
LAURENS COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

SOP# E-020

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SUBJECT: CIVIL DISTURBANCE

INDEX AS: CIVIL DISTURBANCE: RIOT

EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/25/2006 REVISED DATE:

I. PURPOSE:

To establish guidelines to be followed by Department Personnel during a civil disturbance.

II. SCOPE:

This policy applies to those situations which are commonly referred to as riots, marches, protest rallies or other events where there is a great potential for violence.

III. POLICY:

It is the policy of this Office to respond to all Civil Disturbances occurring within the corporate boundaries of Laurens County and to bring such events to a safe conclusion with minimal violence.

IV. CIVIL DISTURBANCE PLAN:

Whenever any situation arises that constitutes an outbreak of insurrection, riot, breach of the peace or a combination to oppose the enforcement of the law by force or violence within Laurens County, the following procedures will be followed:

A. PERSONNEL NOTIFICATION: Whenever a Civil Disturbance arises, the Command Officer will be responsible for notifying the Sheriff and Chief Deputy. The Command Officer will, at the direction of the Sheriff, direct the calling in of the Sheriff's Special Response Team and any other off-duty personnel needed. The primary assembly area will be the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center. The Sheriff will also notify the County Administrator.

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VI. RUMOR CONTROL:

In efforts to combat rumors, news media will be notified and shall be provided with up-to-date, factual information.

VII. FIELD COMMAND POST:

A field command post will be established near the scene of the disturbance. The command post will be staffed as follows:

1. Sheriff/Chief Deputy;
2. Fire Department Chief;
3. Other Law Enforcement liaison;
4. Military liaison;
5. Emergency medical staff.

VIII. LIAISON:

The Sheriff shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining liaison with the District Attorney's Office during a civil disturbance. Legal Advice on Law Enforcement Procedures will be obtained through consultation with the District Attorney and the County Attorney. The Sheriff shall also be responsible for establishing and maintaining liaison with any other Agencies who are notified during a Civil Disturbance.

IX. LAW ENFORCEMENT/MILITARY SUPPORT:

A. Mutual aid from other Law Enforcement Agencies will be requested as needs arise. Support agencies include:

1. Dublin Police Department;
2. Georgia State Patrol;
3. Georgia Bureau of Investigation;
4. East Dublin Police Department.

Military support will be obtained according to SOP# E-030.

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- B. Mutual aid from City Police Departments; Aid from the Georgia State Patrol and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation may be requested only by the Sheriff.
- C. Personnel responding to an emergency situation pursuant to mutual aid should report immediately upon arrival to the Field Command Post .
- D. Portable radios will be provided to personnel from responding Agencies, if necessary, in order to establish communications on a primary frequency.
- E. In instances where a Federal Agency has some jurisdiction over an emergency, the Sheriff shall notify such Agency and request assistance.

X. PUBLIC FACILITY SECURITY:

All public facilities shall be afforded security during periods of Civil unrest as directed by the Sheriff.

XI. TRAFFIC CONTROL:

Traffic and other security check points shall be established at each entrance to or exit from the affected area. All personnel desiring entry into the affected area will be denied access except persons on official business.

XII. EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:

Law Enforcement personnel who respond to a Civil Disturbance shall report wearing full uniform, vest and issued weapons.

XIII. DE-ESCALATION PROCEDURES:

The following actions will be taken by Law Enforcement personnel to de-escalate adverse conditions as they arise during a civil disturbance.

1. Seal affected area;

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2. Notify Georgia State Patrol Riot Squad/National Guard;
3. Coordinate activities of all Law Enforcement Agencies/support Agencies involved;
4. Control crowds/disperse assembly/arrest of persons if necessary;
5. Establish security patrols in affected area;
6. Assist in evacuation (if necessary);
7. Determine cause of Civil Disturbance/make contact with leaders if possible/known.

Post-occurrence duties will include the continuance of security in affected areas and the maintenance of traffic/security checkpoints.

XIV. CIVIL DISTURBANCE REPORTS:

In order to prepare for future Civil Disturbances an Incident report will be prepared by the patrol supervisor. The report shall include the following:

- A. Chronological order of events, including:
 1. First indication of a disturbance;
 2. Notification of Field command post and Communications Center;
 3. Establishment of field command post and communications;
 4. Notification of off-duty personnel;
 5. Time and location of assembly briefing;
 6. Request for assistance to:
 - a. Dublin Police Department;
 - b. East Dublin Police Department;
 - c. Georgia State Patrol Riot Squad;
 - d. National Guard/ Governor's Office;
 - e. Fire Department;
 - f. Emergency Medical Service/Hospitals;
 - g. Other Law Enforcement Agencies.

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7. Establishment of traffic/security control points by location;
8. Special equipment request to other agencies;
9. Deployment times for special assistance personnel and equipment;
 - a. Location (s) of Disturbance;
 - b. Principle antagonists;
 - c. Reasons for disturbance;
 - d. Weapons used by antagonists;
 - e. Organized groups involved (if any);
 - f. Casualties to include:
 1. Number killed;
 2. Number injured;
 3. Number treated and released;
 - g. Total number of arrests;
 - h. Date and time dispersed;
 - i. Date and time order restored;
 - j. Critique of Law Enforcement actions;
 - k. Recommendations for future.

XV. PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING MASS ARRESTS:

A. Assumptions:

1. Widespread civil disorder has occurred in Laurens County and mass arrests have been effected;
2. Buses are available to be used as mass arrest vehicles;
3. Additional personnel are available to assist in transporting and processing of arrestees;
4. Primary mass arrest processing site shall be the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center. Secondary processing site shall be the Dublin Police Department.

B. Arrest and Transport:

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1. Mass arrestees will be searched incident to arrest and prior to transport, and hands cuffed behind the back. The arresting officer shall make a positive identification of arrestee before transporting to detention facility.
2. Contraband and weapons will be tagged and identified for additional charges against the arrestee.
3. Transportation shall be made either in Law Enforcement Vehicles or buses to the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center.

C. Booking Procedures:

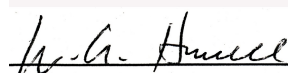
1. The primary booking site will be the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center. Processing stations will be set up and additional personnel will be assigned to security duties .
2. A minimum of three booking stations will be established. Each station will be staffed by at least two persons to complete the assigned paperwork and fingerprinting. Juvenile Offenders will be handled according to established Policy . Juveniles will be detained in a separate room from Adults until disposition is made.
3. After processing and booking, arrestees will be escorted to Jail.
4. Attorneys may visit their clients only after they are properly booked and safely secured in Jail.
5. Food, water, sanitary conditions and medical treatment will be afforded to each arrestee in accordance with established Jail Policy.

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XVI. MAINTENANCE OF CIVIL DISORDER PLAN:

The Sheriff shall be responsible for maintaining the Civil Disturbance Plan for the Department and shall review, update and make procedural changes in the plan annually if necessary.



W. A. HARRELL
SHERIFF

1/25/2006
DATE