

**SALINAS POLICE DEPARTMENT
SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS
LESSON PLAN**



SUBJECT: Hostage Rescue Tactics/Scenarios

Course Date & Time: 11/24/2023

Course Location: 121 Spreckels Blvd, Salinas, CA 93901 and SPD Range

Instructor: Pritt and Scaggs

Instructional Goal:

Students will be instructed in Hostage Rescue Tactical operations. The officers will have an opportunity to enter a structure, address a hostage taker, and rescue the hostage. Instructors will also cover trends in CQB line-of-duty deaths.

Training Objectives: Following instruction, students can demonstrate HRT tactics properly. And understand some of the Hazards associated with CQB.

Materials Needed: All Personal call-out equipment, BDU uniforms, Simmunition Weapons, and Simmunition ammunition. Handgun and long gun. Personal protective equipment, including masks and necessary padding.

Safety: All Officers involved in this training are responsible for safety. If anyone involved observes any unsafe action, they must stop the training and address the issue. Before the training, a weapons check will be conducted to ensure that all weapon(s) are unloaded and no live ammunition is present. Before resuming training, a weapons check will be done if any person leaves the training site. There will be radios and a cell phone on-site in an emergency. A trauma kit will also be maintained at the location. The closest hospital to this site will be **Natividad Medical Center**. The Safety Officer for this training event is Scaggs and Pritt.

Sergeant McNeil will be designated as security.

Course Description:

The primary focus of this course will be to instruct SWAT Operators on current HRT tactics used by the Salinas Police Department SWAT Team. Officers will wear all their call-out gear and practice using their equipment with team equipment to maximize efficiency. Simunitions will be used throughout the scenarios, and role players will be added to the scenarios.

Officers will be provided with several scenarios and search the designated facility appropriately to locate the target. Officers will take appropriate actions if they come across a hostage situation.

Instructors will observe team movements and techniques used throughout each scenario and note any possible discussion points for a debriefing, which will occur at each scenario's completion.

The overall purpose of this course will be to instruct Officers on HRT tactics. Officers will use these techniques and discuss if/how we will implement them in our current tactics.

Scenarios

- 1) Officers will be given a scenario about an armed barricaded suspect at an apartment complex. The suspect will possibly have multiple hostages.

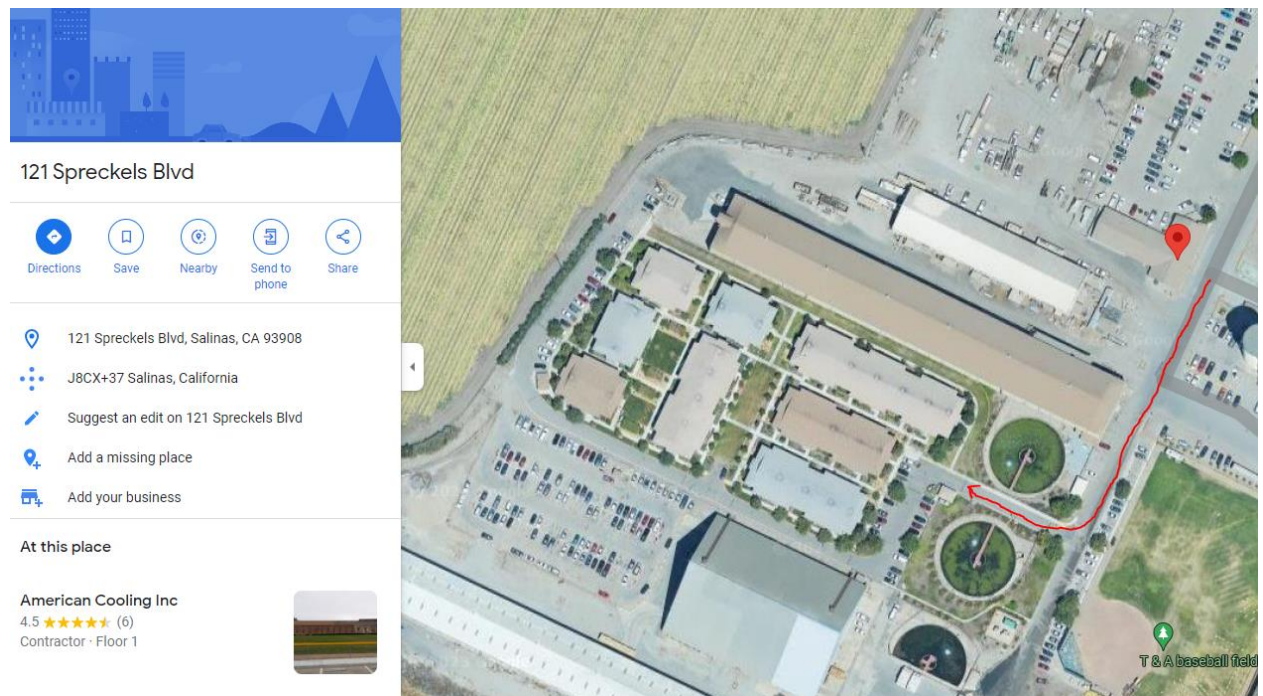
SWAT will respond and coordinate with Officer O. Solis, who is a member of the SPD Hostage Negotiation Team. Officer Solis will request a throw phone to be placed in the residence. He will then attempt to begin a dialogue with the suspect.

