



San Diego County Sheriff's Department

Special Enforcement Detail

Standard Operating Procedures (S.O.P.)

November 10, 2019

This Standard Operating Procedures manual has been written to form guidelines for the functioning of the Special Enforcement Detail. This document is subordinate to the San Diego Sheriff's Department Manual of Policies and Procedures. All employees assigned to the Special Enforcement Detail will read, adhere to, and be held accountable for the SOPs in this manual.

The Special Enforcement Detail SOP manual addresses issues of Departmental interface, such as personnel matters, as well as general and specific operations. All members of the Special Enforcement Detail are encouraged to submit revisions or propose new sections to the procedures in this manual. Revisions to the SOP must be reviewed by the Special Enforcement Detail Lieutenant.

S.E.D.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Administration
1.1	Role of the Special Enforcement Detail
1.2	Reporting Requirements
2.0	Personnel
2.1	Duties and Responsibilities
2.2	Selection and Screening Process
2.3	Physical Training
2.4	Physical and Psychological Examinations
2.5	Uniforms
2.6	Training Files / Required Training Courses
2.7	SED Training Officer/Corporal Program
2.8	Grooming Standards
2.9	Reserve Selection/Retention
2.10	Training Hours
3.0	Normal Operating Procedures
3.1	Call-Out Responsibilities
3.2	Command Structure at Tactical Operations
3.3	Standard Workday Procedures
3.4	Equipment Issue and Return
3.5	Operational Order Format
3.6	Property Control
3.7	Vehicle Operation and Maintenance
3.8	Specialty Vehicles
3.9	Special Munitions
3.10	Storage of Ordnance
3.11	Body Worn Cameras
3.12	Helicopter Operations
4.0	Firearms / Explosive MOE
4.1	Qualifications
4.2	Sniper Proficiency
4.3	Safety Procedures
4.4	Automatic Weapons
4.5	Explosive MOE
5.0	Emergency Procedures
5.1	Emergency Deployment
5.2	Reactive Authority

1.0 ADMINISTRATION

1.1 ROLE OF THE SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DETAIL

The primary mission of the Special Enforcement Detail is to provide a team of highly trained, disciplined and motivated deputies who are equipped and available to respond seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, to critical incidents in the region. The Department recognizes the value of having a full-time team of tactical experts who train together and whose primary purpose is to resolve the most critical situations encountered in law enforcement. Utilizing a team with these special capabilities reduces the likelihood of life endangering errors being made by peace officers that are not as well trained or equipped to function in a tactical environment.

SED typically operates on a mission basis, initiated at the request of supervisors. However, the unit may be self-initiated as appropriate. Requests for SED assistance should specify the mission, number of personnel needed, specific goals and length of time SED will be needed if known. Requests for SED can be made in writing, by telephone, or through the Communications Center. All requests for SED must receive approval from an SED supervisor. All missions are screened and ultimately approved or denied by the SED Lieutenant. Tactical missions receive the highest priority and may usurp a prescheduled secondary mission.

Tactical Missions:

- Hostage Situations – Person(s) held against their will by an armed or potentially armed suspect(s).
- Barricaded Situations – A standoff involving an armed or potentially armed criminal suspect at a location who is refusing lawful demands to surrender.
- Suspect Sniper – Suspect(s) firing upon human targets.
- Hijack Situations – Suspect(s) takeover of any implement of transportation involving the taking of hostages.
- Active Shooters – Suspect(s) shooting victims of opportunity in a target rich environment such as a school.
- High-Risk Apprehension – Locate and apprehend suspect(s) who are likely armed, known to present substantial risk of violence and/or danger to the public.
- High-Risk Warrant Service – Situations wherein the threat assessment is so high it would be unsafe to execute the warrant by conventional means. (Referenced in Form SO-101 High Risk Entry Checklist).
- Breach assist – Breach teams for investigative units who would otherwise be unable to gain access into a location during a search warrant.

