

Drill – Actions Following Explosion

Task: Organize security and response operations following an explosion.

Condition: Given the aftermath of an explosion caused by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and/or Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) with multiple deaths and injuries, in an area where witnesses and bystanders are present.

Standards: Upon arrival at the incident scene, conduct size-up, establish incident command, secure the crime scene; and organize response.

Performance Measures.

1. Conduct Size-Up.
2. Exercise caution. Balance the desire to help those injured with requirements for force protection.
3. Do not approach a presumed dead or wounded attackers as secondary command-detonated devices or booby traps may be present
4. Scan the surrounding area for possible IEDs/VBIEDs or indications of potential follow-on attacks.
5. Establish Incident Command. Request resources as needed.
6. Designate a crime scene perimeter of sufficient standoff distance from the detonation to ensure protection from unexploded devices and the preservation of widely dispersed evidence
7. Provide Bomb Squad personnel initial access to the crime scene for purposes of inspection and clearing safe zones of operation for medical and related response.
8. Alert all personnel outside the crime scene perimeter to be aware of possible accomplices providing logistical support to those who may attempt to flee the area
9. Designate a medical triage area outside the crime scene perimeter
10. The Incident Commander shall designate supervisory or command officers as appropriate to manage the following functions
 - a. Force Protection
 - (1) In the absence of Bomb Techs, direct scan/search of the area for possible IED/VBIEDs positioned for follow-on attacks
 - (2) Conduct basic screening of emergency responders and others seeking access to the crime scene
 - (3) Perimeter security of the crime scene to identify possible criminal associates or collaborators

- (4) Control access to and perimeter security of the crime scene, medical triage area, emergency response staging area, and command posts
- (5) Position heavy vehicles to preclude potential vehicular follow-on attacks
- b. Bomb Detection and Safety
 - (1) Check the site of the explosion for undetonated or secondary explosive devices
 - (2) Coordinate with ATF and other agencies during the investigation and evidence recovery stages
- c. Medical and Coroner
 - (1) Move and treat the injured at the medical triage areas or transport to hospital(s) or medical surge site(s)
 - (2) Locate, transport, preserve, and identify human remains; locate and notify next-of-kin, and coordinate forensic-medical and law enforcement investigations
- d. Fire and Hazardous Materials
 - (1) Suppress fire and identify any hazardous materials emanating from or caused by the explosion.

References: