
It shall be the policy of the Sacramento Police Department to maintain an ancillary team of specially trained officers to support the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team on specific emergency situations.

PROCEDURE
A. GENERAL
1. TST officers will develop and maintain an expertise in small-team tactics, specialized equipment, use of armored vehicles, and multiple weapon systems.
2. TST officers are assigned to their respective divisions and operate in an ancillary duty assignment for the Special Operations Section during tactical incidents and under the direction of the SWAT Commander.
3. Working in conjunction with SWAT team personnel, the TST will respond to critical incidents including, but not limited to:
   a. Armed barricaded subjects.
   b. Hostage situations.
   c. High-risk search warrants.
   d. Open area searches.
   e. Active shooter incidents.
   f. Terrorist incidents.
4. TST officers are not certified SWAT officers and shall not be utilized as such.
5. Officers assigned to the TST shall:
   a. Be available for on-call responsibilities at least two weeks per month.
      (1) The SWAT commander or designee should designate at least two TST officers to match the SWAT on-call rotation (alternate one week on call and one week off call).
   b. Respond to a designated police facility to deploy SWAT specialty equipment and patrol vehicles as directed.
   c. Not be assigned a home retention vehicle (HRV) solely for TST duties.
      (1) TST officers that are assigned a HRV as part of their primary assignment are authorized to utilize their HRV for TST on-call duties.
   d. Not store or secure SWAT issued equipment in personally owned vehicles while off duty.
      (1) SWAT issued equipment may be stored or secured in a TST officer's HRV in accordance with General Order 420.01 (Use of Police Vehicles).

B. SELECTION, PERFORMANCE, AND RETENTION
1. To be eligible for selection to the TST, officers shall be selected in accordance with General Order 255.01 (Specialty Unit Testing and Selection).
2. Specific testing requirements for the TST shall be listed on the job posting.
   a. Term of assignment shall be in accordance with labor agreements and listed on the job posting.
3. An annual review for retention shall be completed by the Metro Division captain or designee.

C. TRAINING REQUIREMENTS
1. TST officers shall receive and successfully pass the following training:
   a. Initial SWAT orientation.
   b. Continued unit quarterly tactical training throughout the year.
   c. Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training Basic SWAT School or equivalent within the first year of assignment to the TST.

D. UNIT STRUCTURE
   1. While assigned to a SWAT incident, TST officers shall work under the direction of the SWAT commander or designee.
   2. SWAT supervisors shall have supervisory responsibilities of TST officers during SWAT incidents.

E. SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES
   1. SWAT supervisors shall ensure TST officers:
      a. Complete all required training within the prescribed time periods.
      b. Are issued any specialized equipment required for their ancillary assignment.
      c. Are included in the SWAT on-call rotation.