SED Secondary Missions:

Patrol Support:

- Special Events
- Gang activity suppression
- Directed patrol
- Surveillance
- Information Led Policing Strategies

Training Providers:

SED personnel provide tactical and firearms training to the Department and the region. This training includes, but is not limited to, instruction in:

- Tactical entry techniques
- Explosive breaching
- Less lethal weaponry & munitions
- Chemical agents
- Diversionary devices
- Basic SWAT Academy
- Long rifle operator
- Immediate action/rapid deployment - IARD
- Crowd & riot control/Mobile Field Force
- Supervising critical incidents

Investigative Support:

- Surveillance
- Witness protection
- Witness Interviews
- Area canvas
- Assist with search warrant scene processing

Dignitary Protection:

- Visiting dignitaries and high ranking government officials

Crowd Control:

- SED is the tactical component of the Department's Mobile Field Force

Metropolitan Medical Strike Team:

- Serving jointly with the San Diego Police Department's SWAT Team, S.E.D. is the security component of a regional team established to manage incidents involving weapons of mass destruction. Team members are trained to function in protective equipment, in conjunction with EMS, Fire and Hazmat personnel.

Court Services Support:

- Provide courtroom security in situations involving high-risk defendants
- Provide transportation of high risk defendants
- Security for jury site visit

Detention Facility Support:

- Respond to major disturbances
- Less lethal & chemical agent support
- Tactical training for detentions personnel
- High risk prisoner transport
- Respond to prisoner escape incidents

Public Relations:

- S.E.D. deputies are often assigned to provide demonstrations for civic organizations and community events.

1.2 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

SED supervisors will ensure that missions are properly documented upon completion of the mission. Code 11 activations and high-risk warrant service operations will be documented using an After Action Report. Most other missions can generally be documented on a Detail Synopsis, but if the operation is complex or results in a significant incident, then an After Action Report should be used to document the incident.

After Action Reports and Detail Synopses should be completed within 30 days. SED supervisors may grant an extension on a case-by-case basis.

2.0 PERSONNEL

2.1 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All Special Enforcement Detail and Special Response Team personnel are responsible for knowing the duties and responsibilities as outlined in this section.

Special Enforcement Detail Commander- The SED Commander, a Lieutenant, reports to the Captain of the Emergency Services Division. The Lieutenant bears administrative responsibility for all functions performed by the Special Enforcement Detail and commands the Detail at all tactical situations. He directly supervises the Special Enforcement Detail Sergeants.

Special Enforcement Detail Sergeants - The SED Sergeants report to the SED Lieutenant. They are responsible for the supervision of SED Deputies in the daily performance of their duties. The Sergeants serve as team leaders in tactical situations and will ensure that SED Deputies are properly trained and equipped to perform their duties. SED Sergeants may be designated to perform the duties of the Detail Commander in his absence.

Training Coordinators – The Training Coordinator Deputy Sheriffs are responsible for coordinating team training to include outside agency training, SWAT Academy training and in-service training. They are also responsible for maintaining training documentation and producing monthly training recaps.

Armorer Deputies – The SED armorers are responsible for monitoring and maintaining the firearms assigned to SED personnel. They will ensure the weapons are maintained in good working order and within manufacture's specifications. The Armorers will be required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of training prior to being assigned to these duties.

Logistics Deputies – Logistics Deputies are responsible for the tracking, issuance, and collection of equipment issued to SED personnel. They will ensure that the inventory of specialty munitions is sufficient for the operational success of the unit.

Deputy Sheriff – SED Deputies report to the SED Sergeants and may be assigned to the role of Team Leader on specific tasks or missions. The Team Leader will serve as the peer leader to the other deputies assigned to the task or mission.

Special Response Team - SRT is comprised of deputies who are not permanently assigned to SED, but operate and train with the Detail as a collateral duty to their full-time assignments.

SED Reserves - The SED Reserve Unit reports to the SED Sergeants. Their duties include operating specialty vehicles, assisting with the Tactical Operations Center, liaison with CNT, prisoner management, logistical support, or to serve as supplementary personnel at details or special events.

2.2 SELECTION AND SCREENING PROCESS

All Deputy Sheriffs and Sergeants will be selected in accordance with the guidelines set forth in Department Policy and Procedure, Section 3.19.

In addition to the selection criteria established by the Department, Deputy Sheriff candidates are required to successfully complete the following screening process:

- Pass a handgun and shotgun qualification shoot.
- Complete the SED Obstacle Course in 4 minutes or less.
- Participate in a physical fitness assessment exercise (i.e. distance run with various exercises)
- Conduct an oral interview with SED supervisor(s)
- Successfully complete the SED/SWAT Academy.

Deputies who successfully complete the Basic SED/SWAT Academy are eligible to be assigned to the Special Response Team at the discretion of the SED Lieutenant with concurrence from the individual's command. Members of SRT will be assigned to fill vacancies that arise on the full time SED team. Assignment to SRT however, is not a guarantee an individual will be assigned to SED. The SED Lieutenant will make the selection of the full-time team members with input from the SED Sergeants. The Emergency Services Division Captain will have the final say regarding personnel selection.

At the discretion of the SED Lieutenant, deputies that have been discontinued from service on the full-time SED team may be retained as members of SRT. These individuals will be required to meet the same training standards as other SRT members.

Since assignment to SRT is a collateral duty, The SED Lieutenant, and/or the individual's commanding officer, may remove any member of SRT from the program at any time. Based on the incentive pay premium for team members, it is vital to document significant performance and/or conduct deficiencies. It may be necessary to conduct a formal investigation to remove members of the team if they are unwilling to voluntarily resign their team assignment.

2.3 PHYSICAL TRAINING

All full-time members of SED will be afforded two hours each workday for physical training. All SED personnel are expected to remain in appropriate physical condition as determined by the Detail Commander.

2.4 PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Every member of the Special Enforcement Detail and the Special Response Team is required to pass a multi-phase physical examination.

The SED Sergeants will make the appropriate arrangements to schedule every member of the team for a medical exam. Each member of the team is responsible for attending his scheduled appointment. Those who are unable to do so must contact his supervisor promptly for re-scheduling. Any individual who is unable to pass the exam will notify his supervisor immediately. Based upon the circumstance, individuals may be required to be re-examined. Failure to pass a re-examination may be grounds for removal from the unit.

2.5 UNIFORMS

SED personnel are required to have specific tactical uniforms. Based on operational needs the SED Sergeants will determine what uniform is appropriate for the detail or mission

Only patches and placards with unit information and specific identifying information are authorized for display on uniforms and equipment. Authorized patches include:

- Name
- Radio call sign
- Sheriff / SED insignia
- Blood type
- American flag
- Mission-specific unit identifier

Unauthorized patches include anything with profanity, derogatory and/or offensive images, or anything else that could be perceived as inappropriate.

2.6 TRAINING FILES / REQUIRED TRAINING COURSES

Training files will be maintained to document training administered within the Unit. Records will also be maintained on each individual member to document individual training achieved by team members and to assist with planning future

training. The SED Training Coordinator will ensure these records are constantly updated and remain current.

The SED Training Coordinator shall be responsible for maintaining written records of all training conducted by the Special Enforcement Detail. This documentation shall include type of training, date(s) of attendance, personnel in attendance and synopsis of the training conducted.

It is the responsibility of each individual to ensure training certificates are copied and provided to the SED Training Coordinator and the Sheriff's In-Service Training Division, for individual training files.

Required training classes for SRT/SED members:

1. POST Chemical Agent Instructor
2. POST Firearms Instructor
3. POST Rifle Instructor
4. 4x4 Vehicle Operations
5. Mobile Field Force
6. ICS 100, 200, and 700

Desired additional training courses for SED/SRT members:

1. Defensive Tactics Instructor
2. Less Lethal Instructor
3. Diversionary Device Instructor
4. Dignitary Protection
5. Basic Sniper
6. Advanced Sniper
7. Mechanical Breacher
8. Explosive Breacher
9. Hostage Rescue
10. Crisis Negotiations
11. Emergency Medical Technician
12. Glock Armorer
13. Other Armorer Courses (M4, Remington 870, Pepperball, etc.)
14. Rope/Rappel Master
15. Surveillance
16. Basic and/or Narcotic Investigations

2.7 SED TRAINING OFFICER/CORPORAL PROGRAM

All full-time SED Deputy Sheriff positions are authorized as training officer/corporal positions. All full-time SED deputies are required to attend the POST Field Training Officer Course.

2.8 GROOMING STANDARDS

SED personnel, both full and part-time positions, are required to operate in a variety of assignments. These assignments, depending on their nature, may be tactical or uniformed positions. Therefore, all personnel operating under the SED command structure will adhere to the grooming standards set forth in San Diego County Sheriff's Department Policy and Procedure Section 3.11

2.9 SELECTION/RETENTION OF SED RESERVE DEPUTY SHERIFFS

All Reserve Deputy Sheriff's MUST be a Level 1 or Level 2 to be eligible to be assigned to SED.

