



CITY OF MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE



Bomb Threats / Bomb Incidents / PBIED Incidents

Eff. Date 05/28/2015

Purpose

Establish standard operating procedure for Madison Police Department (MPD) response to incidents involving bomb threats, bomb incidents and Person Borne Improvised Explosive Device (suicide bomber) incidents.

Procedure

The objectives of this MPD in dealing with bomb threats, bomb incidents and suicide bomber incidents are:

1. Preservation of life for both citizens and officers.
2. Apprehension of perpetrator(s) using a reasonable amount of force (if applicable).
3. Protection of public and private property.
4. Securing available evidence to assist in the appropriate disposition of the perpetrator(s).

Safety Priorities

The basis for operational and tactical decisions will be based on the following safety priorities:

1. Hostages and citizens.
2. Law enforcement personnel.
3. Suspects or subjects.

In situations where ongoing deadly force is reasonably likely to be employed by a suspect—and delay in taking police action could result in injury or death—rapid intervention of officers at the scene is authorized and expected when such actions are deemed reasonable to prevent further injuries or loss of life (i.e., suicide bomber or vehicle-borne IED incident).

Definitions

Bomb Threat: The communication through the use of mail, telephone, telegram, or other instrument of commerce; the willful making of any threat; or the malicious conveyance of false information knowing the same to be false which concerns an attempt being made, or to be made; to kill, injure, intimidate any individual; or unlawfully to damage or destroy any building, vehicle, or other real or personal property by means of an explosive.

Explosive Device: Any device designed or specially adapted to cause physical harm to persons or property by means of an explosion and consisting of an explosive substance or agency and a means to detonate it.

Bomb Incident: Any incident where an explosive device or suspected explosive device has been located or has been detonated.

IED (Improvised Explosive Device): An improvised explosive device fabricated in an improvised manner incorporating destructive, lethal, noxious, pyrotechnic, or incendiary chemicals and designed to destroy buildings or incapacitate people or vehicles.

PBIED (Person Borne Improvised Explosive Device): An improvised explosive device worn on an individual who seeks to cause death, great bodily harm and property destruction (also known as a suicide bomber).

VBIED (Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device): An improvised explosive device assembled into a vehicle that is located to cause death, great bodily harm and property destruction (also known as a car or truck bomb).

EOD: Explosive Ordinance Disposal.

Bomb Threat Response Procedures

RECEIVING A BOMB THREAT


Most bomb threats will usually come through one of three mediums: telephone, mail delivery or online threats. While telephone calls are the most common means of conveying a bomb threat, threats via the mail do occur and threats via cyberspace and/or social media are becoming more common. Any individual, business or organization can suddenly be the recipient of a bomb threat.


Any MPD employee who receives a bomb threat should attempt to complete the following:

1. Remain calm to obtain as much information at the first point of contact. Do not put the caller on hold and do not interrupt the caller except to attempt to obtain the following information:
 - Where is the location of the bomb (building, room, floor, etc.)?
 - When will the bomb detonate?
 - What does the bomb look like?
 - What kind of bomb is it?
 - What will make it explode?
 - Did you place the bomb?
 - What is the reason for the bombing?
 - What's your name?
 - Complete a Bomb Threat Checklist (see Attachment 1).
2. Signal a co-worker to contact the MPD Officer in Charge to advise them of the threat and provide all information received.
 - The co-worker should also contact the 911 Communications Center to alert them of the received threat.
3. Write down all statements. Attempt to keep the caller talking and note any distinguishable background noises. Also attempt to determine the sex, age, accent and level of excitement of the caller.
4. The decision to conduct a search, initiate a partial or full evacuation, or treat the threat as a hoax and take no action will be determined by the officer taking the threat in consultation with an MPD supervisor assigned to the call.
5. MPD staff may consult the Dane County Sheriff Office's Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit.

BOMB THREAT RESPONSE

In responding to a bomb threat call for service, officers responding to the location of a possible explosive device should be fully aware of their surroundings and especially alert for devices or secondary devices that are commonly placed to target first responders.

