

Crisis Intervention Training
Mental Health Officer
August 7, 2006



Mission Statement

- Enhance Public Safety
 - 65% of people involved in officer shootings are suffering from mental illness.
 - Decrease arrestee, citizen injuries.
 - Increase public support.
- Enhance Officer Safety
 - Decrease Injuries
 - Decrease Civil Liability

Mission Statement (cont'd)



- Enhance education and training to improve the relationship between the officer, the person in crisis and the individuals family.
- Update the Departmental policy and procedures regarding Mental Illness.

Mission Statement (cont'd)



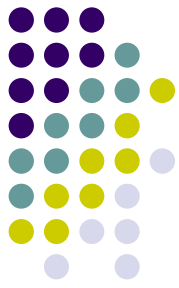
- Improve the partnership between the Mental Health providers and Police.
 - Parkland
 - Green Oaks
 - Timberlawn
 - Mental Health Assoc
 - National Alliance on Mental Illness
 - North Texas Behavioral Health Authority
 - Coalition on Mental Illness
 - Adapt Crisis Services
 - City of Dallas Crisis Intervention Team
 - Veterans Administration

Current Training



- Basic (Academy)
 - 24 hours required by TCLEOSE
- In Service
 - 16 hours required by TCLEOSE in this year's core training and required for Intermediate Police Officer certification.

Police/ Crisis Intervention Team (Mental Health Officer)



- Patrol Officers with specialized skills dealing with mental health incidents.
- Trained to recognize symptoms of mental illness.
- Trained in de-escalation techniques.
- Trained to better understand the person in crisis.

Proposed Training



- 40 Hours- Mental Health Officer
 - Develops the Mental Health Officers skills and confidence in handling a crisis.
 - Better defines the supervisor's role at the location.
 - Better defines the cover officer's role at the location.

Proposed Training (cont'd)



40 Hours- Mental Health Officer (cont'd)

- Three hours on site at Mental Health Facilities.
- Supervisors have a four hour class on liability and procedures.

Proposed Changes to General Orders 702 (Communications)



- Add additional Signals
 - Signal 46: Call regarding mental illness – 1 mental health officer (when available) and a cover officer.
 - Signal 46-01: Excited Delirium, Drug Induced Psychosis, Agitated Suspect with a Weapon, Knife, or Gun – 1 mental health officer (when available) , 3 cover officers, a supervisor and dispatch an ambulance to the location.

Proposed Changes to Patrol SOP 1600



- On signal 46 call – The officer will make every attempt to obtain as much detailed information as possible to begin the assessment of subject, while en route.
- Primary mission: Assessment, control, de-escalation and safe resolution.

Proposed Changes to Patrol SOP 1600 (cont'd)



Transportation

- Officers responding to calls involving persons exhibiting symptoms of excited delirium, drug-induced psychosis, a psychotic episode or mentally ill persons requiring medical treatment will ensure that a Dallas Fire Rescue ambulance is dispatched to the location. When the subject is placed in custody, they will be transported to a medical facility by ambulance.



Summary

- Adopt the Crisis Intervention Team concept to handle mental health calls.
- Develop the roles of the mental health officer, cover officers, and the supervisor in effectively managing the crisis.
- Develop a 40 hour course to train the mental health officer.
Achieve a 20-25% ratio of Mental Health Officers in patrol (by station, watch and days off to ensure even coverage).

Questions

