

OTOA



Oregon Tactical Officers Association
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Fellow Tactical Team Members and Administrators,

On May 1st 2018, members of the Oregon Sheriffs Association (OSSA) and members of the Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP), met with OTOA board members to discuss our recent change to the basic SWAT school entry requirements. During the meeting, we heard valid concerns from both OSSA and OACP about the change we implemented, and how our failure to communicate the circumstances has caused disruption to the tactical law enforcement community. Although unintentional, we recognize this, and agree that conferring with both associations on our direction and purpose behind it, prior to its implementation, would have been the appropriate course of action.

It was brought to our attention in this meeting, and we agree, that team personnel selection is solely at the discretion of the law enforcement executives from their respective agencies. OTOA has a commitment to providing quality training to those that are working on tactical teams, and believe that standards should be set and agreed upon by all parties involved.

With this in mind, we will be opening the standard to include all “sworn law enforcement officers” for the entry level minimum requirements into our courses of training. We recognize this definition includes all Sworn Police Officers and Sworn Deputy Sheriffs. We will continue to welcome and solicit advisement from both OSSA and OACP to develop standards which is intended to insure that we as a state are operating within what we all feel, are best practices.

Respectfully,
Mike Johnson,
President