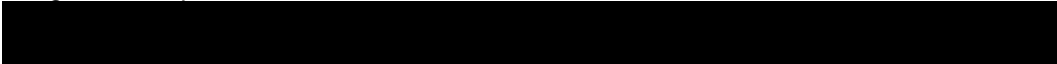
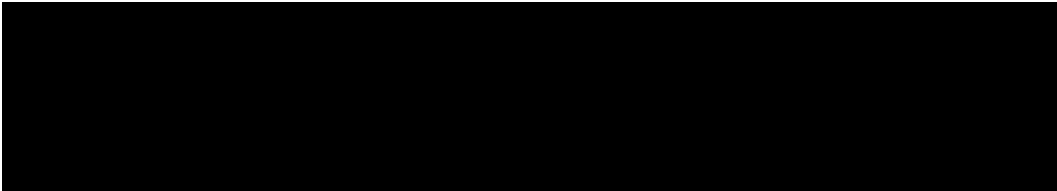

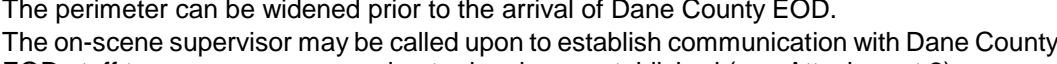
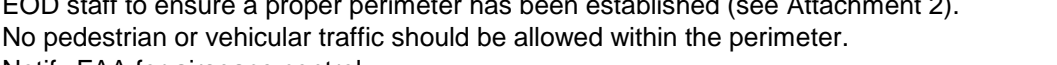
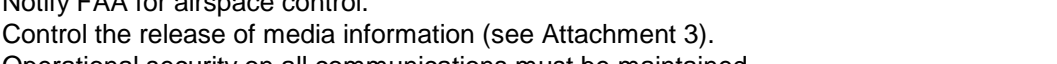
1. Interviews should be conducted in an area considered safe by the responding officer. 
 - The responding officer should contact the person who received the bomb threat. Contact the person in charge of the target premises to obtain all information regarding the bomb threat.
2. The responding officer can assist the person in charge of the target premises to determine the threat level by reviewing all pertinent information.
 - The responding officer should give serious consideration as to why the individual, business or organization is considered a target. A history of threats and possible motives should be used to establish the credibility of the threat.

3. Any searches of the premises for suspicious items 
 - The final determination to conduct any search will be the responsibility of the property owner or designee.
 - If a search is conducted, a floor plan should be used to facilitate a thorough search.
 - Officers should be particularly alert to explosives related pamphlets, excessive amounts of galvanized or PVC pipe, nipples and/or caps, especially with holes in them, fuses of any type, electrical switches, electrical matches, blasting caps or similar indicators.
 - Officers should understand that the absence of any of the above mentioned does not assure that a bomb is not present.
4. The decision to initiate a partial or full evacuation, or treat the threat as a hoax and take no action, will be determined by the owner or designee of the property along with MPD input.
 - If the decision is made to evacuate, MPD may assist in the process.

