


LAW ENFORCEMENT & THE REGIONAL RESCUE TASK FORCE: INTEGRATION WITH EMS DURING ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS


Lt. Gregg W. Gaby for the Dayton MMRS RTF Committee

With special thanks to Arlington, VA




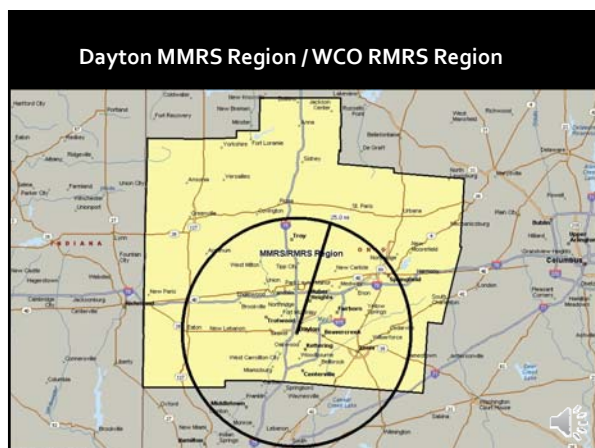
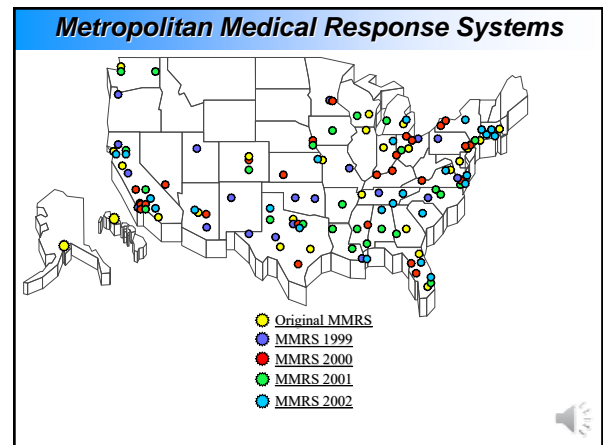
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Dayton MMRS

- Metropolitan
- Medical
- Response
- System

Response to Active Shooter Incidents (ASIs)

- Police agencies significantly changed response since Columbine
- Many Fire/EMS agencies have not changed
 - Stand outside until the police have secured the entire building
 - Leads to injured not receiving treatment and dying from wounds they received



ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS
ARE OVER IN MINUTES...



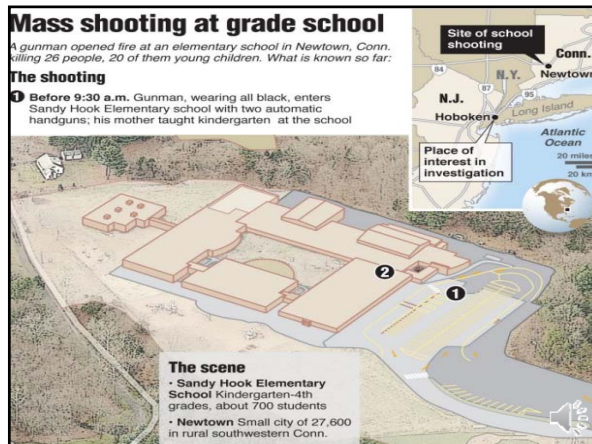
ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS
ARE OVER IN MINUTES...

...BUT THEY'RE NOT





Aurora, Colorado






EMS Paradigm is Changing

- Rescue Task Force (RTF) concept began in Arlington, VA
 - Developed jointly by Police & Fire/EMS
 - Now used in multiple locations

- EMS working with LE assets to deploy into areas that have been cleared but not secured to initiate treatment and effect rescue of injured victims



Agencies Endorsing or Participating in Development of National or Local RTF Plans




First Responder Guide for Improving Survivability in Improvised Explosive Device and/or Active Shooter Incidents

Homeland Security

EMS & Active Shooter Incidents

- EMS medics can be integrated with LE response with a relatively high degree of safety
 - LE on DMMRS Committee
 - LE community very supportive of concept




Dayton MMRS: Regional Plan for EMS Response to Active Shooter Incidents

- \$200,000 of equipment
- Over 90 instructors trained
- Hundreds of EMS personnel trained
- Dozens of fire and EMS agencies participating