The Reserve Coordinator Sergeant should be consulted for approval and input prior to selection.

A resume may be required for submission to assess the level of training and Reserve Deputy level.

An interview panel should consist of an SED Sergeant, SED Corporal and an SED Reserve or Reserve Coordinator Sergeant. The following should be addressed in the interview:

- Do they have a class B license and would they be willing to obtain one at SED's expense, or obtain one with one year?
- Will they be able to respond and assist when called upon?
- Will the applicant be able to attend continuous SED reserve training?

2.10 TRAINING HOURS

SED conducts team training within the parameters established under California Penal Code section 13514.1.

SED personnel are required to conduct at least 16 hours of tactical training per month. This training can consist of regular team training (informal) and/or formal training courses with content relevant to any variety of SED mission.

3.0 NORMAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

3.1 CALL-OUT RESPONSIBILITIES

All personnel assigned to the SED, SRT, Reserves, Tactical Operations Center, and Tactical Dispatcher Unit are expected to be available for call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Personnel will have their issued equipment available and in proper working order. Unless specific arrangements have been made with a SED Supervisor, all SED/SRT personnel are expected to respond to all call outs.

Minimum Staffing – SED supervisors should ensure that at least one sergeant is always available to respond to critical incidents. No more than 20% of the SED/SRT deputies should be off call at one time. Exceptions will be evaluated by a SED supervisor on a case-by-case basis. Any team member requesting to be unavailable for callout shall first contact a SED supervisor for approval.

Readiness - All personnel shall maintain ready access to personally assigned equipment and shall maintain that equipment in good condition. Equipment defects/deficiencies will immediately be reported to an SED Supervisor.

Availability – Personnel who have consumed alcoholic beverages, or who have taken medication that may affect their judgment or performance shall report that information to their supervisor prior to responding to a call out. Personnel who are injured will inform their supervisor prior to deployment. That supervisor will evaluate the circumstances and determine if and how an individual may be utilized.

Activation - All SED and SRT personnel will have their assigned smart phones in their immediate possession at all times. In the event of an activation, personnel are expected to respond to the text without unnecessary delay. In most cases, details regarding the type of activation will be sent to all phones. In some instances, special codes will be used to inform personnel as follows:

Code 10 Activation – This is intended to notify personnel of a potential call out. The SED Lieutenant or designee will initiate the activation. If the incident does not result in a tactical call out, personnel will receive 10-22 on their phones.

Code 11 Activation– This is intended to advise personnel of a tactical callout. The majority of Code 11 activations are considered emergency situations, and as such a Code 3 response is appropriate for all SED members. If a Code 3 response is not required, then the SED supervisor will indicate on the message. The SED supervisor will make the notification to the Communications Center of the Code 11 response. This notification will suffice for the advisement to the Communications Center for Code 3 response. It is not necessary for SED personnel to log on to SO ADMIN during a Code 11 response.

3.2 COMMAND STRUCTURE AT TACTICAL OPERATIONS

The command structure adopted by the Law Enforcement Incident Command System (LEICS) will be utilized at all tactical operations.

Although every tactical operation is unique, the following structure defines the roles necessary to maintain proper command and control:

Incident Commander - The ranking individual assigned to the jurisdiction in which the situation is occurring. This person is responsible for the overall resolution of the situation and has final authority in the operation.

Tactical Commander - The SED Lieutenant, (or his designee) This person will receive missions from the Incident Commander and remain in close proximity to the Incident Commander at the Incident Command Post. The Tactical Commander maintains communication with the Crisis Negotiations Commander and has final authority in tactical decisions.

Crisis Negotiations Commander - Normally a lieutenant previously selected by the Emergency Services Division Captain. This person shall receive their missions from the Incident Commander. The CNT Commander will stay in close proximity to the Incident Commander at the Incident Command Post. The CNT Commander maintains communication with the Crisis Negotiations Team and the Tactical Commander.

3.3 STANDARD WORKDAY PROCEDURES

All sergeants and deputies assigned to the Special Enforcement Detail will work the 4/10 schedule.

