

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 10, 2022

Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee

TO Adam McGough (Chair), Cara Mendelsohn (Vice Chair), Tennell Atkins, Jesse Moreno, Jaime Resendez, Casey Thomas, Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **DPD Coordination with Local School Districts on Campus Safety**

Active Shooter is defined as an individual or others who are actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. As active shooter incidents have increased across the nation. It is imperative that first responders work together to identify critical areas of concern, including establishing procedures to deter and mitigate these events from occurring, as well as to identify strengths and weaknesses in the response model. The Tactical Operations Division, the Reality Based Training Team, Dallas Fire Rescue, and the Dallas Independent School District Police Department recently met to discuss a plan of action regarding an Active Shooter Incident occurring at Dallas area schools. This meeting was an initial discussion to identify key players in a response, discuss current training methods and concepts of operations, and conceptualize a future joint training exercise with the above entities. Moving forward, Dallas Police Academy staff will be reaching out to school districts operating inside the City of Dallas to include them in discussions centered around awareness, training, and response.

In light of the recent events in Uvalde, TX, and lessons learned, the Dallas Police Department is in the process of updating General Order 614.00 Active Shooter Response. This update expands on current definitions, details responsibilities of responding officers, dictates command and control during an active shooter event, and specifies search tactics and considerations. This would include working with other responding entities and utilizing DISD officers as a resource during one of these events. Additionally, the Dallas Police Department is purchasing “breaching” equipment, to be utilized at the patrol divisions by initial responding officers, in the event immediate entry is required to stop the threat. As part of the TCOLE mandated 40 hour continuing education for licensed peace officers, this year the Dallas Police Department will put all sworn personnel through an 8-hour block of active shooter training, during the upcoming CORE cycle.

Plan of Action

Initial first responder meeting to discuss collaborative training between DPD, DFR and Dallas area school districts- This meeting focused on a high-level overview of each agency’s protocols, training, and response in an active shooter incident. Key discussions centered around:

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- Which training model was utilized by each agency, in an attempt to identify strengths and weaknesses?
- Which equipment was available for each agency to utilize during a real-world event?
- Utilization of the Rescue Task Force (DFR) in the "Warm Zone" to evacuate casualties as part of a rescue team
- Setting up a Joint Command Post with DFR for quicker dissemination of information
- Standing up a reunification center to reunite staff and family members affected during one of these events
- Future workshop and joint training opportunities to conduct walkthroughs and familiarize participants with response models
- Discussions and workshop will culminate in a large-scale exercise at a school to include multiple scenarios

Initial meeting with DISD Completed 6/3/22. Additional meetings are being coordinated with the other school districts to be scheduled this summer.

Instructor Workshop involving Dallas SWAT, RBT, DFR, DISD, RISD, and other Dallas area schools- This Instructor Workshop will bring first responders together to view presentations on each agency's lesson plans as it relates to training. Throughout these presentations, discussions will occur regarding industry standards and best practices. Participants will view demonstrations of tactics, roles of responding entities, and command and control considerations. This workshop will provide a more in-depth view of expectations in a response to an on-going active shooter incident occurring at a school.

Scheduled 6/28/22

Large Scale School Exercise at a DISD school, while school is out for the summer- This exercise will test agency response to an active shooter incident at a school. Multiple scenarios will be run to identify deficiencies in initial response, tactics, inter-agency coordination, communication, and command and control, up through the conclusion of the event.

Tentatively scheduled for mid-July

Training of school administrators and civilian personnel- Neighborhood Police Officers (NPO) will reach out to school districts operating inside the City of Dallas and provide classroom training and instruction in an effort to prepare staff to deal with an active shooter incident. The training will focus on mitigation, deterrence, and response. Best practices in school safety will be discussed.

TBD

Yearly collaborative training between school districts, DFR and DPD. This training is to discuss national trends in school safety and training, including a large-scale exercise or Tabletop. The yearly training will be coordinated by the Dallas Police Academy, in an effort to continue discussions centered on national trends in school safety, changes to the active shooter response model, areas of identified concerns, lessons learned from prior incidents, and keeping lines of communication open between all entities.

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Conducted yearly each summer

The culmination of discussions around school safety, mitigation, deterrence, and response is hoped to provide stakeholders with better tools and guidance necessary to effectively deal with an active shooter incident occurring at a Dallas area school. It is essential first responders and school personnel train for these type events, as increased training and collaboration have historically shown to be a force multiplier in swiftly ending active shooter incidents. Policies and procedures related to active shooter response are also essentially important, as they govern the police response to these type incidents. The Dallas Police Department is committed to working with our partners to increase school safety and protect our children, to prepare them to deal with these sudden and violent events.



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Deputy City Manager

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Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
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Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
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