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# CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

## GENERAL ORDER 100.101

REVISED MAY 2024

### ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this General Order (GO) is to establish policy for the response of uniformed members of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to active shooter incidents.
  
2. DEFINITIONS.
  - a. The term “officer” refers to all uniformed members of the Department.
  - b. Active shooter is defined as:
    - (1) One or more suspects actively engaged in random or systematic violence, demonstrating their intent to cause death or serious bodily injury to others.
    - (2) The suspect(s) is not contained or is in the process of looking for additional victims.
  - c. For purposes of this policy, the term “active shooter” includes those who utilize any weapon or means to commit violence as described above.
  
3. OBJECTIVES.
  - a. The primary objective of officers responding to an active shooter incident is to move to, confront, and stop the active shooter(s) as quickly as possible through the use of a reasonable force option.
  - b. The secondary objective of responding officers is the rescue of victims and innocent bystanders, and the treatment and evacuation of injured victims. While it is important to provide medical aid to victims, officers must first protect all potential victims by stopping the violence of the active shooter(s). If responding officers stop to treat a victim before the active shooter(s) is stopped, more victims may potentially be injured or killed.

c. The tertiary objective is to secure the area and assist with a secondary search, a room by room sweep, or crime scene securement, as directed.

4. POLICY. The policy of the CHP is to protect life through the use of any reasonable and legal means available to responding officers. This may include methods to breach locked or secured doors, the arrest or containment of the known suspect(s), or the use of force as outlined in Highway Patrol Manual (HPM) 70.6, Officer Safety Manual.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. Office of Primary Interest. The Academy, Tactical Training Program, is the Office of Primary Interest for the departmental uniformed and nonuniformed Active Shooter Response Program and all related techniques, tactics, and policies. The Advanced Officer Safety Training Unit is responsible for:

(1) Analyzing active shooter incidents to identify relevant trends and improve tactics and procedures.

(2) Actively researching and updating the appropriate approved departmental active shooter curriculum by reviewing procedures of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

(3) Providing oversight and auditing existing Division-level active shooter programs.

(4) Conducting the Active Shooter Response/Tactical Casualty Care (ASR/TCC) Instructor Course.

(5) Conducting active shooter training and other advanced training as needed.

(6) Conducting annual reviews of this policy to ensure it is current and consistent with law enforcement best practices.

(7) Documenting annual reviews of policy and training needs in a memorandum to be submitted through channels to the Assistant Commissioner, Staff.

b. Division. Each Division commander shall establish an ASR/TCC instructor team. The team will operate on a part-time basis to conduct ASR/TCC training within the Division. The team should be made up of uniformed personnel at the rank of sergeant and below throughout the Division.

c. Active Shooter Response/Tactical Casualty Care Instructor Teams. Uniformed personnel assigned to an ASR/TCC instructor team will be responsible for ensuring all employees within their Division receive training in ASR/TCC or Civilian Response to Active Shooter Incidents every two years.

(1) All personnel assigned to an ASR/TCC instructor team shall attend the 40-hour ASR/TCC Instructor Course.

(2) All personnel on an ASR/TCC instructor team shall attend an ASR/TCC Instructor Recertification Course every two years.

(3) Division ASR/TCC instructor teams may provide Civilian Response to Active Shooter Incidents training to Department of Motor Vehicle personnel, schools, hospitals, businesses, etc., within their Division.



7. TRAINING.

a. Completion of training courses related to active shooter response shall be documented in the Employee Training Records System and the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training Electronic Data Interchange.

(1) All uniformed CHP personnel shall successfully complete the departmentally approved initial two-day ASR/TCC Course.

(2) All uniformed CHP personnel shall successfully complete the departmentally approved one-day ASR/TCC Recertification Course every two years.

(3) All CHP nonuniformed employees shall complete a departmentally approved two-hour active shooter training course (specifically for nonuniformed employees) every two years.

b. Active shooter training for uniformed personnel shall be done in a reality-based scenario format. This training shall include collaborative training with surrounding law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and emergency medical service providers.

- (1) Training topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - (a) Room entry and building clearing techniques with the tactical rifle, departmental handgun, and shotgun.
  - (b) Basic breaching techniques.
  - (c) Recognition of explosives and improvised explosive devices.
  - (d) Small unit tactics and tactical movements.
  - (e) Open air movements.
  - (f) Emergency self-medical care.
- c. Commanders shall establish and maintain an Area EOP related to active shooter incidents which may occur within their local area.
  - (1) Potential high-risk targets shall be identified and listed (e.g., schools, shopping malls, government buildings).
  - (2) Commanders shall ensure relationships are established with stakeholders at identified potential high-risk target locations to build partnerships and facilitate location familiarization for officers before an actual emergency event occurs.
  - (3) Commanders shall develop relationships and collaborative protocols with local and state allied agencies with first responder responsibilities (e.g., law enforcement agencies, fire departments, emergency medical service providers) in order to act effectively and in concert to address active shooter incidents. These protocols shall be reviewed annually to ensure they are current and that they address any policy, geographic, or demographic changes that warrant a response strategy review. The protocols shall address all of the following:
    - (a) The roles, responsibilities, and policies of each entity responding to an active shooter incident.
    - (b) Preassessment and contingency planning that includes identification of potential targets within the jurisdiction.
    - (c) Implementation of an Incident Command System, including emergency protocols for a unified command structure for entities responding to an active shooter incident.

(d) Interagency communication issues and needs, including, but not limited to, radio interoperability and establishment of common language, terms, and definitions to be used on the scene of an active shooter incident.

(e) Identification of resources for responding to an active shooter incident, including, but not limited to, primary and secondary needs and hospitals.

(f) Tactical deployment of available resources for responding to an active shooter.

(g) Emergency treatment and extraction of persons injured in an active shooter incident.

(4) Special officer safety considerations for the Area shall be identified, such as backup response times of other CHP personnel and allied agencies, communications, surrounding terrain, etc.

## 8. EQUIPMENT.

a. The Department recognizes the increased officer and public safety risks associated with the extremely violent nature of active shooter attacks. To assist in the rapid resolution of an active shooter incident and to increase officer survivability, officers may carry additional equipment. The following list of equipment is not all-inclusive and is not required.

(1) Personal medical kit and/or tourniquet

(2) External rifle-rated body armor

(3) Kevlar helmet

(4) Additional CHP-approved ammunition/magazines (pistol and rifle)

(5) Flashlight

(6) Chemical lights

(7) Additional radio battery

(8) Water and light snacks

9.

c. As resources allow, and if appropriate for the circumstances, the incident command team should direct follow-up resources to assist public and allied agencies in efforts to shelter victims in place.

10. CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS DEBRIEFING.

a. Officers and public safety dispatchers involved in an active shooter incident shall be considered to have been involved in a shooting incident for purposes of critical incident stress debriefing. Highway Patrol Manual 10.5, Employee Assistance Manual, Chapter 6, Critical Incident Stress Management, paragraph 3., shall apply.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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