Unless otherwise specified or authorized:

- Two hours of each shift shall normally be devoted to an acceptable form of physical fitness training and / or weapons proficiency training.
- On scheduled team training days' work hours may vary but generally consists of 11 continuous hours.

3.4 EQUIPMENT ISSUE AND RETURN

Personnel will check out/in equipment by the Sergeant or his designee. When transferred from the Unit, it is the responsibility of that individual to turn in all issued equipment. The individual's Equipment Inventory Sheet will be used to verify all equipment is returned.

3.5 OPERATIONAL ORDER FORMAT

The operational order format (SMEAC) will be used when preparing for any detail.

Situation - A general overall description of the event. A brief summary of the:

- Persons or groups expected to participate
- Location
- Time and duration

Mission - A clear, concise statement of the task to be accomplished.

Execution:

- Statement of the Commander's concept as to how the overall mission instructions
- Specific task assignments to individual elements of the command.
- Instructions to Reserve Units
- Instructions containing details of coordination and control
- Unique legal considerations

Administration & Logistics:

- Reporting time and location
- Uniform and equipment
- Vehicles and transportation
- Personnel
- Arrests, prisoner control
- Vehicles
- Traffic control
- Injuries

Command and Communications:

- Reporting time and location
- Uniform and equipment
- Vehicles and transportation
- Personnel
- Reports

3.6 PROPERTY CONTROL

All equipment acquired by the Special Enforcement Detail shall be kept on a master inventory list.

As equipment is received into the Unit, the Logistics Deputy shall enter the information on a master inventory computer program. The inventory shall include, but is not limited to, description of the item, I.D. numbers, date received, to whom issued, date of issue, or if not issued, location where equipment is stored.

A computerized database will be kept on all SED equipment. The database will be updated as needed.

3.7 VEHICLE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Special Enforcement Detail personnel are expected to utilize their assigned vehicles on and off duty. Vehicles will be kept clean, maintained in good working condition and adequately fueled in the event of a call out.

All assigned vehicles shall be maintained in a manner, which reflects a good image of the Sheriff's Department and the Special Enforcement Detail. All personnel will ensure that assigned vehicles are serviced when due.

County vehicles with trunks will be equipped with a secondary locking device (chain or cable) that is to be utilized to secure the trunk of the vehicle at any time the vehicle cannot be directly observed by the operator.

All vehicles assigned to SED will be equipped with alarms. These alarms shall be activated any time the vehicle cannot be directly observed by the operator.

Code Three –

1. SED personnel will operate their assigned vehicles in compliance with P&P section 5.1 and the California Vehicle Code.
2. Code 3 response may be authorized by the SED Sergeant, Lieutenant or ESD Captain, who will take into consideration the exigency of the incident; i.e., victim rescue, officer down, active shooter, or other life threatening emergency.

Vehicle Pursuits

Fully equipped SED emergency vehicles may initiate or join in a vehicle pursuit provided it is done in compliance with Department Policy and Procedure, Section 6.43. SED vehicles not configured to comply with the definition of an "emergency vehicle" are considered to be "unmarked" vehicles. SED unmarked vehicles may become involved in pursuits during emergencies involving life-endangering situations.

3.8 SPECIALITY VEHICLES

Equipment Truck - Used to store and transport tactical equipment supplies & munitions. The truck may also function as the Tactical Staging Area (TSA) during tactical operations.

Armored Truck - Used to transport SED personnel into a tactical environment. The armored truck may fulfill many needs that include; victim rescue, evacuations, rapid deployment of entry personnel, etc. Individuals who operate this truck must possess a class B Driver's license with an air brake endorsement.

BearCat – Used to transport SED personnel into a tactical environment. The BearCat may fulfill many needs that include; but not limited to: victim rescue, evacuations, rapid deployment of entry personnel, platform for M240 machinegun, etc. No special license endorsement is required to operate this vehicle.

Armored Van – Unmarked tactical vehicle designed to transport SED personnel to tactical environments and conduct evacuations. Based on its smaller size, the armored van may be used in lieu of the Armored Truck and/or BearCat for certain missions. Due to the inconspicuous nature of this vehicle, the armored van may be pre-deployed to an operational area. No special license endorsement is required to operate this vehicle.

