



CIVIL UNREST SAMPLE SOP

FIRE DEPARTMENT (NAME) STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (MONTH/ YEAR)

SUBJECT: CIVIL UNREST

PURPOSE

To provide a guide for Fire Department activities during civil unrest including riots, civil disturbances or related hostile and violent encounters that will result in a prompt and coordinated action while providing proper liaison between fire and law enforcement (LE) in accordance with (City/County) Emergency Operations Plan.

DEFINITIONS: PHASES OF CIVIL UNREST

DEMONSTRATION/ PROTEST

A demonstration or protest is a legal public assembly of persons exhibiting sympathy with, or opposition to, a political, legal, economic, or social condition or movement. A demonstration/protest may become illegal and dangerous when it includes active resistance and civil disobedience as a deliberate violation of a law.

CIVIL DISTURBANCE

A civil disturbance is any breach of the peace by a significant number of people assembled in one area or the gathering of an unruly mob. This may include any situation which, in the opinion of the onsite law enforcement commander, could develop into a riot.

CIVIL UNREST/ RIOT

A riot is civil unrest/disorder wherein crowds display a propensity for violence by setting fires, vandalizing, looting, attacking civilians, firefighters or law enforcement,

or engaging in other violent acts. Frequently, such actions will not stop without the intervention of law enforcement personnel.

HOT ZONE

A Hot Zone (or exclusion zone) is the area of civil unrest or riot as designated by the on-scene law enforcement commander, in which civilian vehicle access is denied and fire department vehicles will not enter unless accompanied by law enforcement escorts. When possible, the hot zone will be designated by perimeter streets.

- Hot Zone - Unstable, potentially unsafe given observed protest/riot conditions & actions.
- Warm Zone - An area, in the current state, that is relatively safe for emergency responder operations, with observable indicators that suggest that instability could possibly ensue.
- Cold Zone - Safe Area with little likelihood of unrest

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

The emergency operations center is located in the (LOCATION) and is the point where representatives of all the public safety departments and other designated (CITY/COUNTY) department representatives meet to coordinate responses/actions related to jurisdiction-wide emergencies.

TASK FORCE

A task force is a unified group of apparatus and personnel assembled in response to a civil unrest/riot condition. A Task Force will consist of 3 Engines, 1 Ladder, 1 Battalion Chief w/aide and 1 ALS unit, and two law enforcement vehicles each with a minimum of four officers. A task force responds as a single unit, operates as a unified team, and shall not be separated when deployed during a civil unrest event.

RESPONSIBILITY

It will be the responsibility of each member to exercise the appropriate control dictated by his/her rank in the implementation of this SOP. Personnel should anticipate the need for implementing the guidelines of this procedure and should be prepared to activate them prior to actual need. Incidents of civil unrest is considered essentially a law enforcement event and the fire department shall coordinate with the law enforcement incident commander throughout the incident via unified command.

PROCEDURES

DEMONSTRATIONS

Notifications

Field Units - Commanding Officers/Acting Officers confronted with a demonstration in their first due area will immediately notify the Fire Communications Center (FCC) so that other units may avoid the area of the demonstration. Notification should include the exact location, crowd size, and general conditions observed.

Fire Communications Center Supervisor- When notified by field units of demonstration conditions will contact the law enforcement Radio Supervisor in order to confirm the incident and apprise him/her of the demonstration. If confirmed or notified first by the law enforcement Radio Supervisor, the FCC Supervisor will notify:

- The Assistant/Deputy Chief
- The Battalion Chief in the affected area
- First due companies in the affected area

Responsibility

Companies responding to assignments in the area of a demonstration are to avoid the affected area as much as possible.

Companies responding to assignments at the location of a demonstration are to:

- Request that law enforcement be notified and respond
- Shut off lights and sirens at least 3 blocks from the scene.
- Use all normal precautions
- Meet with the LE Supervisor on the scene
- Assess the need for additional assistance
- Leave promptly after service is rendered

CIVIL DISTURBANCES

Notifications

Field Units - Commanding Officers/Acting Officers when confronted with a civil disturbance, that they believe could escalate into a civil unrest/riot situation, will immediately notify the FCC Supervisor. Notification should include the exact location, crowd size, and general conditions observed.

Supervisor, FCC - When notified by field units of the civil disturbance, will contact the law enforcement Radio Supervisor in order to confirm the incident and apprise of the

civil disturbance situation. If confirmed, or notified first by the law enforcement Supervisor, the FCC Supervisor will notify the following of the situation.

