



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-27

Effective: 10/5/18 Review Due: 10/5/19 Replaces: 2/4/16

2-27 RESCUE TASK FORCE

2-27-1 Policy

It is the policy of the Department to assist Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel with the rescue of injured patients during critical incidents when a scene has not yet been fully secured.

2-27-2 Definitions

1. Rescue Task Force (RTF)
A temporary team of personnel composed of a law enforcement element and an EMS element, whose primary function is to enter the critical incident scene in order to provide emergency medical care and evacuation. This task force will be created on scene with available personnel.
2. Warm Zone
An area with potential risk to life and health that can be mitigated with proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), tactics and procedures.

2-27-3 Rules and Procedures

A. Incident Commander

1. During critical incidents involving injured patients, an APD incident commander shall convene with the EMS supervisor (ie. AFR Battalion Chief) to establish a unified command.
 - a. A human caused mass casualty incident is a crime scene, therefore falls under the purview of Law Enforcement.
2. The APD incident commander and EMS supervisor shall consider possible risks to the public, officers and EMS personnel, as well as the risk vs. benefit to the patient(s), when determining if the Rescue Task Force will be activated.
 - a. The APD IC and the EMS supervisor must agree the area the RTF is to be deployed meets the definition of a warm zone.
3. The incident commander shall designate an officer as the RTF team leader. The IC will designate the other members of the law enforcement element or delegate that responsibility to the RTF team leader.
4. The IC will identify the area and entry point the RTF will deploy to. Upon being briefed on the plan to accomplish the assignment by the RTF team leader, the incident commander will authorize the RTF plan of action before implementation.



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B. Rescue Task Force Team Leader

1. The RTF team leader is responsible for all actions and direction of the team.
2. The RTF team leader shall ideally designate four officers as RTF team members.
3. The RTF team leader will develop a plan of action to enter the scene, contact and evacuate the patient(s).
4. The RTF team leader will brief EMS personnel who are a part of the RTF.
5. The RTF team leader will brief the incident commander on the RTF plan of action.
6. Ensure all personnel assigned to the RTF are wearing the required ballistic PPE

C. Rescue Task Force Team Member

1. Shall be adequately marked and recognizable as a law enforcement officer
2. Shall have all duty gear per [SOP 2-2-4F](#)
3. The primary duty of the RTF team member is to ensure the safety of the EMS personnel and the patients who are getting treatment.
4. RTF team members will follow the directions of the RTF team leader.
5. Utilize the tactics and procedures covered in APD RTF Training