



SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDERS



580.18 DEPLOYMENT OF ARMORED VEHICLES 06-22-18

PURPOSE

The purpose of this order is to establish guidelines for the deployment and use of SPD armored vehicles by patrol teams during critical incidents. Patrol officers are the first responders to all unplanned critical incidents and should have access to armored vehicles to provide ballistic protection during these events.

POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Sacramento Police Department to deploy and use armored vehicles in response to critical incidents to enhance officer and community safety, improve scene containment and stabilization, and lead ultimately to a successful conclusion of a critical incident.

PROCEDURE

A. GENERAL

1. Armored vehicles shall be used only by officers trained in their deployment and in a manner consistent with Department policy and training.
2. The use of armored vehicles shall only be authorized by a watch commander based on the specific circumstances of a given critical incident. Critical incidents will involve actual, threatened, or suspected violence related to loss of life or other serious bodily injury.
3. The watch commander shall ensure that the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) commander is notified regarding the use of the armored vehicle as soon as is practical.
4. The use of this equipment shall not be used in lieu of using SWAT, per G.O. 580.15 [Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T.) Team].
5. Dispatch shall note on the call whenever Patrol is deploying armored vehicles.

B. AVAILABILITY

1. The armored vehicles will be secured and maintained by the SWAT team.
2. The keys and checkout book will be secured in the Metro parking lot.

C. LIMITS TO DEPLOYMENT OF ARMORED VEHICLES

1. Armored vehicles shall be deployed by Patrol for critical incidents involving actual, threatened, or suspected violence related to loss of life or serious bodily injury.
2. Armored vehicles shall not be used for crowd control situations unless articulable facts dictate the need to deploy the equipment.
3. Armored vehicles shall not be used for routine patrol or day-to-day operations.