- The Assistant/Deputy Chief and all on-duty Chief Officers, beginning with those in the affected area.
- All companies via an announcement on the P.A. system, Fire Radio and electronic message on the CAD terminal; “All companies use extreme caution in the area of (ADDRESS) due to civil disturbance.”
- The Assistant/Deputy Fire Chief/Commissioner.
- The law enforcement Radio Supervisor of all alarms received from the disturbance area to ascertain the need for fire equipment and if needed to request information on the best response route.

Responsibility

Assistant/Deputy Chiefs - Upon receipt of confirmation of a civil disturbance from the FCC, the Assistant/Operations Chiefs will:

- Continuously monitor the situation by obtaining updated reports on conditions from the FCC
- Assign the first due Battalion Chief to proceed to the law enforcement Command Post, meet with the law enforcement Commander and conduct an on scene assessment of conditions. If the Battalion Chief’s assessment warrants, the Assistant/Deputy Chief will proceed to the LE Command Post and assume the role of Fire Department Incident Commander via Unified Command with Law Enforcement.

Battalion Chiefs - Upon receipt of confirmation of a civil disturbance from the FCC, the Battalion Chief will:

- Be responsible to see that all orders relative to this procedure are carried out in their respective Battalions.
- Ensure that companies on radio and not engaged in emergency activities return to their respective stations.
- Notify the officers of all companies under their command of the location of the disturbance area, as well as nature and conditions. Periodic updates should be provided as they become available.
- If assigned by the Assistant/Deputy Chief, respond to the Law Enforcement (LE) Command Post and conduct an on-scene assessment of conditions including the following.
 - Ascertain the location of the LE Command Post from the FCC and proceed, out of service, to that location.
 - Meet with the on-scene LE Commander and determine the following.
 - The LE Department’s evaluation of the situation including the current level of response by LE.
 - The boundaries of the disturbance area.
 - The assistance required from the FD including the need to assign a Medic unit to the Command Post.

- The effect on response patterns for suppression companies and medic units in the affected area.
- After assessing the nature and conditions of the civil disturbance, inform the Assistant/Deputy Chief of his/her findings and recommendations and the effect of the disturbance on the FD's service delivery. This information should also be given to the FCC. The use of cellular phones, if available, is recommended.

Company Officers - Upon notification of a civil disturbance by any official departmental authority will ensure compliance with the following directives.

- If in the area of the disturbance, fire station doors will be closed and members will remain inside. The station should be secured to prevent unauthorized entry.
- When riding the apparatus or in service on an assignment within the affected area, all personnel will wear all protective clothing with turnout coats fully closed. Apparatus drivers and EMS personnel only are exempt from wearing gloves and boots.
- All members are to ride in the cab or crew cab with windows closed.
- Keep the FCC informed of any witnessed changes in conditions related to disturbance.
- WARNING LIGHTS, SIRENS AND AIR HORNS WILL NOT BE USED IN THE AFFECTED AREA.
- Tools are to be kept in locked compartments or inside the cab when not in use.
- Position apparatus at intersections whenever possible to affect a rapid exit, if necessary.
- Use caution and common sense to avoid increasing tensions. Avoid hostile verbal exchanges, gestures, or physical contact. Complete the assignment, if possible, and leave the scene.
- The use of water lines or tools for crowd control is STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. Crowd control is a LE function.
- If in the officer's opinion, conditions present an unreasonable risk to the safety of members or to safe operations, leave the area immediately by the most expedient route and notify the FCC of the same.

Emergency Medical Supervisors

- Whenever a civil disturbance area is identified, the Emergency Medical Supervisor on duty in the affected Division will be notified by the FCC
- The Emergency Medical Supervisor in the affected Division will respond to the LE Command Post and meet with the assigned Battalion Chief to determine the nature and conditions of the disturbance and the effect on response patterns for medic units.
- S/he will then ensure that all Medic Units in the area of the disturbance are aware of the conditions and the boundaries of the affected area.

- The Emergency Medical Supervisor in the Division (or neighboring Division) not affected by the civil disturbance will proceed to the FCC to assist in any EMS related activities.