Bomb Incident Response Procedures

UNEXPLODED BOMB INCIDENT

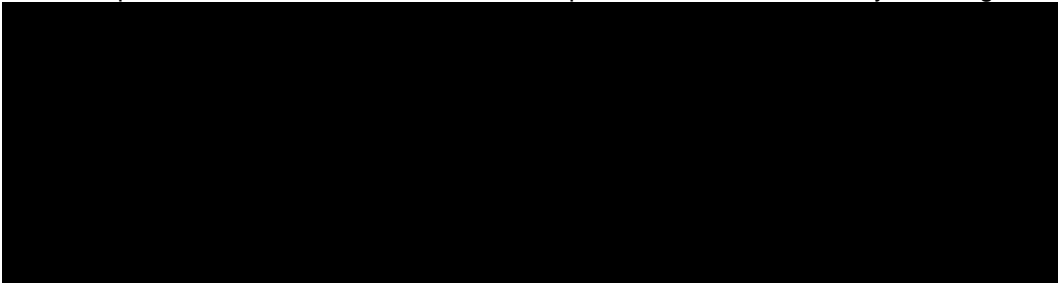
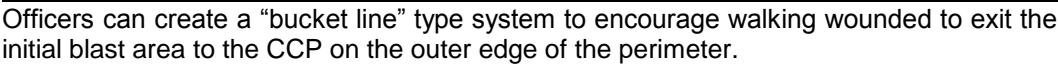
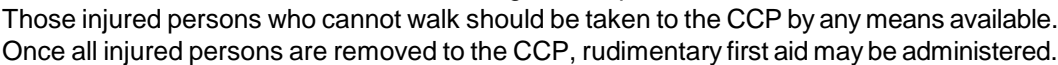
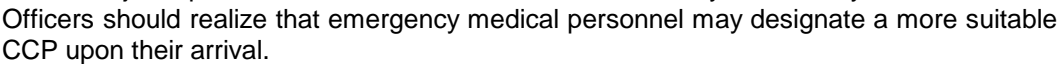
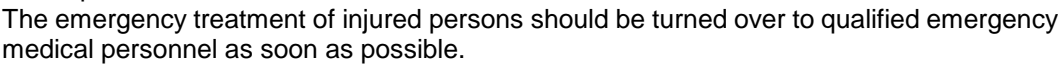
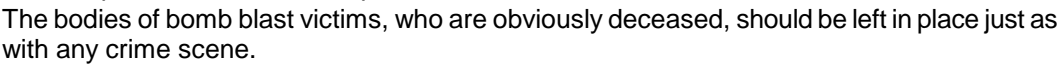
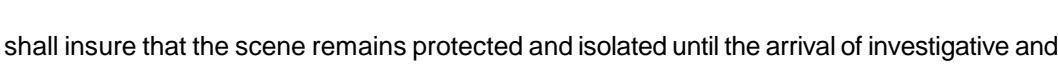
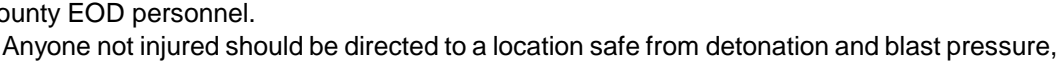
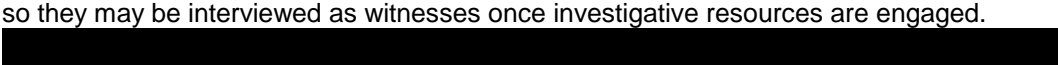
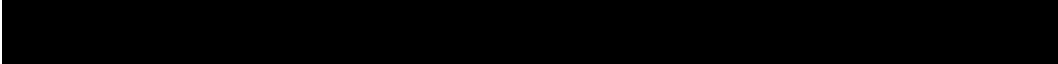
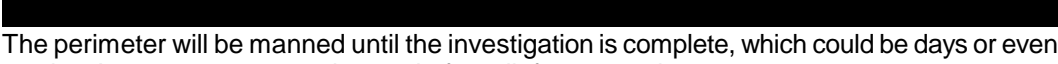
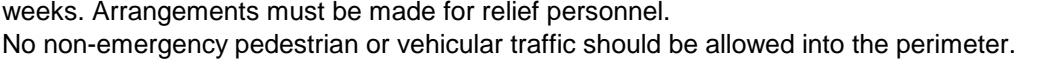

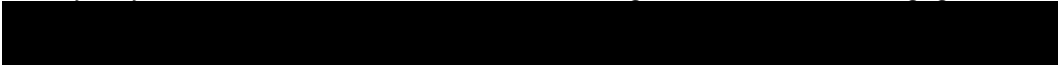

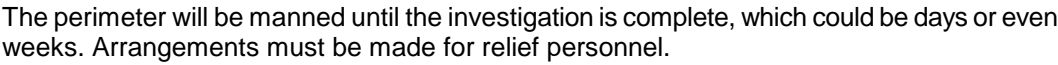
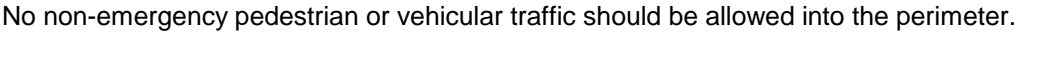
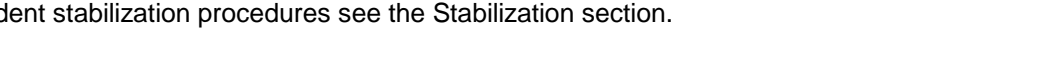
A bomb threat becomes a bomb incident if an object, which might be considered a bomb, suspicious object or vehicle borne improvised explosive device is located. The responding officer should attempt to conduct the following:

1. Responding officers should be aware of their surroundings. Officers should be alert for suspicious persons or vehicles in the area, and for the potential of devices when arriving on scene, as many incidents target first responders.
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 - Establish command and control with a supervisor.
 - Minimal personnel should enter the high threat zone to confirm the threat.
 - Officers shall not touch or move any suspicious device due to the possibility of initiating a detonation.
 - In the case of a VBIED, entry shall not be made into the vehicle, nor shall the vehicle be moved until it has been cleared by Dane County EOD.
 - An accurate description of the device can be obtained if possible.
2. Once the discovery of a device or suspected device is confirmed, the area immediately around the device should be evacuated, leaving the device and its environment undisturbed.
 - Evacuate the area.
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3. The Dane County Sheriff's Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit should be requested.
 - The perimeter can be widened prior to the arrival of Dane County EOD.
 - The on-scene supervisor may be called upon to establish communication with Dane County EOD staff to ensure a proper perimeter has been established (see Attachment 2).
 - No pedestrian or vehicular traffic should be allowed within the perimeter.
 - Notify FAA for airspace control.
 - Control the release of media information (see Attachment 3).
 - Operational security on all communications must be maintained.