3.9 SPECIALITY MUNITIONS

The use of special munitions is intended to assist personnel in safely resolving crisis situations. These include, but are not limited to, barricaded suspects and incidents of civil disobedience. These munitions may be used for training purposes. They shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations for testing, use and application.

Every tactical situation is unique and may require the use of several specialty munitions. The decision and manner with which to use these munitions will vary with each situation.

Special munitions include the following:

- Light/Sound diversionary devices
- Less lethal munitions
- Stingball grenades
- Smoke grenades
- Chemical Agents
- Frangible breaching rounds*
- Explosives*
- .50 caliber munitions*

All SED personnel shall be trained in the use of special munitions and are authorized to deploy these devices during training and operations.

*Only personnel who have received additional specialized training in the handling and use of breaching rounds, explosives, and/or .50 caliber systems are authorized to use these munitions.

When practical, prior to deploying a breaching round, an announcement shall be made advising occupants to stand clear of the door. The point of aim should be directed at a location that will offer the least amount of fragmentation and other associated danger to anyone within vicinity of the shooter.

Explosives may be used to execute a breach plan and/or allow for visual access into a location. In extreme situations, explosives may be used to stop immediate hostile actions of a suspect. Explosives will not be used without permission from a SED supervisor.

The .50 caliber system will not be used to disable a vehicle without permission of a SED supervisor. SED is exempt from Policy and Procedure Section 8.1 which prohibits deputies from shooting at motor vehicles for the purpose of disabling the vehicle. Non-ballistic methods of disabling vehicles should be considered prior to shooting it, but if there are no other safe options, the engine block and/or tires may be targeted to disable the vehicle.

After chemical agents have been deployed on a structure, the incident commander and/or case agent shall be advised by a SED supervisor or designee. Whenever possible, a written notice should be posted conspicuously on the structure advising which chemical agents were used and decontamination procedures.

3.10 STORAGE OF EXPLOSIVES

Explosives deployed within the mission profiles tasked for SED are classified under type 3 and 4. These explosives are identified as HE (High Explosives), LSDD (Light Sound Diversionary Devices), and Sting Ball Devices. Chemical Agents are classified as low explosive and therefore may be stored in type 4 containers.

Storage of explosives has been approved in the following manner:

SED breacher vehicles are equipped with a weapons storage container outfitted with an ATF-approved Type 3 container for the storage of high explosives. HE shall be stored separate from caps.

SED vehicles are equipped with weapons storage box (i.e. "TruckVault") and

meet the ATF-approved storage classification as an "alternative method" for law enforcement emergency response vehicle, type 3 and 4 magazine. LSDD and/or Chemical Agents shall be locked in the weapons storage box and not exceed two per storage container.

The BearCat maintains a storage container classified as type 3 and 4 magazine. The storage of chemical agents, LSDD's, not to exceed ten (10) is authorized for this container.

The Armored Truck maintains a storage container classified as type 3 and 4 magazine. The storage of chemical agents, LSDD's not to exceed ten (10) is authorized for this container.

Appropriate storage facilities include ammunition bunkers, conex boxes, vaults or other sites as approved by the S.E.D. Commander. Devices stored in vehicles should be kept in containers with an anti-static protective liner.

3.11 BODY WORN CAMERAS

SED/SRT shall adhere to the Body Worn Camera policy set forth in Departmental Policy and Procedures Section 6.131.

SED/SRT personnel will deploy with their Department issued BWC.

During tactical operations, the service of a high risk warrant or 4th waiver searches, deputies and sergeants shall have the discretion to mute their BWC during discussions involving tactics.

During the course of a tactical deployment, BWC's may be turned off during extended periods of inactivity but should be activated when feasible in the event an action occurs resulting in an enforcement response.

3.12 HELICOPTER OPERATIONS

Certain missions may require helicopter insertion for operational success. SED deputies should conduct helicopter insertion/extraction training at least once per year. At a minimum, this training should include a safety orientation, embark/disembark procedures, and tactical deployment from the helicopter after landing. Whenever possible, additional training should be conducted on helicopter skid deployment from a low altitude hover (i.e., heli-step, toe-in, and one-skid deployment) and other unconventional methods such as hoisting.