Considerations

The severity of a civil disturbance, as well as the area affected may vary greatly. Personnel must be flexible in their response to the conditions presented by such events. Considerations include:

- Have LE investigate and verify the need for Fire and EMS responses in the affected area BEFORE the commitment of FD units.
- Assignment of LE escorts and stay with all FD units for all Fire and EMS responses in the affected area.
- Relocation of personnel and apparatus from a station in the immediate area of the civil disturbance to another station if necessary.
- The use of a Task Force response in the affected area instead of regular deployment models.
- Assembling a Task Force at the LE Command Post or other staging area for use in the affected area. A Task Force consists of 3 Engines, 1 Ladder, 1 Battalion Chief w/aide and an ALS unit with 2 LE escorts. The Task Force responds as a single unit, operates as a unified team and is not separated.
- Continual updates from the FCC to all stations on conditions and boundaries of the affected areas.

CIVIL UNREST/ RIOTS

Notifications

Supervisor, FCC - when notified by the LE Radio Supervisor or a Fire Department Chief Officer located at the LE Command Post that a riot condition exists, will ascertain the boundaries of the affected area including any hot zones and will notify the following.

- All companies via an announcement on the P.A. system, Fire Radio and printout message on the CAD terminal: ***“A riot condition now exists in the area bounded by (STREET NAMES when possible)...companies are to use extreme caution when responding.”*** Boundaries of any hot zone should be included in this message. Units involved in emergency responses will be advised via radio that a riot condition exists and the boundaries of any hot zone. All units “on radio” and not committed to an emergency will be ordered to return to their stations.
- The Fire Chief (Commissioner)
- The Assistant / Deputy Chiefs (Commissioners)
- All on-duty Chief Officers
- The on-duty and Command Fire Marshal
- On-duty EMS Command Officer and EMS Supervisors

- Chief Dispatcher and Assistant Chief Dispatcher
- The Administrative Services Director
- All “ON CALL” Staff officers and Departmental civilian unit heads, as specified by the Fire Chief (Commissioner)
- The on-duty supervisor at Fleet Management

Responsibility

“On Call” Assistant / Deputy Chiefs (Deputy Commissioners)- when notified that a riot condition exists will take the following actions:

- Proceed to the LE Command Post to establish unified command and assume the role of Fire Incident Commander.
- Meet with the LE Incident Commander (normally a LE Deputy or Assistant Chief/Commissioner) to assess conditions. After gathering information from the LE Incident Commander, conferring with the on-scene Division Chief and with FCC Command, determine the number of Task Forces to be assembled and their staging area.
- Assistant/Deputy Chiefs will restore the Division as appropriate to assure coverage for the City.

Division Chiefs - when notified that a riot condition exists will take the following action.

- If the affected area is within his/her jurisdiction, will go out of service and proceed to the LE Command Post, meet with the LE Operations Section Chief and conduct an assessment of conditions.
- The Division Chief will be the Fire Department Operations Chief and will coordinate responses, assignment of Task Forces and other activities with the LE Operations Section Chief (normally a Chief Inspector).
- If not in the affected area, the Division Chief will report to the Fire Communications Center and assume FCC Command until relieved by the Chief of Communications or a Staff Assistant or Deputy Chief. During regular business hours, Chief of Communications or a Staff Assistant or Deputy Chief will be assigned this function.

FCC Command - The Assistant/Deputy Chief responding to the Fire Communications Center will conduct the following actions.

- Dispatch Field Communications to the location of the LE Command Post to facilitate communications.
- Upon the activation of the Emergency Operations Center (LOCATION) assign a Battalion Chief or Captain to act as the Department’s representative.
- Establish direct communications with the LE Department by sending a Fire Captain to the LE Radio Room (LOCATION). The Captain should be equipped with a portable fire radio to monitor conditions.

- Consult with the “On-Call” Assistant/Deputy Chief (Commissioner) and provide input on the number of Task Forces that should be assembled.
- At the direction of the Fire Chief (Commissioner), or his/her designee, implement recall procedures in accordance with (SOP #__) to ensure:
 - The FCC is properly staffed and that sufficient personnel are utilized to handle the increased radio traffic and number of incidents. If required, uniformed personnel, trained in FCC procedures may be used to augment the FCC staff.
 - Enough Division Chiefs are recalled to staff each Division. All other off-duty Assistant/Deputy Chiefs should be notified to standby for possible assignment.
 - Battalion Chiefs on platoon days off are alerted to standby for possible assignment.
 - Sufficient personnel are recalled to maintain appropriate staffing level on Engines and Ladders.
 - Sufficient staffing is provided to companies housing special equipment and apparatus to prevent delays in response.
- Monitor the location of all reserve apparatus and equipment and conduct periodic updates as needed.
- If a hot zone is established and fire stations must be abandoned, ensure that reserve apparatus are also relocated to stations outside of the affected area.
- If Mutual Aid assistance from outside departments is requested, ensure that these units are stationed in outlying areas. Mutual Aid companies will require a FD member, equipped with a portable fire radio, to act as a guide. Only FD units will operate in a hot zone.
- Work with the Director of Office of Emergency Management and/or the Administrative Services Director or his/her designate to arrange for food and beverages at Staging areas and Task Force Assembly sites.

