

Chapter 11 - Special Operations Division

• 2-11/000.00 - Special Operations Division

This chapter outlines the functions, responsibilities, and jurisdiction of the Special Operations Division (SOD).

• 2-11/010.00 - Functions and Responsibilities

The Special Operations Division (SOD) is comprised of Aero Bureau, Emergency Operations Bureau, Special Enforcement Bureau, Criminal Intelligence Bureau, Transit Services Bureau, and Metrolink Bureau. Additionally, SOD Headquarters maintains functional supervision of the Crisis Negotiation Team, and the Muslim Community Affairs Unit.

The SOD provides support to all units within the Department and mutual aid assistance to outside agencies via its various bureaus and details.

• 2-11/020.00 - Aero Bureau

The Aero Bureau performs aerial support services using various types of aircraft and is responsible for:

- Investigating violations of regulations governing flight of aircraft and prosecuting offenders;
 - Investigating all fatal or serious aircraft accidents;
 - Granting permission to land aircraft on, performing maintenance on, and continuing the certification of all helipads under the control of the Department; and
 - Providing airplanes and/or helicopters and flight crews for:
 - Aerial patrol and surveillance operations in support of ground law enforcement operations in Los Angeles County or required mutual aid situations;
 - Search and rescue operations, medical evacuation, and transportation missions;
 - Transportation of personnel performing official duties using in-service aircraft;
 - Transportation of prisoners;
 - Emergency transportation of County employees;
 - Transporting family members of critically injured Department members;
 - Orientation training provided to members of law enforcement agencies;
 - Training of Aero Bureau personnel;
 - Aircraft maintenance;
 - Public relations displays;
 - Funeral “fly-overs;”
 - Flight requests initiated by the Sheriff; and
 - Flights for Aero Bureau operations and support.
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• **2-11/040.00 - Emergency Operations Bureau**

The Emergency Operations Bureau provides a variety of specialized services throughout the County and consists of the following units:

- Tactical Planning Unit;
- Department Operations Center; and
- Labor Relations Unit.

Emergency Operations Bureau will be responsible for the following volunteer programs:

- Station Community Advisory Committees;
- Station Clergy Councils;
- Volunteers in Police Service;
- CERT (21 hour FEMA certified);
- Training for all volunteer coordinators and crime prevention staff (includes monthly training meetings);
- Membership on the LASD Volunteer Association;
- Coordination of the Volunteer Interpreter Program;
- Drivers training for volunteers;
- Emergency Services Index Program; and
- Volunteers on Patrol Program;
- Coordinate and expedite activities of civilian volunteers when requested;
- Oversight for the Countywide LASD Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training which includes:
 - Station training;
 - Focus group training;
 - Regional and countywide drills; and
 - Refreshers;
- Oversee the training and planning for the disaster services workers; and
- Coordinating and facilitating other special projects as directed by Department executives.

• **2-11/040.05 - Tactical Planning Unit**

The responsibilities of the Tactical Planning Unit includes:

- Strategic planning for emergencies;
- Tactical planning for major Departmental events and governmental entities;
- Inspection of the emergency management capabilities of stations, facilities and bureaus;
- Maintenance, training, and sustainment of Sheriff's Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) teams;
- Maintenance, training, and sustainment of County Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) teams;
- Maintenance, training, and sustainment of Departmental Incident Management Teams (IMT);

- Development, presentation, and coordination of disaster preparedness training and exercises for the Department and other governmental entities;
 - Assisting and coordinating disaster preparedness planning with Mutual Aid Region I Law Enforcement Agencies on behalf of the Sheriff;
 - Maintaining liaison and coordinating disaster preparedness plans with federal, state, County, and local governments;
 - Attending conferences and serving on committees relating to disaster preparedness planning as a representative of the Sheriff;
 - Coordinate out-of-county search and rescue team requests from CalIOES;
 - Maintaining, staffing, and operating all field command posts and support equipment;
 - Training of selected Departmental personnel in the operation of field command post equipment;
 - Maintaining a file of operations plans made by all units within the Department;
 - Collecting and maintaining information on civil disorder incidents, nationwide, especially those that may result in police attention, i.e., rock concerts; parades; sporting events; protest demonstrations; events that may attract large numbers of people where alcohol may be consumed, or may attract large numbers of street gang members; events that in the past have caused problems for law enforcement; job actions or strikes where problems are anticipated; any event for which significant Departmental response is anticipated;
 - Gather and evaluate information concerning the many aspects of labor-management relations and disputes in an atmosphere of strict neutrality and confidence;
 - Maintain close liaison with union officials, management personnel, government labor relations units and federal, state, County and municipal labor law enforcement officials prior to and during the course of a strike or labor dispute; and
 - Respond to strike scenes to render services as needed.
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• **2-11/040.10 - Department Operations Center**

The Department Operations Center (DOC) provides Department-wide situational awareness as well as providing support for the Department and outside agencies. The DOC monitors all Department active calls for service and arranges for resources and equipment to stations as needed. The DOC monitors open source information and forwards any pertinent information regarding emerging incidents or pre-planned events to the respective Department station or outside agency. The DOC reports important incidents and events (local, state, national, international) to executive staff as well as all the chiefs of police within Los Angeles County. The DOC also makes confidential notifications to executive staff regarding sensitive information, such as employees relieved of duty and employees arrested. The DOC serves as the point of contact for law enforcement agencies requesting information from the LASD.