Specially-modified helicopters are equipped with a fastrope delivery system. ASTREA maintains an annual fastrope currency certification list of SED

personnel who have been trained in fastroping operations. Only SED personnel who have fastrope currency are authorized to conduct operational deployment via fastrope insertion.

Exigent circumstances and extreme situations may require the use of helicopters as a shooting platform. The use of a helicopter platform affords the ability to provide larger fields of observation and lethal coverage area than ground positions. Only personnel with specialized training in helicopter shooting platform should conduct these types of operations. This type of deployment will only be executed with the permission of the SED Commander.

4.0 FIREARMS / EXPLOSIVE METHODS OF ENTRY

4.1 QUALIFICATIONS

All SED and SRT personnel are required to qualify two times per year with all of their assigned weapons. The SED Sergeants will establish the course of fire for each weapon.

A score equaling or exceeding 80% of the maximum score possible will be required to qualify with each individual weapon. Any deputy who fails to qualify with any weapon is prohibited from utilizing the weapon in an operational setting until qualification standards are achieved.

Upon failing to qualify with a weapon, the deputy will immediately remediate the course of fire. In the event the remediation is unsuccessful, the deputy will be required to conduct a standard Sheriff's Department weapons qualification shoot. The deputy must then remediate the SED weapons qualification shoot on the following business day. Any deputy who has failed the SED qualification shoot and not yet successfully conducted a remediation shoot will not be permitted to deploy on a tactical mission. These deputies may be used for TSA duties or other non-operational duties at the discretion of the SED supervisor. Inability to qualify with required weapons may be grounds for removal from the detail.

4.2 SNIPER PROFICIENCY

It is the mission of the sniper team to assist in bringing about the safe and peaceful resolution of critical incidents through stealth, advanced tactics and skills, by providing real-time information and protective over-watch for all on scene personnel, both law enforcement and civilian.

To achieve and maintain operational status as a Sniper / Observer, each sniper team member will be required to meet the following standards:

1. Each sniper will attend and graduate a formal law enforcement sniper school.
2. Sniper / Observer training will be continued on a regular basis, not less than 8 hours per month. Training will consist of live fire in addition to other perishable field craft skills.

Each sniper will pass the team qualification course with primary sniper rifle(s). The course will be designed to test the sniper's skills as they apply to realistic applications. This course will be administered at least four times a year. Each course will consist of a cold bore shot. The cold bore shot should be within 1.5 inches from the point of aim. A passing score of 90% is required for the

qualification course. Qualification targets shall be labeled, scored, and digitally photographed. These digital copies will be kept by the individual sniper and on the SED V-Drive.

Snipers who fail to pass a qualification course will remediate the course of fire within the same day. Failure to pass a remedial course will result in removal of the sniper from operational status until they are able to demonstrate proficiency with a passing score.

3. Snipers / Observers are not expected to shoot a weapon from a suspect's hand. Shooting a weapon can often cause it to discharge and/or fragment causing uncontrollable danger to the suspect and surrounding civilians and officers. Also, shooting at a small target from a quick moving hand is unrealistic.

4.3 SAFETY PROCEDURES

Every individual shall adhere to the safety procedures established by the Department and this manual. All firearms training will be preceded by a safety briefing.

Hearing Protection - Shall be worn at all times during firearms training, in close proximity of firearms being fired, and training with any explosive device. This includes the firing of blank rounds during training exercises. Only hearing protection approved by the Department, or this unit, is acceptable.

Eye Protection - Shall be worn at all times during firearms training, in close proximity of firearms and training with any explosive device.

Blank Rounds - Blank ammunition shall be utilized only upon the approval of an SED Supervisor. Blanks shall not be utilized if there exists a reasonable expectation that the discharge of the weapon would cause injury to the shooter or bystanders. Blanks shall not be fired within 5 feet of another individual nor shall the weapon be pointed at the head, face or exposed skin.

Long Guns - Shall be brought from the vehicles to the range or training site unloaded (chamber open & clear). Long guns shall be carried in a safe manner with the muzzle pointed up or down. If instructed by the team leader to place the weapons down, they shall be pointed down range at all times. Long guns shall be loaded only when safe and directed to do so by the team leader. All firearms shall be inspected by the safety officer, or his designee, prior to any training involving unloaded firearms.

