

## BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

### GENERAL ORDER: Use of Armored Rescue Vehicle

**Original Date of Issuance: June 19, 2018**

**Dates of Review: June 19, 2018**

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#### **I. Purpose.**

The purpose of this General Order is to provide guidelines for the use of the Department's Armored Rescue Vehicle.

#### **II. Policy.**

It is the policy of the Department that the use of the Armored Rescue Vehicle shall be limited to those situations where use of the Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) is indicated and authorized by the Chief or his/her designee. It is only to be used under high-risk circumstances where there is an articulable threat to officers or citizens as a result of the actual use, or potential use, of firearms or other destructive devices against them.

#### **III. Definitions.**

- A. Armored Rescue Vehicle.** A specially-designed vehicle that is armor-plated to protect the occupants from bullets or other destructive devices and that can perform rescues due to its ability to navigate difficult terrain.
- B. Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT).** A special operations group whose members are sworn employees of the Bloomington Police Department and employees of other agencies assigned through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The primary mission of CIRT is to preserve life and protect property. CIRT achieves this by utilizing specially equipped officers who have received tactical training in the handling of especially hazardous police duties.

#### **IV. Legal & Other Reference(s).**

- A. General Order, Critical Incident Response Team.**
- B. General Order, Operational Readiness for Department Owned Property**

**V. Procedure(s).**

**A. The Armored Rescue Vehicle shall only be used in conjunction with authorized incidents involving the Department's Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT).**

1. Authorized use of the Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) shall be obtained by following the procedures outlined in the Department's General Order, *Critical Incident Response Team*.

**B. The Department's Armored Rescue Vehicle shall only be used for:**

1. Transporting members of the Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) to and from high-risk incidents.
2. Tactical use by the Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) while engaged in high-risk incidents.
3. Rescue operations related to high-risk incidents or as needed due to natural or man-made disasters.
4. Training.
5. Public education.

**C. Use of the Armored Rescue Vehicle is prohibited for:**

1. General crowd control.
2. Public demonstrations.

**D. Use of the Ram.**

1. Use of the ram attachment for the Armored Rescue Vehicle requires specific authorization from the Chief or his/her designee utilizing the same chain of command procedure used when seeking authorization of the CIRT Team for an event.
2. An exception to this authorization requirement is when exigent circumstances exist where any delay in the tactical use of the ram attachment places officers, civilians, or suspects at risk of serious bodily injury or death.
3. Any tactical use of the ram attachment under the exigent circumstances exception shall be documented in a report prepared by the CIRT Team Leader and provided to the Chief within seventy-two (72) hours of the

conclusion of the CIRT event. The report shall describe the exigent circumstances that existed and why the decision was made to immediately use the ram attachment.

4. The ram shall not be carried or stored affixed to the Armored Rescue Vehicle but instead shall be carried in a support vehicle provided by the Department for CIRT Team use.

## **VI. Equipment.**

- A.** The following equipment shall be available on the Armored Rescue Vehicle and ready for immediate use:
  1. Medical Kit.
  2. Fire Extinguisher.
- B.** The following equipment is prohibited for use on the Armored Rescue Vehicle:
  1. Affixed firearms.
  2. Water cannons.
  3. Any other affixed device capable of launching or firing a projectile.
- C.** The CIRT Team Commander or his/her designee shall be responsible for ensuring the permitted equipment listed above is readily available on the Armored Rescue Vehicle.

## **VII. Training.**

- A.** Individuals designated as those who will drive the Armored Rescue Vehicle shall be members of CIRT and selected by the CIRT Team Commander.
- B.** Designated drivers of the Armored Rescue Vehicle shall complete any specific training on basic operation(s) of the vehicle as provided by the manufacturer.
- C.** On an annual basis, designated drivers of the Armored Rescue Vehicle shall pass an Emergency Vehicle Operations (EVO) course as determined by Department EVO Instructors.

## **VIII. Vehicle Maintenance.**

- A.** The CIRT Team Commander shall be responsible for ensuring that regular maintenance is scheduled and completed on the Armored Rescue Vehicle.

- B.** The CIRT Team Commander is charged with ensuring that any damage or defects that might affect operational readiness of the Armored Rescue Vehicle are reported and immediately addressed.