• **2-11/040.15 - Reserve Forces Detail**

Reserve Forces Detail is responsible for providing support to the Department and local Sheriff's stations in the management of the Department's reserve deputy sheriff programs. Additionally, the following areas of oversight take place:

- Pre-employment background investigations for reserve applicants;
 - Process Carry a Concealed Weapon permits for reserve personnel;
 - Administer funding and procurement of equipment for the seven Search and Rescue (SAR) teams;
 - Maintain training and certification for Department emergency medical technicians;
 - Search dog program; and
 - Civilian Advisory Councils.
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• **2-11/050.00 - Crisis Negotiations Team**

The Crisis Negotiations Teams provide services throughout the county. The Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT) is responsible for:

- Establishing and maintaining communications with hostage takers, barricaded suspects, and other persons who pose an immediate, violent threat to themselves or the community; and
 - Intra/inter-Departmental liaison and training for the program throughout the county.
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• **2-11/060.00 - Special Enforcement Bureau**

Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) provides a variety of specialized tactical, rescue, and counter-terrorist support services throughout the County and is comprised of five details. The five details work together to form the SEB's special weapons teams to safely resolve high-risk situations. Each individual detail has a specialty within the SEB special weapons teams. The SEB individual detail with responsibilities are as follows:

- Special Enforcement Detail
 - Emergency Services Detail (ESD)
 - Canine Services Detail
 - Arson/Explosives Detail
 - Hazardous Materials Detail (HazMat)
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• **2-11/060.05 - Special Enforcement Detail**

The responsibilities of the Special Enforcement Detail (SED) include:

- Maintain Special Weapons Team (SWT) availability on a 24-hour basis for handling barricaded suspect, hostage, and active shooter situations, serving arrest and search warrants in identified high-risk or other hazardous situations, and for assisting Canine Services Detail with high-risk area searches;
 - Provide Tactical Entry Teams (TET) to assist any requesting unit in the service of non-high-risk search and arrest warrants;
 - Provide explosive breaching capability for the Department and other special weapons teams in Los Angeles County;
 - Augment station and unit level enforcement efforts through area or suspect surveillance, high-risk traffic
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stops, or other tactical services as needed;

- Mobilize to provide a law enforcement response at the scene of disorders and other man-made or natural disasters;
- Provide protection for designated dignitaries and jury site, or prisoner security dictated by special circumstances; and
- Provide specialized special weapons team training for SEB personnel and outside agencies.

The SED is authorized to have an underwater diving team consisting of SED, Canine Services Detail, and/or HazMat Detail members.

• **2-11/060.10 - Emergency Services Detail**

The responsibilities of Emergency Services Detail (ESD) include:

- Conduct searches, rescues, and recoveries, including mountain and maritime operations;
- Provide 24-hour law enforcement paramedic availability and services, including coverage for the special weapons teams and Canine Services Detail during all high-risk operations;
- Administer and provide instructors for the Department's Public Safety Diver Course;
- Provide tactical emergency medical services support for the Department and other law enforcement agencies within Los Angeles County;
- Provide specialized special weapons team tactical medical training for SEB personnel and outside agencies;
- Maintain law enforcement and rescue patrol capabilities in the Angeles National Forest and the Santa Monica mountains;
- Maintain law enforcement and rescue patrol capabilities in the waters surrounding and between Catalina, San Clemente Island, and the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, including staffing of the ocean rescue patrol boat;
- Provide crew staffing for the Air Rescue 5 helicopter, which is available to respond to rescues, active shooter events, and other emergencies countywide;
- Conduct investigations of all scuba-related fatalities and accidents in the County's jurisdiction;
- Conduct evidence recovery for Department units and state and federal agencies in underwater and inaccessible terrain areas; and
- Maintain a jumper response team to assist CNT with appropriate safety tethering when negotiating with suspects on elevated platforms such as roof tops and highway overpasses. The SEB jumper response team will also act as an arrest team working in coordination with CNT and station units. SED deputies may augment this team.

The ESD is authorized to have an underwater diving team.

