



## QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY FIRE & EMS COMMISSION

110 Vincit Street, Centreville, MD 21617

<b>Section:</b> <u>Active Assailant Response</u>	<b>Date Approved:</b> <u>7/6/2023</u>
<b>Subject:</b> <u>Subject to change</u>	<b>Date Revised:</b> <u>5/24/2023</u>
<b>Division:</b> <u>Department Wide</u>	<b>Approved By:</b> <u>QAC FEC</u>

**\*This is an editable, on-going document by the Active Assailant Workgroup. This has not been officially approved.**

### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide first responders of the Queen Anne's County Fire/EMS and Department of Emergency Services (DES) with a concise description of the response to active assailant incidents.

### 2. Scope

- 2.1 This guideline applies to all emergency services personnel.

### 3. Glossary

**RTF** – Rescue Task Force

**TECC** – Tactical Emergency Causality Care

**AEP** - Ambulance Exchange Point

**Staging** – Location for all responding apparatus to stage.

**Hot Zone** – An area with a known threat.

**Warm Zone** – An area with no known threat but the potential of a threat.

**Cold Zone** – An area with no threat.

**PPE** – Personal Protection Equipment

**CCP** – Casualty Collection Point

### 4. Response

- 4.1 Per EMD, EFD, EPD policy: units will be dispatched accordingly. On duty supervisors may reference the major incident checklist.
- 4.2 First arriving units should respond to the designated staging area if appropriate.



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- 4.2.1 Due to staffing/response considerations, a staging officer may not be in place by the time units arrive on scene.
- 4.2.2 The first arriving unit may have to take on the role of staging until an appropriate resource can arrive.
- 4.2.3 Create Operations Branch, which may include:
  - 4.2.3.1 Medical
  - 4.2.3.2 Law Enforcement
  - 4.2.3.3 Fire

### **5. Rescue Task Force** – created in staging.

- 5.1 The first two (2) arriving Rescue Task Force trained units should be prepared to be assigned as RTF teams.
  - 5.1.1 RTF personnel will don their ballistic PPE to include both vest and helmet, gather their RTF response bag(s), and prepare for assignments.
  - 5.1.2 Personnel are not permitted to enter the warm zone without the aforementioned ballistic PPE.
  - 5.1.3 Staging Officer will pair personnel with law enforcement to create a Rescue Task Force Team. Upon tasking, RTF teams will respond into the warm zone as a single unit. Law enforcement personnel must be present for RTF teams to respond into a warm zone.
    - 5.1.3.1 Establish an RTF team leader, this will be an LE officer.
    - 5.1.3.2 Expect multiple, local, county, state, possibly federal, and potentially off-duty law enforcement agencies on-scene.
      - 5.1.3.2.1 A secondary staging location may be necessary.
  - 5.1.4 RTF teams, upon direction, will respond into the warm zone of the structure/environment and manage as many victims as possible. RTFs will not respond without a specific task and an assigned location. There will be no self-dispatching of RTF teams.
    - 5.1.4.1 RTF team call signs will be designated as: RTF-1, RTF-2, and so on.
    - 5.1.4.2 RTF configurations with law enforcement personnel:



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5.1.4.2.1 Minimum: Point (front) and Rear Guard with two (2) RTF personnel.

5.1.4.2.2 Maximum: Four (4) LE officers with two (2) RTF personnel.

5.1.4.3 RTF Communications:

5.1.4.3.1 Communications should be kept to a minimum, only relaying critical information.

5.1.4.3.2 One LE officer and one RTF personnel per team will be tasked with communications responsibilities.

5.1.4.4 RTF Medical Operations:

5.1.4.4.1 Treatment and triage measures consistent with TECC practices.

5.1.4.4.2 RTF teams operating inside the warm zone will need to coordinate with Operations / Incident Command if additional RTF teams are needed.

5.1.4.5 Prepare for evacuations of victims.

5.1.4.5.1 This may be done by other RTF Teams, law enforcement or Evacuation Teams.

### **6. Warm zone to Hot Zone operations**

6.1 If the warm zone suddenly intensifies into a hot-zone, personnel should find immediate cover and await direction of their LE partners of their assigned RTF team.

6.1.1 Prepare for re-location into a warm zone when directed by law enforcement partners.

6.2 Casualty Collection Points (CCPs) shall be established when time allows.

6.2.1 Ambulance Exchange Points shall be coordinated with Operations Officers / Incident Command.

6.3 The remaining responding EMS transport units shall report to staging and be prepared to evacuate/transport victims.



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6.3.1 Transport unit personnel should be prepared to swiftly position their vehicle at a determined Ambulance Exchange Point (AEP).

6.3.2 Transport personnel should not leave their vehicle upon arrival at the AEP.

6.3.3 Ideally, transport units should not stay waiting near a determined evacuation/transport corridor.

6.3.3.1 Patient(s) will be loaded into the transport unit(s) and units will immediately leave the scene.

### 7. Unified Command

7.1 Appropriate responding command officers will respond to the cold zone to create Unified Command. Law enforcement (LE) will be the lead agency.

7.2 The assigned DES Duty Chief shall respond to the Unified Incident Command Post or an established unification area.

[Appendix](#)

[Run card including Helo & MAB  
Major Incident Checklist](#)

[Consider secondary staging may be necessary](#)