Initial LE Operations

- LE Contact Team moves through building searching for threat
 - Most critical response to ASI
 - May need multiple Contact Teams prior to assigning personnel to RTF(s)
- Contact Teams radio locations of wounded and "Warm Zones"



Zones of Care

- **Cold Zone:** area with no anticipated threat
- **Warm Zone:** area where potential for hostile threat exists, but threat is not direct/immediate
 - Main zone of operations and staging for RTF personnel
- **Hot Zone:** area with direct and immediate threat
 - RTF not intended for Hot Zone response



COMMAND:

- In critical and fast moving incidents such as ASIs, quickly establishing command has proven to be a huge benefit
 - According to studies on DHS website, LLIS.gov, and After Action Reports from exercises and numerous actual incidents



COMMAND:

- While moving to contact perpetrator, first officer can take Mobile Command
 - Advises dispatch and other responders by radio
- As additional officers or supervisors arrive, command transitions to a location outside the incident
 - As incident progresses, share the outside Command Post with fire/EMS



RTF Concept of Operations

- Rescue Task Forces (RTFs) deploy to "Warm Zones"
- Each RTF consists of 2 police officers and 2 EMS
 - Will likely use multiple RTFs as well as multiple Contact Teams
- Medics provide treatment & evac of wounded



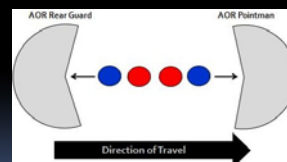
Procedures of RTF

- EMS personnel on RTF stabilize only life-threatening wounds on each casualty they encounter, but leave casualties where they are found and move on



RTF Concept

- 2 police officers –
 - 1 front security & 1 rear security
 - Officers control movement of RTF
 - LEOs DO NOT assist medics with care
 - Responsible for security & movement ONLY



Officer discipline is critical - No freelancing!



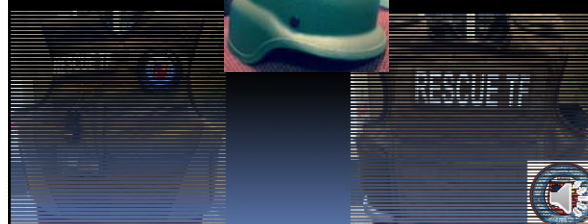
RTF

- Force multiplier for Law Enforcement
- Reduces number of officers needed for Rescue Teams
- Frees officers for tactical police work or other LE duties
 - Searching, clearing, and securing the area requires multiple LE assets



RTF Equipment/Risk Mitigation

Ballistic Helmets & Vests
purchased with DMMRS grant funds



RTF Equipment: Medical Gear Bag



RTF Equipment

Medical - Jump Bag

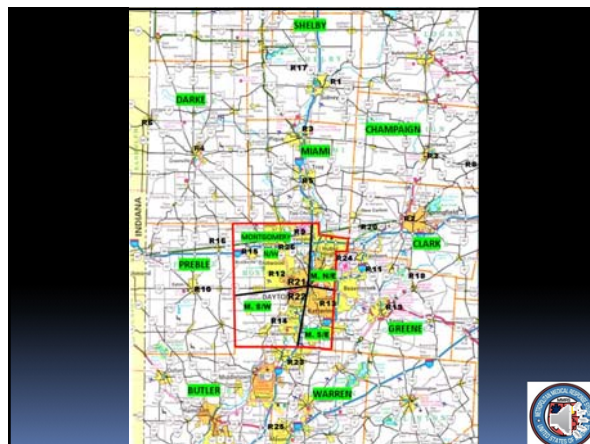


- Tourniquets
- Pressure dressings
- 14ga. 3" needles
- Compress gauze
- Chest seals
- NPAs



RTF Equipment Caches

- More than 24 are located around region
- Each cache: equipment for four EMS personnel (helmets, vests, plates, med-kits)
 - Enough for two RTFs
- Caches located in Fire/EMS agencies with quick response/mutual aid response capabilities