Fire Operations Chief - The Division Chief that responds to the LE Command Post will be the Fire Operations Chief and will:

- Determine the nature and conditions of the riot including the area affected and if any hot zones have been established.
- Maintain communications with the FCC via radio or cellular phone to keep them advised of conditions and boundaries of the affected area.
- Consult with the “On-Call” Assistant/Deputy Chief (Commissioner) and provide input to determine the number of Task Forces that should be assembled.
- Determine appropriate staging areas for Task Forces.
- Inform the LE Operations Chief of the location of staging areas for Task Forces so that designated LE escorts may be sent to link up with the Task Force.
- Request through the LE Operations Chief that LE investigate all fire and EMS calls to determine the actual need for equipment. Keep FCC apprised of actions to be taken.
- Coordinate assignment of Task Forces and assure that adequate LE protection is in place before committing Task Forces to incidents in the affected area.

- Consult with EMS Command to determine the status of response to medical calls in the affected area. This situation may include temporarily suspending routine EMS service in the hot zone, and first responder service throughout the City (County).
- Consider assigning at least one (1) officer to the Unified Command Post to act as a recorder/historian.

Battalion Chiefs will:

- Contact each supervisor under their command to ensure compliance with this procedure on a department-wide basis.
- Be responsible to see that all orders relative to this procedure are carried out in their respective battalions.
- Keep officers and members of all companies under their command apprised of the location of the riot area, hot zones, and conditions.
- If assigned to a Task Force, assume the duties of the Task Force Commander (Cite Appropriate SOP)
- Keep an accurate log of all events taking place in their Battalion and/or Task Force.
- Ensure that all companies under their command are familiar with the procedure for abandoning fire stations, if this becomes necessary. (*See Abandoning Fire Station Section Below)

Company Officers:

- Ensure compliance with this Operational Procedure.
- If any reserve apparatus is housed in your station, notify the FCC of the status of the vehicles and be prepared to relocate the apparatus as directed by FCC Command.
- If located near the affected area or in the hot zone, make preparations for the possibility of abandoning the Fire Station.

EMS Command and Emergency Medical Supervisors:

- The on-call EMS Command and the Emergency Medical Supervisor of the affected Division will respond to the LE Command Post and meet with the Fire Department Operations Chief.
- Determine the boundaries of the riot and ensure that Medic units are not sent into a hot zone.
- Consult with the Fire Operations Assistant/Deputy Chief and determine the status of EMS response in the affected area, including the temporary suspension of service to any hot zone.
- If service must be suspended, work with the Fire and LE Operations Chiefs to develop an alternate means of handling EMS calls. This may include having LE respond to medical calls in the hot zone and transporting patients to a collection point outside of the affected area (Warm/Cold Zone).

- The Emergency Medical Control Officer in the Division not affected by the unrest will proceed to the FCC to assist in any EMS related activities.

Administrative Unit Supervisors will:

- Be concerned with the specific responsibility of their respective units regarding the implementation of this procedure.
- Serve at the discretion of the Fire Chief (Commissioner) or the on-duty Assistant/Deputy Chief (Commissioner).

ABANDONING FIRE STATIONS

During a large scale disorder or riot, it may become necessary to temporarily abandon fire stations due to safety considerations, especially in the hot zone.

- If the safety of firefighters and equipment cannot be assured within the confines of a fire station, then the ranking officer at that location has the authority to remove the company from the area.
- This decision may also be made at the Command Post by the Fire Incident Commander after consultation with LE.
- Companies abandoning a station will notify the FCC and their Battalion Chief of their actions and proceed to the closest fire station in a safe area.

NOTE: This section does not pertain to a company that has been relocated and combined with other units to form a Task Force unless that company commander has been specifically ordered to “abandon the station.”

