

RENO POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER

This directive is for internal use only and does not enlarge this department's, governmental entity's and/or any of this department's employees' civil or criminal liability in any way. It is not to be construed as the creation of a particular standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to any complaint, demand for settlement, or any other form of grievance or litigation. Violations of this directive, if substantiated, can only form the basis for intra-departmental administrative sanctions.

Chief of Police: Michael Poehlman /s/		
Legal Advisor: Karen Fraley /s/		
Approving Deputy Chief:		
General Order No: S-140-05	Issued: January 4, 2006	Supersedes: 3/232.000
	Reissued:	Revised:
General Order Title: EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL		

POLICY

It is the responsibility of the Reno Police Department to handle disposition of explosive or incendiary devices, actual or suspected, to protect the lives and property of the citizens of Reno. The Reno Police Department will provide and maintain an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team (EOD) as part of the Consolidated Bomb Squad. Members of the EOD Team are responsible for the handling, rendering safe, and disposal of improvised explosive or incendiary devices found or suspected within the City of Reno, and to act within the scope of the mutual aid agreement between the City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Washoe County.

PROCEDURES

Definitions

The term "explosives" includes, but is not limited to, nitroglycerine, dynamite, blasting caps, military explosives, Molotov Cocktails, or other homemade explosives, and any other material listed under the Uniform Fire Code and Nevada Revised Statutes.

Jurisdiction

The agency in whose jurisdiction the explosive or incendiary device is located, or to whom the threat is directed, will have responsibility for the tactical perimeter as designated by the responding EOD technician and the on-site command officer. RPD EOD technicians will adhere to all applicable Reno Police Department policies and procedures.

Functional Responsibility

The bomb squad will be responsible for responding to all incidents of accidental explosions, bombings, found bombs or suspected bombs, and explosives and related materials within Washoe County or any other jurisdiction with an existing interlocal agreement with the Consolidated Bomb Squad. The bomb squad's duties include rendering safe, and disposing of,

all explosive devices or suspected explosive devices and searching the scene for additional devices or explosives. Duties may also include investigation and searching post-blast scenes for evidence and reconstructing the device from all components found. The latter will be in conjunction with the responsible agency, when requested.

Commercial Driver's License Requirements

The EOD technicians are required to drive explosives-laden vehicles as well as vehicles and trailers that are described in statute as commercial vehicles. Driving a commercial vehicle comes under local and federal guidelines. These guidelines require a drug-testing protocol to maintain a Commercial Driver's license. The EOD technician will be required to obtain a Commercial Driver's license with a Hazardous Material endorsement. This license must be maintained during the technician's tenure as an EOD Technician. Due to federally mandated drug testing for a Commercial Driver's license, the EOD technician will also be required to participate in the City of Reno's random drug testing program as it applies to Commercial Driver's license holders for the City.

EOD Response

1. Upon receipt of a bomb threat, a field unit will be dispatched to the scene of the incident to take a report. The field unit will assess the situation and advise a field supervisor of the situation.
2. In the event that an improvised explosive or incendiary device is suspected, EOD technicians will be notified and dispatched.
3. The first technician on scene will be in charge of the "Render Safe and Disposal" portion of the incident and will be responsible for the interior perimeter of the scene. Upon arrival, the technician will contact the on-scene officer in charge for updated information.

Search and Evacuation Procedures

1. Initially, it will be the responsibility of the individual in charge of the building or facility that received the threat to make the decision regarding a search or possible evacuation.
2. If unusual circumstances exist, the bomb squad may search the threat location. The tech will not make the determination that there is no device, only that a negative search was made.
3. If there is an immediate threat to public safety, based upon information provided by the EOD technician, the on-site command officer may require an evacuation. The command officer is responsible for the scope of the evacuation and relocation.

Bomb Threats at Airports

1. In the event of a bomb threat at an airport within the jurisdiction of the department, the on-duty command officer will ensure the following personnel and agencies are notified:

- Airport Police;
 - The on-call EOD Technicians;
 - The on-call FBI agent;
 - RPD Shift Lieutenant and Patrol Deputy Chief; and
 - The Airport Manager.
2. Upon arrival at the scene, the EOD technician will be in charge of the handling and disposal of any actual or suspected explosive or incendiary device.

Bomb Threats Within Aircraft

Because of the possibility of large loss of life and the technical nature of aircraft searches, the bomb squad may assist in passenger aircraft searches. Upon completion of the search the EOD technician will advise the aircraft captain. The technician will not make a determination that there is no device on the aircraft, only that a negative search was made. The determination that the aircraft is clear and safe will be the responsibility of the aircraft captain.