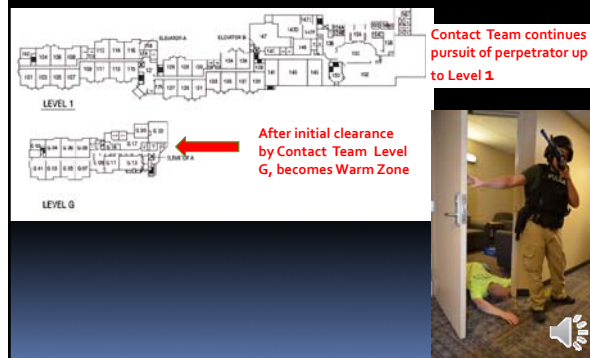


RTF Procedures

- Authorization for entry must be obtained from Law Enforcement
 - RTF personnel are not SWAT Medics
 - Finding victims is NOT the trigger for deploying the RTF
 - Deployment based on identification of Warm Zones, whether or not victims have been located



RTF Operations: Warm Zone Location



RTF Operations: Warm Zone Location



Allocation of LEOs

- Tough decision: when to allocate officers from Contact Teams to RTF
- If limited officers, may create a Warm Zone Casualty Collection Point, or a protected Evac Corridor for use by RTF



PROCEDURES FOR LE OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO AN RTF

- Safety of RTF is primary concern for LEOs assigned to RTF
 - Includes searching for other secondary threats (e.g., IEDs, tripwires)
- LEOs assigned to RTFs will not assist in lifting, carrying, or treatment of any patient
 - Until UC confirms all perpetrators have been contained



PROCEDURES FOR LE OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO AN RTF

- Front LEO communicates with Police/Unified Command
 - All movement in building should be directed by Police/Unified Command
 - Allows for accountability
 - Precludes accidental entry into hot zones
 - Not communicating victim info – leave that to EMS RTF members



Procedures for LEO assigned to RTF

- LEOs assigned to an RTF never leave the EMS personnel further than close line of sight
 - RTF LEOs must not 'freelance' or move outside directed destination/area of operation
- LEOs must be able to provide effective defensive fire cover for the RTF at all times
- Responsible for constant 360° protection



ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS:

- LEO Communications
 - RTF location within building
 - Updates on location of injured, activities of LEO contact teams, and possible threats
- EMS Communications
 - Number of casualties and injuries



EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES

- If RTF's location changes from Warm to Hot (indirect threat to direct threat), evac immediately
 - On direction of RTF LE element or IC/UC
 - May be partial or complete evac from building
- Injury to any RTF member = immediate evac



Training, SOPs, and Checklists

- EMS personnel in dozens of agencies trained (not just agencies with Equipment Caches)
- SOPs distributed for EMS and LE agencies



Training, SOPs, and Checklists

▪ Job Aids (checklists) for:

- LEOs and Fire/EMS Command Officers
- Dispatch Center personnel
 - Recommending dispatchers be authorized to call out the RTF on dispatch of an incident
 - Call 937-333-USAR (8727)

| A | RTF Dispatch Job Automatic dispatch, but no caller |
|---|---|
| | <p>Upon notification of active shooter incident, immediately contact Regional Rescue Coordination Center (RCCC) at 937-333-USAR (8727) or via Radio-Talk Group 2-P5A2.</p> <p>Provide RCCC with the following critical information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State that you are reporting that the "Reverse Task Force Equipment" (RTE) and Personnel request. 2. What agency is requesting the RTF units? 3. Location of incident 4. Location of staging area. <p>RCCC will contact the three closest agencies with a Dispatch MGRS RTF Units and have them respond armed and to your location.</p> <p>RCCC will also notify RTF personnel from your area and the area closest to you and have them respond armed and to your location.</p> |



Exercises

- Exercises encouraged at every opportunity



Bottom lines:

- Using RTF, LE doesn't have to wait for scene to be "secure" for EMS
- All RTF personnel have completed training
- Ballistic PPE throughout region
- Use RTF in warm zones
- LEOs assigned to an RTF control team's movements, and provide 360 ° protection of EMS personnel



What are we asking of you?

- Ask if your EMS is participating
- Ask to formally adopt RTF in your Law Enforcement Agency SOP
- Plan to incorporate Fire/EMS with your LE Command structure
- Participate in joint exercises
- Questions: contact Dayton MMRS at 937-333-4551 david.gerstner@daytonohio.gov or Lt. Gregg Gaby DPD at 937-333-1333 or gregg.gaby@daytonohio.gov

