

## Chapter 10C—Law Enforcement

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	214
Responsibilities: .....	215
ICS OPERATIONS .....	216
LAW ENFORCEMENT BRANCH ORGANIZATION .....	216
Concept of Branch Operations: .....	216
Regional Law Enforcement Coordination Team .....	217
Intelligence Group.....	217
Investigation Group.....	218
SWAT Group—SWAT Teams.....	218
Minimum SWAT/TAC Team Staffing and Equipment .....	218
Hazardous Device Group .....	219
Primary Mission .....	219
Minimum HDT Staffing and Equipment.....	219
Forensic Group—Forensic Response Teams .....	220
Minimum Forensic Response Team .....	220
Waterborne Group .....	221
Primary Mission .....	221
Minimum WRT Staffing and Equipment .....	222
WMD Waterborne Response Team .....	222
Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) .....	222

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## *Chapter 10C*

### *Law Enforcement*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The mission of law enforcement is to provide for the prevention, detection, and investigation of criminal activity; to provide enforcement of criminal laws; and to provide safety and protection services to the residents and visitors of the State of Florida.

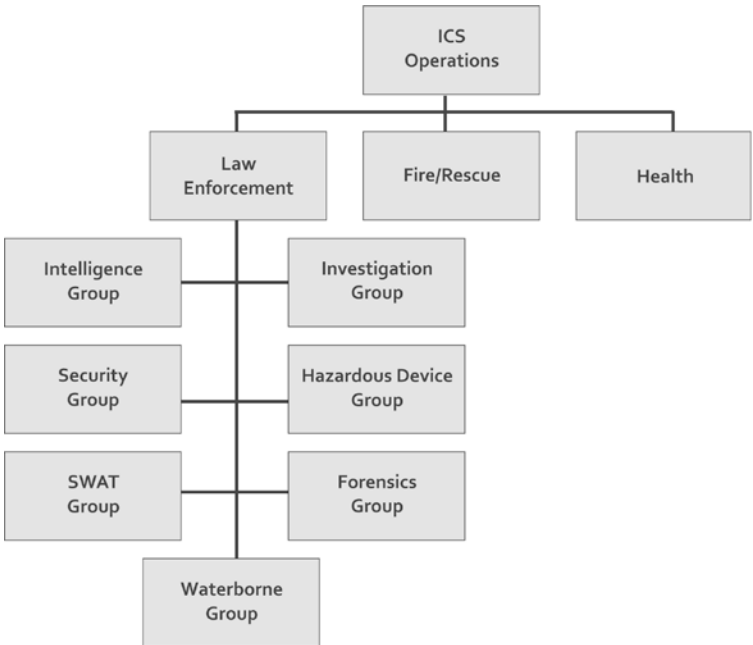
### ***Responsibilities***

Law enforcement provides a wide variety of services, which may include:

- a. Responding to calls for service.
- b. Determination of criminal activity/enforcement of criminal laws.
- c. Investigation of criminal complaints.
- d. Collection and preservation of evidence.
- e. Information and Intelligence gathering and sharing.
- f. Traffic and crowd control.
- g. Special Weapons and Tactics response (SWAT).
- h. Explosive or hazardous device response (EOD/HDT).
- i. Assessment and security of emergency incidents/events.
- j. Problem identification and resolution.

## ICS OPERATIONS

Figure 32 – Law Enforcement Branch Organization



### ***Concept of Branch Operations***

Once a law enforcement group is mobilized, the group shall:

- Travel to and arrive at the designated staging area.
- Upon arrival at staging, the team leader will complete a deployment form and provide it to the law enforcement liaison.
- Integrate with the interoperability communications plan for the impacted jurisdiction.

- Report to Incident Command through the “Law Enforcement Operations Branch.”
- Identify team’s support infrastructure.
- Receive task assignment(s).
- Make mission assessment(s).
- Coordinate operations with other appropriate primary and support agencies
- Develop an action plan and brief team components.
- Apply appropriate intervention.
- Provide for Decontamination of team (if needed).
- Provide Team Debrief.
- Re-mission or Demobilize.

### ***Regional Law Enforcement Coordination Team (RLECT)***

During events requiring a regional response, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) will establish a Regional Law Enforcement Coordination Team (RLECT) as soon as possible in the impacted region. The RLECT will assume tactical management of in-place and deployed State law enforcement and mutual aid resources to assist local law enforcement. If a State Management Team (SMT) is deployed to manage a State response, the RLECT will be absorbed into the SMT Operations Branch as the Law Enforcement section. The need for physical relocation will be determined based on each situation.

### ***Intelligence Group***

- Coordinate with investigative group.
- Collect and process situational information.
- Focus on identification of potential suspects.
- Develop and maintain a working relationship with local, State, and federal law enforcement agencies.

- Obtain, compile, and provide intelligence to Law Enforcement Operations and Unified Command Planning Section.
- Review method of operation by suspect(s).
- Gather information of suspects and victims.
- Consider other additional support needs.
- Maintain unit log.