SED personnel shall use only County-issued firearms or those as approved by the SED Commander. Any modifications to County-issued firearms must first be approved by the Sheriff's Rangemaster or the SED Armorer and inspected for

safety after the modifications have been made. Only certified armorers for the specific weapon platform should conduct modifications on that weapon system.

Personnel shall not point a firearm at any object or person unless their intent is to shoot at the object or person.

SED personnel will be scheduled to attend a P.O.S.T. approved Firearms Instructor's Course. Successful completion of this course is mandatory before an individual may function as an instructor and/or safety officer during any firearms training. Failure to successfully complete POST Firearms Instructor Course may be grounds for removal from SED.

Instructor - During any firearms training, all SED personnel shall have their index finger out of the trigger guard, the safety on, if so equipped and the weapon pointed in a safe direction until requested differently by the team leader or target acquisition is acquired.

All firearms shall be kept clean and functional at all times. Individuals using any weapon normally stored on the Equipment Truck or armored vehicles, are responsible for insuring that weapon is returned to its proper location, clean and fully operational.

4.4 AUTOMATIC WEAPONS

SED personnel are authorized to use fully-automatic weapon systems. SED personnel may determine that selecting full automatic is appropriate for certain situations. Consideration should be given to target distance and movement when selecting the full automatic mode. SED members must demonstrate proficiency using automatic weapons during bi-annual weapons qualification shoots.

SED maintains a FN M240B belt-fed machine gun that may be used for certain operations at the discretion of the SED Commander. The M240B may be employed using the attached ground-mount bipod or mounted on the turret of the BearCat armored vehicle. Only SED personnel who are properly trained in the use and deployment of the M240B may operate that weapon system.

4.5 EXPLOSIVE METHODS OF ENTRY (MOE)

The Special Enforcement Detail has many methods of breaching, which include mechanical, shotgun, exothermic, and explosive methods of entry. Explosive breaching is very dynamic and requires a knowledge base and a great understanding of pressure-related effects, fragmentation effects, and safe stand-off distances. All SED-designated explosive breachers must attend a recognized

formal explosive breaching course. Once this qualification has been satisfied, the operator will apply for and maintain current, an "explosive carry card" issued by the San Diego Sheriff's Department.

Re-occurring quarterly qualifications for explosive breachers should include demonstration on deployment of at least one each push and blast charge. This can be satisfied by observing, placing, and /or initiating the charge during team training. Each charge will require a data report identifying the type of charge, net explosive weight, safe standoff distance (unprotected) related to pressure, and specifics related to the type and construction of the breach point. A photograph should accompany the report memorializing the post blast effects of the shot.

Explosive breachers are required to maintain a log which is current and used for reference material. The log may be maintained either digitally or in a physical log book. The reference material will at a minimum include a data report for each shot and the results of the charge. Whenever possible, photographs should be taken and may be supported by video. The video shall be retained in the SED folder on "V" Drive.

5.0 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

5.1 EMERGENCY DEPLOYMENT

On rare occasions and in the highest emergency situations, Special Enforcement Detail personnel may arrive on scene and immediately prepare for containment, rescue, or other tactical intervention. There may not be time to assemble or establish a command post, discuss and/or rehearse tactical plans.

When rapid deployment is a priority, SED personnel may have to don tactical gear over patrol uniforms or civilian attire. SED personnel may self-deploy to tactical positions immediately upon arrival to the scene. SED personnel arriving and deploying should advise, on the operational radio channel, of their position and provide updated information to subsequent arriving SED personnel.

Situations where emergency deployment may be necessary include:

- Active shooter
- Suspect sniper
- Hostage situation
- Hijacking situation
- Deputy / Officer rescue

5.2 REACTIVE AUTHORITY

In some extremely urgent circumstances, Special Enforcement Detail personnel may be forced to act or react to life threatening situations which are beyond the scope of the mission currently assigned and time is not available to consult the Incident Commander. SED personnel may have to act immediately to save the life of another person. Time may not be available to confer with the Tactical Staging Area or Incident Commander. The response must be in compliance with department policy and procedure and applicable case law.

Examples:

- Snipers identify immediate threat
- Hostage in immediate jeopardy
- Suspect moving hostages to vehicle
- Suspect fires at containment personnel
- Armed and dangerous suspect fleeing
- Shots fired from inside target location (with supporting information)
- Suspect(s) exit with hostages