

PALM BEACH GARDENS POLICE DEPARTMENT

RAID AND HIGH RISK ENTRY OPERATIONS

POLICY AND PROCEDURE 3.2.13

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INTENT: To establish guidelines for planning and preparing raid or high risk entry operations.

SCOPE: All involved participants

REVIEW RESPONSIBILITY: Field Operations Bureau Assistant Chief and SWAT Commander

POLICY: Whenever this department engages in the planning and/or execution of raids or high risk entries, members involved shall gather and analyze as much information as possible about the subject(s) to be apprehended, the evidence to be seized or recovered, and the area to be entered. Whenever possible, this department shall develop plans for raids/high risk entries based on a complete understanding of the target and objectives. All raids or high risk entries engaged in by this Department shall conform to applicable laws.

Nothing in this policy is intended to preclude required immediate action in exigent circumstances.

1. RAID/HIGH RISK ENTRY RESPONSIBILITY AND OBJECTIVES

- a. When anticipating a raid/high risk entry it shall be the responsibility of the investigating officer and/or their supervisor to obtain as much information as possible about the intended objective.
- b. The supervisor of the unit physically conducting the raid/high risk entry (e.g., SWAT Commander, TAC Sergeant or Patrol Sergeant) or their designee is responsible for the planning and execution of the raid operation.
- c. The appropriate supervisor from section “b” above or their designee will submit an operational plan to the Patrol Operations Bureau Major for approval.
 - i. The TAC Sergeant will review their plan with the Investigation Bureau Major prior to submitting it to the Patrol Operations Bureau Major.
- d. In exigent circumstances where there is no advance time to prepare a written plan; the responsible supervisor shall write an “after action” memo and submit it via the appropriate chain of command.
 - i. The memo should describe the justification for the raid/high risk entry, the actions taken, and the results.
- e. Execution of raids/high risk entries engaged in by this department must be authorized in advance by the Field Operations Division Assistant Chief.
- f. In exigent circumstances not involving road patrol, the target area road patrol supervisor will be notified by the SWAT Commander or TAC Sergeant, whichever has command.
- g. Objectives of raid operations may include, but are not limited to:

- i. Protection of life and property
- ii. Prevention of the destruction of evidence
- iii. Apprehension of person(s).
- iv. Seizure of evidence of illegal activity.
- v. Recovery of stolen property.

2. BACKGROUND AND SURVEILLANCE FOR RAIDS/HIGH RISK ENTRIES

- a. Background information shall be gathered on person(s) in the area to include:
 - i. Neighbors that may:
 - 1. Give warning to the subject.
 - 2. Be sympathetic and/or attack officers.
 - ii. The best time to conduct the operation that will take into consideration the least likelihood of a crowd gathering or interfering.
 - iii. How much crowd control force should be ready to respond?
 - iv. The number of subjects sought.
 - v. Associates known to be in the building.
 - vi. Behavioral characteristics of suspects to include:
 - 1. Weapons carry.
 - 2. Precise location if possible.
 - vii. Removal of bystanders.
- b. A fixed continuous surveillance shall be made when possible to:
 - i. Identify behavior patterns of person(s) frequenting the area.
 - ii. Identify persons who may be encountered.
 - iii. Provide a last minute evaluation of the situation.
 - iv. Determine if:
 - 1. The persons or activities sought are present.
 - 2. Any unusual circumstances might be encountered.
- c. Timing shall be considered with regard to personnel deployment and tactics.
 - i. When possible, operations shall be scheduled to:
 - 1. Enable participants to take up positions without detection.
 - 2. Surprise the violators in commission of the act or when less alert.

3. PLANNING AND PREPERATION FOR RAIDS/HIGH RISK ENTRIES

- a. In the event a raid/high risk entry is anticipated, a written plan shall be prepared. The raid/high risk entry plan shall address, at a minimum, the following provisions:
- b. Approval for the raid/high risk entry from the Field Operations Division Assistant Chief or designee.
- c. Briefing of the Patrol and/or Investigations Bureau Majors.
- d. Legal sufficiency existing to conduct the raid/high risk entry.
- e. Briefing of the raid/high risk entry will be conducted by the officer obtaining the warrant and the appropriate supervisor per section "1.b." above, to include:
 - i. Notifying the patrol supervisor responsible for the target area.
 - ii. Assignments for approaching, entering, and securing the target location.
 - iii. Assignments for searching persons and/or seizing evidence.
 - iv. Establishing the means for routine and emergency communications among all involved units.
 - v. Determining the means and methods of departure keeping in mind that these plans could change at the scene.
 - vi. Confirmation of the target of the raid/high risk entry.
 - vii. Arresting of the suspect(s) in accordance with Department policy 4.2.1.11- Arrest Procedures.