• **2-11/060.15 - Canine Services Detail**

The responsibilities of the Canine Services Detail include:

- Provide 24-hour police dog services to assist field personnel with building and area searches for high-risk suspects, and to assist as members of the Special Weapons Teams during all deployments; and
 - Assist with canine tracking searches for felony suspects and related evidence in certain situations.
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• **2-11/060.20 - Arson/Explosives Detail**

The Special Weapons Team specialty of the arson investigator is to provide bomb squad and arson investigator support to the team. Arson/Explosives Detail investigates cases involving the following:

- Arson;
- Bombings;
- Burglary where explosives are taken or a magazine is victimized;
- Disastrous fires;
- Explosions (caused by explosives);
- Explosives (except fireworks);
- Fires causing damage to public utility, public property, or causing personal injury;
- Fires causing damage of \$7,500 or more;
- Incendiary devices;
- Illegal manufacture, sale, or possession of fully automatic weapons, heavy weapons greater than 60 caliber, and silencers;
- Illegal manufacture, sale, or possession of bombs, explosives, or destructive devices;
- Illegal manufacture of fireworks (fireworks factories); and
- Series and patterns of crimes related to any of the above.

Responsibilities of the Arson/Explosive Detail include:

- Store and dispose of found, abandoned, or surrendered explosives and explosive devices;
- Process requests to assign and stamp serial numbers on handguns and long guns;
- Collect, preserve, and analyze evidence for presentation in court;
- Act as advisors to, and instructors for, the training academy staff regarding arson/explosives training for Department personnel;
- Safe handling of large caches of illegal fireworks;
- Act as liaison and local agency member of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Nuclear Response and Electronic Counter-Measures Teams;
- Maintain a cadre of explosive and accelerant detection canines; and
- Conduct protective detection sweeps for high profile public events and visiting dignitaries.

The Arson/Explosives Detail is authorized to have an underwater diving team.

• **2-11/060.25 - Hazardous Materials Detail**

The Special Weapons Team specialty of the SEB Hazardous Materials Detail (HazMat) field investigator

deputy is to prevent and respond to incidents and threats involving chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) agents/weapons. HazMat responsibilities include:

- Prevent and respond to criminal or terrorism incidents suspected of involving CBRN weapons to detect, identify, sample, and collect hazardous evidence;
- Provide exclusion zone force protection;
- Determine the appropriate personal protective equipment for Department personnel;
- Acquire and maintain Department's CBRN personal protective equipment;
- Maintain a chemical/biological detection canine;
- Act as assistant safety officer for law enforcement missions at major HazMat incidents; and
- Act as liaison to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Hazardous Evidence Response Team.

The HazMat Detail is available to assist other Department units as well as other public safety agencies with CBRN as follows:

- Special event sweeps;
- Dignitary protection sweeps;
- Related warrant service;
- Detection;
- Identification;
- Public safety sampling;
- Evidence collection;
- Technical reference;
- Exclusion zone force protection; and
- Law enforcement assistant safety officer duties.

• **2-11/070.00 - Criminal Intelligence Bureau**

The Criminal Intelligence Bureau (CIB) is tasked with the management and sharing, as appropriate, of all crime information and intelligence that is collected by Department personnel in the course of their duties. The fusion of information and intelligence from all investigative entities within the Department ensures the efficient dissemination of essential information to decision-makers, investigators, analysts, and patrol personnel. Through the comprehensive analysis of this information, CIB will provide actionable intelligence to inform decision-makers so they may plan for, respond to, and mitigate current and emerging crime trends and threats.

The Criminal Intelligence Bureau's responsibilities include:

- Law Enforcement Information Sharing Programs (LEISP)
- Sheriff's Analysis Unit (SAU)
- Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC)
- Sheriff's Intelligence Unit (SIU)

• **2-11/070.05 - Law Enforcement Information Sharing Programs**

The responsibilities of the Law Enforcement Information Sharing Programs (LEISP) include:

- Los Angeles Regional Crime Information System (LARCIS)
 - Information and Events Tracking System (iNETS)
 - Tracking & Automated Graffiti Reporting System (TAGRS)
 - National Data Exchange (N-Dex)
 - Crime Without Borders
 - COPLink
 - Crossroads
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• **2-11/070.10 - Sheriff's Analysis Unit**

The responsibilities of the Sheriff's Analysis Unit (SAU) include:

- Crime analysis:
 - Support patrol operations with analytical support on a 24/7 basis;
 - Provide administrative, tactical, strategic, and investigative analysis to support field units, investigators, specialized units, task force members, and executives;
 - Gather and share information from crime reports, teletypes, field interview reports, parolee release notifications, narcotic and sex registrations, and personal contacts with patrol, detective personnel, and outside agencies; and
 - Assist in the identification and apprehension of criminals, linking of crimes to form series and/or patterns, investigation of crimes, determination of patrol deployment, support for directed patrol and/or team policing, and identification and recovery of property; and
 - Statistical analysis program.
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• **2-11/070.15 - Joint Regional Intelligence Center**

The Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC) is comprised of the following cooperating agencies:

- Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - Department of Homeland Security
 - State of California Department of Justice
 - Office of Homeland Security
 - Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
 - Los Angeles Police Department
 - Long Beach Police Department
 - Los Angeles Airport Police Department
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Working together, the above agencies' collective responsibilities include:

- Develop and maintain a liaison and information sharing process, which includes law enforcement, public safety, and critical infrastructure sectors;
 - Serve as the intake center for tips and leads related to all crimes including terrorism;
 - Convert Information into operational and strategic intelligence;
 - Disseminate intelligence to prevent terrorist attacks and combat crime in the Central District of California; and
 - Act as Department liaison for INTERPOL.
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• **2-11/070.20 - Sheriff's Intelligence Unit**

The responsibilities of the Sheriff's Intelligence Unit (SIU) include:

- Identify and assess emerging threats involving terrorist and/or criminal activity for the purposes of mitigating and disrupting those threats;
 - Identify and assess emerging and ongoing cyber threats;
 - Analyze, process, and disseminate strategic and tactical intelligence to support ongoing or projected operations, unfolding events, and intelligence investigations;
 - Provide intelligence to Department executives and command staff for situational awareness, decision-making, response, and mitigation efforts;
 - Develop sources and informants to provide information about terrorist/criminal organizations and their activity;
 - Liaison with local, state, and federal agencies;
 - Participate in the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTF) and other task forces related to homeland security;
 - Hate Crimes Coordinator;
 - Crime Stoppers; and
 - Interpol Liaison.
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• **2-11/080.00 - Transit Services Bureau**

Transit Services Bureau (TSB) provides law enforcement services to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) on designated Metro commuter trains and Metro buses throughout Los Angeles County.

The responsibilities of Transit Services Bureau include:

- Providing general law enforcement services and security for designated Metro bus and rail properties, equipment, and facilities;
 - Investigate all incidents of crime occurring on designated Metro bus and rail properties, equipment, and facilities;
 - Projecting a positive and proactive image of safety and security for mass transit systems and transit
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patrons in Los Angeles County;

- Providing explosives detection canine units to Metro; and
 - Providing a mental health team to transit patrons.
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• **2-11/090.00 - Metrolink Bureau**

Metrolink Bureau provides law enforcement services to the Southern California Regional Railroad Authority (SCRRA). The responsibilities of Metrolink Bureau include:

- Provide a safe, secure environment for rail patrons;
 - Enforce rail fare compliance as may be requested;
 - Investigate all incidents of crime occurring on board Metrolink trains; and
 - Provide right-of-ways enforcement within Los Angeles County.
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• **2-11/100.00 - Muslim Community Affairs Unit**

The Muslim Community Affairs (MCA) Unit's mission is to build a stronger relationship with the Muslim community for better understanding and cooperation with law enforcement. The MCA Unit and the outreach program consist of six components:

Relationships – Building relationships with the mosques, Islamic centers, Imams, and community leaders throughout Los Angeles County and the surrounding counties in southern California.

Youth Programs – A Young Muslim American Leaders Advisory Council (Young-MALAC) was developed and meets on a monthly basis for the purpose of education and to provide input on policy changes and issues of concern to youth and young adults. Some of the activities for the Young-MALAC include, but are not limited to; jail tours, patrol ride alongs, and visits to their local Sheriff's station.

Education – Seminars and training sessions are held in mosques, community halls, and Islamic schools on various topics such as domestic violence, identity theft, hate crimes, and terrorism. In addition, Department and outside agency recruits receive a two hour class (Law Enforcement Interaction with the Muslim Community) as part of the cultural awareness and sensitivity training program during their academy training. The program teaches recruits Islamic culture, customs, and beliefs to facilitate our Department's core values. An eight hour California POST approved Countering Violent Extremists class is also facilitated by the MCA staff.

Coordination – An outreach coordinator's group consists of representatives from local (LAPD, Office of Human Relations), state, and federal (Department of Homeland Security, United States Citizen and Immigration Services) agencies. The main objective of the outreach coordinator's group is to coordinate activities and events. The group meets monthly to coordinate efforts of outreach.

Custody Outreach – This Muslim community outreach program further embraces the Department's mission of public trust policing by tending to and addressing inmate's needs and issues in our jails.

International Diplomacy – In an effort to gain understanding and exchange best practices, the MCA unit has experiences with officials from more than 40 different countries, either by visiting their countries or by their police officials meeting with the MCA unit in Los Angeles County.