### ***Investigation Group***

- Determine mission and projected length.
- Determine work location and support requirements.
- Coordinate with other law enforcement and emergency response units.
- Coordinate intelligence information.
- Report status of mission through chain of command.
- Maintain unit log.

### ***SWAT Group—SWAT Teams***

A SWAT/TAC team is a designated unit of law enforcement officers specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to respond to critical incidents. The primary mission of a Specialized WMD SWAT team is to operate in a hazardous environment, wearing Level B protection (semi-permeable membrane). Operations will be performed in accordance with the State recommended guidelines. The response of the regional SWAT Team will in no way compromise the authority of the jurisdiction having original authority.

### **Minimum SWAT/TAC Team Staffing and Equipment**

Regional Teams should include a minimum of twenty-five tactical personnel trained to operate in hazardous environments. Each team

will be expected to travel to incidents as requested using their own designated resources and with their respective complement of RDSTF issued equipment.

### ***Hazardous Device Group—Regional Hazardous Devices Teams***

Regional Hazardous Devices Teams (HDTs) are identified within each region and are capable of responding to any questionable incident device and/or dispersal system including chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or energetic (CBRNE) materials. HDT's are responsible for maintaining the equipment, training of the staff, and logistical support for initial incident responses within and outside their region. HDT's also have the capability of supporting specialized events held within the region.

Response of a regional HDT will in no way compromise the authority of the jurisdiction having original authority and teams will perform operations in accordance with the State recommended guidelines.

#### **Primary Mission**

The primary mission of a Regional HDT is to locate and identify chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and/or explosive devices and to make those devices safe.

#### **Minimum HDT Staffing and Equipment**

Regional teams are comprised of up of seven (7) FBI Hazardous Devices School (HDS) Certified Technicians and may be of a composite structure or an agency-specific structure depending on the number of available FBI/HDS certified personnel. Teams will be expected to travel to incidents as requested using their own

designated resources and shall deploy with their respective complement of RDSTF issued equipment.

### ***Forensic Group—Forensic Response Teams***

A Forensic Response Team (FRT) is a group of law enforcement officers and forensic technicians who have received specialized training and who can respond in support of incidents requiring responders use Level C Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) mandated protection. FRTs will perform operations in accordance with the State recommended guidelines and in support of the agency maintaining jurisdiction during a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) incident or other incidents.

The Forensic Response Team is responsible for:

- Recognition, documentation, preservation, and collection of potential evidence.
- Submission of evidence to appropriate agency.
- Presentation of evidence in court if necessary.
- Liaison with federal and local response agencies to ensure coordination of forensic and crime scene responsibilities and assignments.

### **Minimum Forensic Response Team Staffing and Equipment**

Regional teams are comprised of eight (8) officers/technicians responsible for the recognition, documentation, preservation, and collection of potential evidence and trained to operate in a hazardous environment, wearing level B protection (semi-permeable membrane). Teams are expected to travel to incidents as requested using their own designated resources and shall deploy with their respective complement of RDSTF issued equipment.



## ***Waterborne Group—Waterborne Security Response Teams***

A Regional Waterborne Response Team (WRT) is a group of law enforcement officers who have received specific training in the areas of hazardous incident recognition and the use of PPE so that they can augment port security and provide law enforcement support for all incidents occurring within Florida's coastal and inland waterways.

The WRT will assist in controlling and managing the perimeter of areas impacted by a hazardous incident, provide waterborne rescue operations, and provide logistical operations support for response personnel. The response of a regional WRT will in no way compromise the authority of the jurisdiction having original authority. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Division of Law Enforcement has been identified as the Statewide Coordinator of WRT Response, Readiness, and Planning.

### **Primary Mission**

- Provide rapid waterborne response to WMD/critical incidents for the purpose of providing perimeter protection to first responders, the public, the environment, and property.
- Provide maritime tactical response requiring armed ship/vessel boarding capabilities with special training and equipment.
- Provide maritime transportation capabilities to other RDSTF Specialty Teams.
- Provide enforcement of established security, safety, and regulated navigation zones.

- Provide force multiplier capabilities to federal maritime agencies including, but not limited to, the United States Coast Guard, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.
- Control the incident and mitigate negative consequences.
- Coordinate continuing efforts with the Federal Maritime Coordinator.

### **Minimum WRT Staffing and Equipment**

Each Regional Waterborne Security Team will consist of a maximum of 28 operators divided into four (4) 7-member squads. Each strike team will have one (1) team commander, and one (1) team leader and one (1) assistant team leader per squad. The Regional Response Team Coordinator will manage and direct the activities of the teams within the Region. The Statewide WRT Coordinator will direct the activities of multi-team response outside the Region. RDSTFs will determine the number of strike teams for each region.

### ***WMD Waterborne Response Team, Minimum Levels of Equipment***

Teams will be expected to travel to incidents as requested, using their agency resources as supported by RDSTF transportation assets. All deployed Waterborne Response Teams will arrive on scene with their respective complement of equipment.

### ***Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF)***

For information regarding the RDSTF, please reference Chapter 10 – Section D – Terrorism/WMD.