- viii. Review of Department policy 4.2.1.1- Response to Resistance.
- ix. Availability of medical assistance.
- f. Developing strategies and tactics for approaching, entering, securing and leaving structures.
 - i. The structure to be entered.
 - ii. Construction and layout.
 - iii. Location of doors, windows, common exits, fire escapes.
 - iv. Communication facilities.
 - v. Placement of lights and switches.
 - vi. The surrounding neighborhood.
- g. Studying similar apartments, hotel or motel rooms, and houses in subdivisions.
- h. Questioning neighbors or someone familiar with the property if applicable and practical.
- i. Surveying adjoining buildings to determine accessibility:
 - i. From the raid/entry site.
 - ii. As an escape route.
 - iii. As avenue of approach.
- j. Studying the neighborhood's physical terrain for:
 - i. Paths of approach and escape.
 - ii. Obstructions, viewing points and pedestrian and traffic patterns.
 - iii. Image recording and GPS mapping of the neighborhood when available.
 - iv. Diagrams shall be made and issued.

4. COMMAND OF OPERATIONS AND EQUIPMENT

- a. The supervisor designated in section “1.b.” above shall command the raid/high risk entry operation unless the Field Operations Division Assistant Chief designates another supervisor.
 - i. The designee shall be placed in charge of the raid/high risk entry operation and have authority over and be responsible for supervision of the entire operation from planning to execution to review/evaluation.
- b. The designee shall determine the equipment necessary to execute the raid/high risk entry and insure that all equipment is available and assigned, to include:
 - i. Transportation units used to:
 - 1. Convoy officers to the raid/entry site.
 - 2. Transport prisoners and evidence away from the raid/entry.
 - 3. Pursue fugitives who attempt to escape.
 - ii. The Command Post should be located in a place where the operation can be observed and controlled and is known to all participants.
 - iii. Utilization of a helicopter may be considered, if necessary.
 - iv. Communication should be initiated for necessary equipment which may include:
 - 1. Communication for personnel and the agency including any support units;
 - 2. Ear and microphone equipment, if necessary.
 - 3. Public address system.
 - 4. Protective armor.
 - 5. Chemical agents, if necessary.
 - 6. Other special equipment as may be required
- c. The designee shall insure all involved officers and support units are clearly identifiable as police for the purposes of reducing the likelihood that officers might mistake one another for a fleeing fugitive and identifying officers as such to the person(s) sought and to any citizens. This is accomplished through:
 - i. Using uniformed officers when and where possible.
 - ii. Requiring plain clothes officers or agents to wear jackets, vests, or other garments to identify them as police officers.

5. RECORDING THE RAID/HIGH RISK ENTRY

- a. An officer shall be assigned whose sole function shall be to:
 - i. Maintain an accurate log of all events.
 - ii. Note circumstances relating to arrests and seizure of evidence.
 - iii. Describe in detail, what occurred.
 - iv. Supplement notes with photographs of:
 - 1. Raid/entry conditions.
 - 2. Evidence location.
 - 3. Persons arrested.
- b. The primary officer/investigator involved will prepare a case report inclusive of the above information.
- c. Raid/entry units:
 - i. Shall be deployed to perform the following four unit functions regardless of the size of the operation:
 - 1. Perimeter security unit.
 - 2. Cover unit.
 - 3. Apprehending unit.
 - 4. Support unit.
 - ii. Shall be informed of and quizzed regarding the required duties of their assignment.
- d. All raids/high risk entries shall be evaluated/reviewed before and after execution by the participants and raid commander/supervisor and subject to critique by staff.
- e. The Chief of Police shall be advised of the outcome of the raid by the Field Operations Division Assistant Chief and/or supervisor in charge of the execution of the raid.

6. GLOSSARY

Raid: a planned sudden and forcible invasion of a building or area for a lawful purpose.

High Risk Entry: a raid where the situation or information or intelligence indicates there is a risk that the offender(s) is/are armed and/or poses a danger to officers executing the raid.

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- HIGH RISK ENTRIES

RESPONSIBILITY INDEX

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- FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION ASSISTANT CHIEF
- PATROL OPERATIONS MAJOR
- INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU MAJOR
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- SWAT
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APPROVED:



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