4. The supervisor and officers on scene will assist Dane County EOD as necessary.
 - Crowd control and traffic control.
 - Requesting additional resources, such as the Madison Fire Department, etc.
5. No member of MPD other than Dane County EOD shall touch or move any object suspected or confirmed to be an explosive or incendiary device.
 - Once Dane County EOD personnel have arrived on scene, the ranking Dane County EOD member is in charge of the explosives aspect of the incident.
 - The final disposition of any device will be accomplished by the Dane County EOD personnel only.
6. For incident stabilization procedures, see the Stabilization section below.

POST-DETONATION BOMB INCIDENT

In an incident where a device has detonated, which has caused personal injury or major property damage, the safety of all first responders is a primary concern as is the preservation of life. Officers at the scene of a major explosive detonation should be aware of the potential for, and the presence of, secondary devices and unconsumed explosives, including on victims.

1. At the site of an explosion, evidence collection and scene preservation are secondary to saving lives.
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2. Officers shall insure that the scene remains protected and isolated until the arrival of investigative and Dane County EOD personnel.
 - Anyone not injured should be directed to a location safe from detonation and blast pressure, so they may be interviewed as witnesses once investigative resources are engaged.
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3. For incident stabilization procedures see the Stabilization section.

Person Borne Improvised Explosive Device (Suicide Bomber)

SUICIDE BOMBER RESPONSE

A Person Borne Improvised Explosive Device (PBIED) or suicide bomber presents a unique challenge to law enforcement officers. The threat of death or great bodily harm is always imminent when facing an individual wearing a PBIED.

1. The primary objective in dealing with a suicide bomber is to prevent the bomber from detonating an explosive device.
 - Officers who encounter a suicide bomber may attempt to take the suspect into custody if circumstances permit, but must realize that deadly force may have to be deployed immediately to prevent the bomber from detonating the explosive device.
 - Approach using cover and concealment and avoid alerting the suspect to your presence.
 - [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - After deadly force has been deployed to stop a suicide bomber, there are unique follow-through considerations.
3. Due to the threat of secondary devices or remote detonation on a suicide bomb device, if the suspect has been rendered incapable of detonating the PBIED:
 - Do not approach the suspect.
 - Do not render medical assistance.
 - Do not allow others to approach the suspect.
 - Do not allow others to render medical assistance.
 - Evacuate the area immediately [REDACTED]
 - Contact the Dane County EOD.
 - Follow the procedures under Unexploded Bomb Incident section.

Stabilization

Once the immediate incident has been stabilized, the scene supervisor/incident commander will:

1. Establish a command post and unified command structure with other agencies (MFD, etc.) with security at the command post.
2. Establish a staging area for responding emergency personnel.
3. In conjunction with the Madison Fire Department, identify the final CCP for injured parties to be taken for triage, treatment and transportation with security.
4. Determine a final collection point/evacuation/interview center for non-injured evacuees from the location.
5. Initiate an investigation to determine exactly what has occurred and locate, isolate and debrief any witnesses.
6. Establish a staging area/contact and reunification point for friends and family members of potential victims/witnesses.
7. Select a location for media response and designate a person to interact with them prior to the arrival of the agency public information officer.
8. Consolidate outer perimeter and traffic plan.
9. Establish and maintain a log that documents the activities that have occurred and the location and identification of the assigned personnel.

10. Ensure that the appropriate personnel have been notified and briefed (OIC, District Command, etc.) and prepare a staffing and execution plan to hold the perimeter for an extended period of time.
11. Coordinate with owners or officials of the target location for floor plans, site layout, and a roster (including emergency contact information as available) of employees, students, residents, visitors, or others believed to be on-site.
12. Once any suspects have been located and the threat eliminated, the Dane County EOD will advise of any additional resources needed to conduct secondary or tertiary searches for additional devices.
13. Officers assigned to the evacuation center shall maintain custody and control of all persons and document their identities until they can be reunited with family or others. Victims and witnesses suffering from emotional and/or physical trauma or shock should be kept under the observation of medical personnel until such time as they may be safely transported to a hospital or home in the care of family or friends.
14. Supervisors should monitor responding officers for signs of critical incident stress.
15. Officers should be aware that bombings are often conducted in series or as a part of a larger attack.

Attachment 1: DHS Bomb Threat Checklist

Attachment 2: DHS Bomb Threat Standoff Chart

Attachment 3: General Media Rules for Bombing Investigations

(Reviewed Only: 01/27/2016, 01/09/2017, 12/26/2017)