

# Orchard Farm Fire Protection District Standard Operating Procedure

**Division:** 200      **Emergency Operations**  
**Section:** 202      **Fire & Rescue**  
**Subject:** 202.25      **Terrorist Activities**



**Supersedes:** N/A

**Approved By:** 

Date: 05/22/2013

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## **PURPOSE:**

To define the District's response to terrorist activity

## **RESPONSIBILITY:**

All District Personnel

## **PROCEDURES:**

Terrorist activities are criminal incidents are primarily police matters. When the Fire District is present it is in an advisory role and for fire suppression or Haz-Mat response should become necessary.

All units responding to terrorist threats or activities shall respond on the quiet to minimize attention given to the incident, unless directed differently by law enforcement personnel or if known injuries are present. Upon arrival units shall stage a minimum of 500 feet from the reported building or area.

### **Communications:**

Because the possibility exists that a bomb may be detonated by remote control; radio signals, mobile and portable radios shall not be used within 500 feet of the reported building or area. Communications shall be made with the use of runners relaying information from the incident commander to the units in the staging area.

Communications to the dispatch center shall be made by cell phone or by mobile/portable radios located greater than 500 feet from the reported building or area.

### **Operations:**

Life safety is normally the first priority. In the case of Tactical Violence (WMD), that priority may be best accomplished by isolating and investigating the situation first. Utilize ICS framework for reducing hazards and managing the resources. Establish a unified command system as soon as possible. Identification and utilization of all resources available to the District in tactical violence and terrorism incidents (WMD) shall be accomplished through:

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Law Enforcement –	St. Charles County Sheriff’s Dept., MSHP, FBI, ATF and DHS
Saint Charles County-	Mobile Command Post & Emergency Management
Military -	National Guard

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.

### **Bomb Threats:**

The incident commander shall meet with all parties involved with the incident. First arriving engine companies shall prepare to connect to hydrants and lay out, should the need arise. Should detonation occur with fire, concentration should be made on containing the fire and rescuing trapped persons.

### **Safety:**

All members are to be in full protective clothing including SCBA until otherwise informed by the on-scene Commander. At no time, shall Fire District personnel be engaged in searching for bombs, incendiary devices, or similar devices. District personnel may be used to accompany qualified individuals who are searching for items that are “out of place” or unusual. If a suspicious device is spotted or discovered, there should be no attempt to move that device by District personnel. Should a bomb detonate, additional caution should be used. A second bomb may detonate, designed to cause injury to emergency response personnel.