Company commanders, when ordered to abandon their station, will carry out the following actions.

- Take all portable radios and battery chargers with them.
- Take any cellular phones and battery chargers.
- Take all SCBA cylinders (bottles) on board the apparatus.
- Take Commanding Officers Journal, Company logbook and Company run book.
- Take bunker gear of all members/all platoons along with extra PASS devices.
- Lock all doors, windows, lockers and the parking lot gate (if applicable)
- Shut down any electric supply to fuel tanks.
- Shut down utilities to station and secure and lock the station.
- All members are to leave on FD apparatus when abandoning a station.
- Personal vehicles should be stored in a locked parking area, if available. If the station has no secure parking, then personal vehicles may be moved inside to the apparatus floor before leaving. Provision should be made for the removal of personal vehicles to a safe location at the earliest convenience depending on conditions.

NOTE: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES IS ANY MEMBER TO REMAIN BEHIND WHEN A STATION IS ABANDONED.

Considerations

- A riot condition presents extreme hazards to firefighting personnel. The potential dangers may include the usual hazards of fire duty plus the threat of physical injury from a variety of weapons, such as rocks, bottles, and firearms.
- Ballistic vests, when issued to Task Force members, will be worn under bunker gear by all members.
- Store a tarp and CO2 or Dry Chemical extinguisher in the cab of the apparatus to protect firefighters from thrown rocks, bottles, or fire bombs.
- Task Force Commanders should assemble their personnel and pass on all relevant information including the type of tactical operations that will be used on scene
- Task Forces will not commit to any attack until the Task Force Commander has assessed the situation and determined an appropriate strategy and the safety of the location. Task Force Commanders will also determine if and when a Task Force withdraws due to deteriorating conditions.
- Based on previous civil unrest/riot history, the number of fires could be very high. The most effective tactical considerations may include the following actions.
 - Unless a life hazard is present an exterior attack using master streams from deck guns may be most effective. No interior firefighting should be undertaken unless necessary for rescue of known occupants in imminent threat of injury or death. Master streams and a quick knock down should be the preferred strategy.
 - Depending on the number of fires in an area, fires that present no exposure hazard should be left to burn.
 - Depending on the number of fires in an area, Task Forces should respond only to structure fires. Autos and rubbish, unless creating an imminent exposure threat, should be by-passed.
 - Depending on the number of fires in an area, no overhauling should be attempted after the fire is knocked down. While this may present the possibility of a re-kindle, the strategy is to protect exposures, knock down the fire, and move on.
 - Utilize 5" large diameter hose as an above ground water main. Take a wrap on the hydrant so that the pumper is not left alone at the hydrant.
 - If it becomes necessary to abandon an apparatus, the apparatus radio microphone should be removed and the apparatus immobilized, if possible.
 - If LE have helicopter service available, consider utilizing it for an
 - aerial survey of fire conditions.

- No multiple alarms will be utilized in a riot area. If additional help is needed, Task Force commanders are to request additional Task Forces, if available.
- Consider the fatigue factor for personnel operating within the perimeter of the hot zone. Emotions will be highly charged. Command should monitor physical and mental status of response personnel and provide relief companies as deemed appropriate.
- Members should be instructed to bring their bunker gear home with them after their tour of duty. In case of re-assignment or abandonment of a station, this may avoid a shortage of bunker gear.

TASK FORCES

Task Forces will be utilized when conditions present an unusual safety concern to personnel due to hostile or potentially hostile activities in a specific geographic area. The combining of individual companies into Task Forces is done to increase safety, decrease the risk to personnel and to ensure a coordinated, quick fire attack or rescue under potentially hostile conditions.

Task Forces will consist of three Engines, one Ladder, a Battalion Chief w/aide, and an ALS unit, with two LE escorts with four officers each.

During a localized civil unrest/riot, a Task Force may be assembled and staged at a nearby site to respond to verified calls in the area. The decision to implement this type of response will rest with the on scene chief officer.

During a large scale disorder/riot, ONLY Task Forces will be utilized in the affected area. Individual, unescorted companies and Medic Units will not be sent into a hot zone. Task Forces placed in service in conjunction with this procedure will use a letter designation rather than a number, i.e., Task Force "A", Task Force "B", etc.

To maintain communications, Task Force Commanders will utilize portable cellular phones.

