



CITY OF MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE



Special Events Team Field Extrication Team

Eff. Date 01/24/2022

Purpose

The Field Extrication Team (FXT), under the direct command of the Madison Police Department (MPD) Special Events Team (SET), was created to better respond to protest events with an internal resource. The team has the specialized training and skills to extricate persons from protest devices when demonstrators' actions and/or practices, contrary to law, unreasonably impede traffic, restrict the public's freedom of movement, and/or jeopardize public safety.

Mission

We strive to balance the rights of demonstrators to peacefully gather, demonstrate, and air grievances with the rights of the community at large. We will attempt reasonable de-escalation of any situation, we will attempt to gain voluntary compliance first, and we will use extrication techniques as a last resort except under exigent circumstances.

Procedure

1. Officers shall ensure the safety of demonstrators, the public at large, and themselves when a protest device has been deployed as a demonstration technique.
2. Officers on scene should notify the SET command post, if operational, that a protest device is being used. If a SET command post is not operational, a street supervisor should notify the Officer in Charge (OIC) that a protest device is being used. The OIC should then notify a SET commander to determine if the FXT should be activated. It is not always the case that protestors are violating law and that further action is needed.
3. Only a SET commander may authorize the FXT to deploy if the FXT is needed.
4. The FXT shall utilize techniques based on training, the MPD Code of Conduct, and other MPD standard operating procedures (SOPs) to assess, plan, and when necessary, extricate a person from a protest device.

Personnel

FXT members shall be selected from eligible SET members through a process determined by the SET commanders or their designee. All FXT officers serve at the discretion of the SET commanders or their designee.

Training/Standards

All members of FXT shall attend all FXT mandated trainings unless excused by a SET commander or their designee. Membership on this team is a privilege. FXT officers (FXTO) shall remain dedicated to serving in this role, committed to maintaining the core competencies, and be physically able to perform the necessary tasks. All FXTOs shall demonstrate the proper use of all equipment and must be able to use the equipment safely. Records of all trainings and activities shall be maintained in the officer's personnel file. The SET commanders shall designate a SET supervisor or senior FXTO to maintain and update training records.

Equipment

The FXT shall maintain an inventory of all equipment. FXT equipment shall be used for official use only. Any equipment not functioning properly, damaged, or dysfunctional shall be taken out of service and shall not be used until repaired or replaced.

The FXT supervisor or their designee shall submit an annual report documenting usage, maintenance, warranties, and repairs of FXT equipment to the SET lead commander or their designee.

FXT officers should not carry FXT equipment outside of SET deployments or during the course of their regular duties unless authorized by a SET commander or their designee. Equipment shall be stored in the designated department issued vehicle.

A designated FXT member shall perform a function check of all FXT equipment on a regular basis. A report documenting that all equipment is present and in working order shall be submitted to the FXT supervisor.

Safety Equipment

The department shall provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for FXTOs. FXTOs shall wear all appropriate PPE during deployments and trainings. During any extrication, the FXT shall provide any necessary PPE and take any reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of the arrested person, the public, and other officers.

Medical

The FXT should attempt to have a SET Medic present during any extrication. The SET Medic shall request a Madison Fire Department ambulance to be on standby and shall determine a reasonable location for the ambulance to stage. When a SET Medic is not available, the FXT supervisor or their designee shall be responsible for the request.

FXT Activation

A request for the FXT to be activated shall be made to a SET commander or their designee. Authorization of the FXT to assess a protest device, develop a plan to extricate a person from a protest device, and deploy to a situation shall come from a SET commander or their designee. The FXT shall then be told a meeting location.

Documentation

All members of the FXT shall complete a report documenting FXT deployments, use of force, and activities related to the extrication of an arrested person from a protest device. All members of the FXT shall debrief their deployment actions with an FXT supervisor prior to the end of their assigned shift.

Mutual Aid

The FXT may be deployed pursuant to a mutual aid request from another agency with the approval of SET commander or their designee and with the authorization of the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee.

In any mutual aid deployment, FXT officers shall always abide by the MPD Code of Conduct, MPD SOPs generally, and their FXT training.

Non-SET Usage

The FXT may be utilized for situations outside of a SET deployment under specific requests with the approval of SET commander or their designee and with the authorization of the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee.

(Reviewed Only: 12/26/2017, 01/31/2020)
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