



MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT

POLICY NO. 105.04 VOLUME: 1

SUBJECT: Bomb Threats / WMD / Terrorism Incident

SIGNED: _____ DATE: 3/1/2018 - revised
Chris J. Mullins, Fire Chief

SCOPE AND PURPOSE: To provide a standard operating procedure for deployment and operations at incidents involving the potential or real threat of a maliciously set explosive device or other tactical violence is threatened (terrorism). Terrorism incidents may include, but are not limited to, Biological, Nuclear, Incendiary, Chemical and Etiological Incidents (Weapons of Mass Destruction or WMD). The primary response should afford the maximum degree of safety for the general public and for all city employees involved.

POLICY:

Incident Command: Incidents dealing with explosives, WMD, and terror threats initially fall within the scope and authority of the Mountain Brook Police Department.

- Utilization of the Incident Command System shall be established.
- Unified Command should be established early in order to efficiently coordinate resources (i.e. HAZMAT or Bomb Technicians).
- The search for, removal of, or defusing of explosive devices and the mitigation of terror threats are specialized operations that require training beyond the scope currently provided by the fire department to its personnel.

Fire Department Responsibility: The primary responsibility of the MBFD will be to provide for life safety (Rescue, Emergency Medical Intervention) and fire suppression activities at the scene. Preparation for providing this mission will begin immediately upon arrival.

Initial Response: The initial response to potential threats will be (Tier II) one engine company, one transport unit and Battalion One. The response will be in a nonemergency mode. Responses to a confirmed explosion or threat event which have known victims or rescue potential will be the normal response for structure fires (two engines, ladder truck, transport unit and Battalion One) and shall be in an emergency mode.

Communications: All unnecessary radio traffic should be eliminated as a safety precaution. Hand-held radios should be used rather than the truck mounted radios. No radio (truck mounted, hand held or cellular) should be keyed for any reason if the radio is within 500 feet of a suspected explosive device (the chance of detonation is increased). Face to face communications is the recommended mode of communications. Communications to the dispatch center shall be made by cell phone or by

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mobile/portable radios located greater than 500 feet from the reported building or area.

Staging: Units arriving at a potential threat site shall stage at least 500 feet from the incident location (preferably by a fire hydrant). The units shall report on the scene and level one staging. Personnel shall maintain crew accountability and shall don full structural PPE at all times while in staging (IC may alter). SCBA shall be available and utilized if the unit is committed to operations at the scene.

Battalion One: The Shift Commander upon arrival shall determine a suitable location for a command post should there be an actual threat. He will locate the appropriate pre-incident plan for the structure and interact with the Police Department Supervisor and the building official (school superintendent, principal, etc.) to coordinate activities at the scene. He will furthermore consider a location for level II staging of ambulances, HAZMAT, and additional resources should the incident become active due to a confirmed threat.

Upon determination by the MBPD that the threat is not a hoax, the Shift Commander shall call for additional units and notify dispatch to initiate the working fire protocol.

Disaster Assistance/Mutual Aid: Should there be a detonation of an explosive device or WMD with major loss-of-life and injuries coupled with a structure fire, command shall request assistance under the area Disaster Assistance Agreement.

Ongoing Considerations:









- Maintain the scene as a Crime Scene, preserve evidence and document observations
- Maintain awareness for malicious causes at Mass Casualty Incidents as multiple patients with common symptoms may be the first sign of a possible threat
- Be aware of secondary devices meant to harm responders
- Minimize exposure to responders by the maximum use of PPE, controlled/limited entry/exit for tasks and staging of resources at a safe distance
- Establish, at least, a basic decontamination zone at any suspected incident
- Perform a continual size-up and protect personnel accordingly

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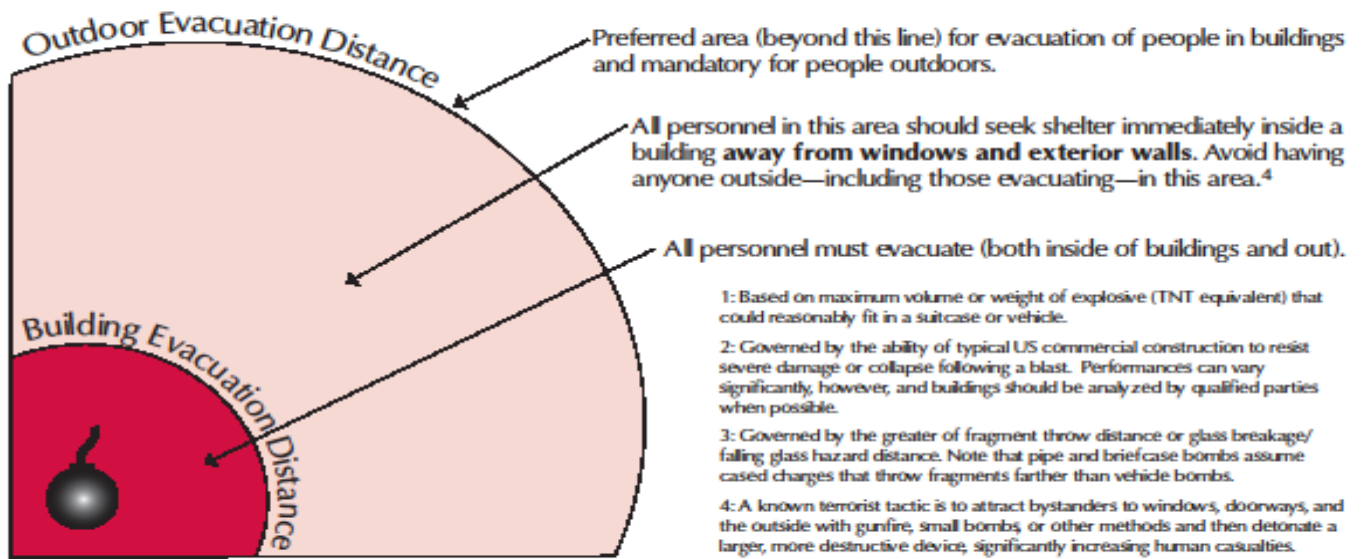
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Bomb Threat Stand-Off Distances			
Threat Description	Explosives Capacity ¹ (TNT Equivalent)	Building Evacuation Distance ²	Outdoor Evacuation Distance ³
 Pipe Bomb	5 LBS/ 2.3 KG	70 FT/ 21 M	850 FT/ 259 M
 Briefcase/ Suitcase Bomb	50 LBS/ 23 KG	150 FT/ 46 M	1,850 FT/ 564 M
 Compact Sedan	500 LBS/ 227 KG	320 FT/ 98 M	1,500 FT/ 457 M
 Sedan	1,000 LBS/ 454 KG	400 FT/ 122 M	1,750 FT/ 533 M
 Passenger/ Cargo Van	4,000 LBS/ 1,814 KG	600 FT/ 183 M	2,750 FT/ 838 M
 Small Moving Van/ Delivery Truck	10,000 LBS/ 4,536 KG	860 FT/ 262 M	3,750 FT/ 1,143 M
 Moving Van/ Water Truck	30,000 LBS/ 13,608 KG	1,240 FT/ 378 M	6,500 FT/ 1,981 M
 Semi-Trailer	60,000 LBS/ 27,216 KG	1,500 FT/ 457 M	7,000 FT/ 2,134 M

This table is for general emergency planning only. A given building's vulnerability to explosions depends on its construction and composition. The data in these tables may not accurately reflect these variables. Some risk will remain for any persons closer than the Outdoor Evacuation Distance.



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