



CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON



Bureau of Police

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Integrity • Compassion • Accountability • Respect • Excellence • Service

EXECUTIVE ORDER

DATE: August 10, 2010

TO: All Bureau Members

RE: **1035.00 Ballistic Shields**

ACTION: This is a new directive.

DIR 1035.00 BALLISTIC SHIELD

Index: Title, Ballistic Shield

Refer: DIR 720.00 SERT and HNT Use

DIR 1010.10 Deadly Physical Force

DIR 1010.20 Physical Force

POLICY (1035.00)

The Portland Police Bureau recognizes and respects the integrity and value of human life. Members are occasionally placed in situations that require additional ballistic protection for safe resolution. The use of the ballistic shield can assist members in the undertaking of these missions. The deployment of the ballistic shield is dependant on the totality of the circumstances, given the risks that exist. It is the policy of the Bureau that the safety of members, involved subjects, and the community are the overriding concern.

PROCEDURE (1035.00)

Directive Specific Definitions

Ballistic Shield: A portable device capable of at least NIJ level IIIA ballistic protection.

Shield Element: The formation of members configured to safely deploy the ballistic shield, and provide for custody, rescue or rendering aid. This element consists of a minimum of three (3) members - a shield bearer, lethal cover, and less lethal options operator.

Authorized Use of Ballistic Shield

The ballistic shield is to be used (i.e., with a shield element) to provide additional ballistic protection for approaching a downed, potentially armed subject, or for the rescue of a downed officer or citizen.

The ballistic shield may also be used to provide a fixed defensive position for members to use as cover. These situations may include the use of the ballistic shield over a car door, or on a stationary perimeter position or in a structure to provide protective for officers covering hallways or large open rooms.

Prohibited Use of Ballistic Shield

The ballistic shield is not to be used in the active clearing or searching of structures, or open areas unless engaged in a rescue operation.

Deployment Considerations of Ballistic Shield

Prior to the deployment of the ballistic shield, members shall conduct a thorough threat assessment of the incident. Factors to consider are:

1. Presence of secondary threats.
 - a. Additional subjects.
 - b. Additional locations.
2. Type of weapon.
 - a. Rifle.
 - b. Handgun.
 - c. Knife.
3. Subject's Condition.
 - a. Conscious.
 - b. Unconscious.
 - c. Level of cooperation.
4. Subject's proximity to weapon.
5. Less lethal options prior to approach.
6. Post shooting techniques.
7. Surrounding area compromising approach.
8. SERT consult for limited or full team call out.

RESPONSIBILITY, ACCOUNTIBILITY, and CONTROL

Sworn Member Responsibilities

Members will assess the totality of the event and ensure that information is communicated to others at the scene. Members will relay information to supervisors in a timely fashion to aid in the decision making process.

Supervisor Responsibilities

Supervisors will ensure that the ballistic shield is available for use on their assigned shift.

Supervisors will ensure that the deployment of the ballistic shield is appropriate given the totality of the incident, and the risks that are present. Should the risk factors weigh against the use of the ballistic shield, supervisors should consider alternate tactics up to and including a SERT response.

Supervisors will be responsible for ensuring that the shield team is properly configured and deployed.

Following the deployment of the ballistic shield, supervisors will complete an after action report detailing the circumstances and effectiveness of its use.

Training Division Responsibilities

Provide training to members on the use of the ballistic shield. Monitor field uses of the ballistic shield to continue to develop the training program and explore future uses.

RU Manager Responsibilities

Ensure that the ballistic shields are available for deployment in the supervisor's vehicles, and accessible throughout the RU. Review after action reports for accuracy, completeness and compliance with directives and forward to appropriate Branch Chief and Training Division Manager. Ensure that expired and/or damaged shields are removed from use and submit replacement request.



MICHAEL REESE
Chief of Police

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