While this happens, SWAT will attempt to deploy the drone and robot. A react team will be in place. Utilizing these tools will allow officers to gather more information from the apartment. The front door will be left unlocked, and the blinds will be open. A minimum of 4 officers for entry, a TL/ATL, and a breacher will consist of the react team.

Several react teams will be created depending on the number of officers available. Officer Solis will relay that he can hear over the throw phone that the suspect said that he is “going to kill everyone.”

This will prompt the first react team to be deployed for a hostage rescue. Proctors will evaluate the scenario. After the scenario has ended, the role players will be reset, and the next reaction team will be deployed. This will continue until all teams have made entry.

After all teams have made entries, we will debrief the scenario. This will conclude this scenario.









Scenario #2

React teams will be given the scenario of a barricaded suspect with two hostages inside an apartment. A patrol officer (role player) will update the SWAT team that they responded to a Domestic Violence call. While outside of the front door, Officers observed the suspect walk into the living room and slammed the door in their face.

They heard what sounded like a firearm being racked, and the suspect said that everyone was going to die. The patrol backed off and called for the Swat team. It has been determined by family and witnesses that there are two hostages inside with the suspect. **(We will provide the description on the day of training based on role players)**

A single gunshot will initiate the react team. They will encounter the two victims in the front of the apartment. Officers will make entry and determine the best course of action. **Officers should contact the victims, remove them from the scene, and tactfully back out of the apartment.**

The instructor will inform the team that the robot was used. The robot found the suspect in the back bedroom with an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

The team will be instructed to make an entry and locate the suspect. After the suspect has been found, the instructor will “index” the exercise. The team will debrief, and role players will reset for the next react team.

Scenario #3

React teams will be given the scenario of a barricaded suspect with two hostages inside an apartment. A patrol officer (role player) will update the SWAT team that they responded to a Domestic Violence call. While outside of the front door, Officers observed the suspect walk into the living room and slammed the door in their face.

They heard what sounded like a firearm being racked, and the suspect said that everyone was going to die. The patrol backed off and called for the Swat team. It has been determined by family and witnesses that there are two hostages inside with the suspect. **(We will provide the description on the day of training based on role players)**

A single gunshot will initiate the react team. They will encounter the two victims in the front of the apartment. Officers will make entry and determine the best course of action.

Officers will encounter a victim lying on the ground. The instructor will verbally tell the team that the victim has a gunshot wound to the head. This will prompt the second victim to start screaming in the back room.

Officers will continue working through the apartment to locate the second victim. When they encounter the second victim and hostage taker, they will take the appropriate action.

The instructor will end the exercise and debrief outside while role players reset.