Assembling of Task Force(s) will be accomplished in one of two ways:

- The primary method of assembling a Task Force will be to combine companies in nearby stations to assure that three Engines, one Ladder, 1 Battalion Chief with an Aid, and 1 ALS Medic Unit are assembled to become Task Force "A".
- The second method of assembling a Task Force will be to utilize available reserve apparatus and recalled personnel to provide the correct apparatus and staffing for a Task Force. In this second method provision must be made for providing portable radios for the companies.

Law Enforcement Protection

In the event of a MAJOR civil disorder/riot, Task Forces will NOT RESPOND into a hot zone without adequate LE protection. A minimum of 2 LE cars and 8 officers should be assigned to each Task Force before the Task Force is permitted to respond into the affected area.

LE officers assigned to a Task Force will remain with the Task Force at all times to provide security. The LE escort will be considered part of a complete Task Force unit. LE will be permitted to ride on the apparatus if sufficient LE vehicles are not available to escort the Task Force.

When a Task Force is assembled and assigned to a staging area, the Fire Operations Chief will notify the LE Operations Chief of the location of the Task Force's staging area and their designation, i.e. Task Force "A", etc. LE will dispatch the Task Force's escort to that staging area to link up with the Task Force.

Staging Areas

Task Forces will be staged outside any hot zone for response. The primary site for Task Force staging areas will be nearby fire stations. This site provides necessary communications equipment, sanitary facilities, and shelter for personnel. Alternate staging areas may be selected with consideration must be given to communications capabilities, parking space for a Task Force, sanitary facilities, and shelter for personnel.

Locating a staging area at the Command Post is not recommended due to the congestion of LE vehicles and equipment expected at this site. However, in a localized civil disturbance, this site may be suitable and may be used.

More than one Task Force may be assembled at a staging area. If this is necessary, consideration should be given to the ability of a staging site to support more than one Task Force. It may also be advisable to have a Fleet Management mechanic located at a staging area to handle repairs to apparatus.

Assembly Areas

An assembly area is a site where reserve apparatus and recalled personnel will be formed into a Task Force. Consideration must be given to several factors when choosing an assembly area.

- Parking for recalled members' vehicles.
- Communications capabilities of the site
- Shelter and sanitary facilities
- Two examples of suitable assembly areas are:
 - The Fire Academy
 - Marine Unit station (if applicable)

- Once a Task Force is assembled, it will be relocated to a staging area

Task Force Relief should be staggered so that adequate coverage is maintained for the area. If the Task Force was formed at an assembly area, relief should take place back at the assembly area. If the Task Force was formed from active companies, relief should be coordinated with those stations.

FIREGROUND OPERATIONS

The first priority at an emergency scene is life safety including the safety of firefighters. During fireground operations, the perimeter should be secured by LE officers prior to initiating firefighting operations. Only connect to hydrants in the secured area.

Task Force Commander will position the apparatus and determine which tactics will be used. Master streams and exterior hand lines are preferred to control the fire in a defensive mode. Control and containment are the primary objectives. Laddering and/or roof operations should only be undertaken if necessary for rescue of known occupants in imminent threat of injury or death.

Apparatus should be positioned in a manner to allow for rapid evacuation. If ordered to evacuate, personnel should make an effort to get nozzles and equipment back on the apparatus and shut down the hydrant if possible to do so safely. If it is not possible, then companies should leave hose and other equipment on the scene. The task force must remain intact.

EMS OPERATIONS

EMS calls in the hot zone may be a result of injuries from civil unrest activities, but can also be individuals with illnesses or needs separate and apart from the unrest. Task force units remain together throughout an EMS response. A Response Task Force (RTF) should be assembled from the main task force units and operate the same as in Active Shooter response (SOP#____).

Once a patient/victim is extracted and prepared for transport, all task force units go with the ambulance. Patients should be transported to a casualty collection area in the cold zone unless the medic in charged determines that immediate hospital care is required in which case the ambulance will proceed with LE escort to the hospital. Upon completion of the transport, the EMS and LE units will return to the staging area and regroup with the rest of their task force.

REFERENCES

Civil Unrest Standard Operating Procedures from urban fire departments throughout the U.S. and Canada including; New York City, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Virginia Beach, Phoenix, Dallas, Seminole County, FL, Orange County, FL, Arlington County, VA, and St. Louis, Houston, Tualatin Valley, Ottawa, and Vancouver.

SAMPLE SOP