

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICY LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS

September 11, 2015

Policy Number 4.60

RAPID DEPLOYMENT FORCE

POLICY

- I. The Rapid Deployment Force (RDF) conducts operations that require a skillful response to specific incidents, such as public demonstrations and/or other events involving large or disorderly crowds. The RDF response can range from having a physical presence to the application of force.
- II. RDF incidents are unique in that an effective response cannot be entirely addressed by specific procedures. Concepts in this directive are not meant to limit conventional police tactics that are appropriate for certain crisis situations.

PROCEDURE

I. DEFINITIONS

Crime Reduction Unit (CRU): A patrol unit that performs selective enforcement assignments relating to investigations of community problems and crimes.

RDF: A group of CRU and patrol officers who are trained to respond as described in this directive.

RDF commander: A district patrol commander designated by the Chief of Police or designee.

RDF platoon: Consists of one lieutenant and four RDF squads.

RDF squad: Consists of one sergeant and twelve officers from a patrol district. RDF squads may be modified depending on the incident.

II. DEPLOYMENT

The deployment of multiple RDFs for planned events should be done by the RDF commander with the approval of the deputy chief of field operations. In circumstances other than planned events, the field lieutenant shall notify his or her patrol district commander to determine the need to activate the district's RDF.

III. DUTIES

Operationally, the RDF commander shall support the incident commander.

A. When called upon, the RDF shall provide support to all elements of the department for the following incidents:

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- 1. Active threat incidents;
- 2. Acts of terrorism;
- 3. Crowd control situations and/or mass arrests;
- 4. Incidents requiring deployment of less-lethal chemical agents;
- 5. Downed-officer rescues;
- 6. Natural and/or man-made disasters;
- 7. Planned, large-scale events;
- 8. Riots;
- 9. Evacuation assistance and/or response to any potential or actual disaster with various options; and
- 10. Other situations that require an RDF response.

- B. The RDF shall:
 - 1. Utilize the incident command and unified command systems;
 - 2. Be familiar with crowd control tactics for civil disturbances and be prepared to:
 - a. Apprehend multiple offenders;
 - b. Isolate areas of civil disorder;
 - c. Deploy and operate in an environment where less-lethal chemical agents may be present;
 - d. Wear and operate personal protective equipment; and
 - e. Control and/or disperse crowds;
 - 3. Possess general knowledge for handling chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear incidents;
 - 7-16-2018 [4. Be prepared to respond as a force multiplier to suppress acts of violence or potential violence, such as civil disturbances, riots, and active threat incidents; and
 - 5. Respond to natural disasters or any other incidents as directed.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The district commander shall designate:
 - 1. CRU and patrol officers to form the district's RDF squad; and
 - 2. A sergeant from the district's CRU to command the RDF squad for the district.

- B. The RDF commander shall:
1. Select a lieutenant from the Central Patrol Bureau and another from the Regional Patrol Bureau. These lieutenants will be the RDF platoon leaders;
 2. Be responsible for the mobilization of multiple RDFs and determine the level of response and staffing;
 3. Establish a training program to ensure the operational readiness of the RDF. The RDF training program shall be submitted to the Training Division in accordance with Policy 3.35, TRAINING COORDINATION;
 4. Establish and maintain the RDF inventory of weapons, equipment, and other special gear;
 5. Respond when multiple RDF squads are deployed; and
 6. Establish and maintain written, operational procedures for the RDF. Each patrol district shall include RDF procedures in its manuals of operations.
- C. The district commander and RDF commander shall ensure that patrol officers designated as RDF officers successfully complete all required training. The patrol assistant chief(s) shall be notified when officers do not complete all RDF training.

- D. RDF training and deployment for planned events involving multiple patrol districts shall be routed through the deputy chief of field operations, the patrol assistant chiefs, and applicable district commanders.

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Chief of Police

Post on bulletin board for one week

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