

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 7, 2018

TO Honorable Members of the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

SUBJECT **High-Rise Mass Violence Full Scale Exercise**

On Monday, December 10, 2018, you will be briefed by Tiffany Reid, Training & Exercise Coordinator, from the Office of Emergency Management on an upcoming full-scale exercise at Renaissance Tower involving Dallas Fire-Rescue Department, Dallas Police Department, and the Office of Emergency Management. Assistant Emergency Manager, Kevin Oden, Assistant Chief, Brett Stidham, and Assistant Chief, Paul Stokes, will also be present at this presentation. The briefing will outline the exercise scenario and objectives the exercise will accomplish.

The presentation will provide background information, objectives for the exercise, the exercise scenario, the benefits of conducting this exercise, and information on how you can observe the exercise.

The briefing materials are attached for your review. Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Fortune".

Jon Fortune
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney (I)
Carol A. Smith, City Auditor (I)
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Directors and Assistant Directors

High-Rise Mass Violence Full Scale Exercise

Public Safety & Criminal Justice

December 10, 2018



City of Dallas

Office of Emergency Management
Dallas Police Department
Dallas Fire-Rescue

Presentation Overview

- Background/History
- Purpose
- Operational Priorities
- Steps Taken
- Proposed Action
- Next Steps
- Exercise Information



Background/ History

- Over 300 mass shootings occurred in the United States in 2018, 54% of those shootings were tied to domestic violence
- The likelihood of an event happening isn't a matter of *IF*, it's *WHEN*. An April 2018 [report](#) from the Federal Bureau of Investigation shows that in 2016 and 2017 the state of Texas had the most active shooter incidents than any other State
- It is these incidences that has propelled the City of Dallas agencies to focus our attention on mass violence response and prevention.



Purpose

The purpose of this exercise is to test the following capabilities of Dallas' Public Safety departments:

Coordination between fire and police departments

Get familiar with facility floor plan apps for the downtown buildings

Train on SWAT tactics using new equipment purchased with UASI grant funds

Coordination between the city and private partners

Train on high rise response

Search and Rescue

SWAT negotiations with a hostage multi-stimuli scenario

Exercise Information

- **Location:** Renaissance Tower
1201 Elm St. Dallas
- **Time:** 0800-1200
- **Agencies:** DFR, DPD, OEM,
Renaissance Tower
- **Scenario:** Active shooter–
Hostage– Fire– Negotiation



Operational Priorities

- Improve response personnel's familiarity with the floor plan application being utilized by downtown buildings
- Utilization of specialized equipment
- High rises have unique challenges when it comes to response tactics



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Steps Taken

- OEM has moved away from singular exercises and focuses on joint response exercises
- DPD has purchased SWAT gear to better respond to incidences
- Renaissance Tower (and many other downtown high-rises) has purchased an emergency preparedness application for their building
- Fire and police are being educated on the floor plan applications

Proposed Actions

- Joint full scale and functional exercises that test the capabilities of each department
- Evaluate for gaps in response capabilities and create trainings and exercises accordingly
- Joint training on Highrise tactics
- Joint training on floor plan applications
- More training on floor plan applications

Next Steps

- Conduct two dry-runs of the FSX
- Invite downtown partners and City Management to observe the exercise
- Develop an After Action Report (AAR) based on findings from the exercise
- Address areas for improvement through future trainings
- Prepare first responders for larger scale active shooter exercise in May

High-Rise Active Shooter Full Scale Exercise

**Public Safety & Criminal
Justice**

December 10, 2018



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**Office of Emergency Management
Dallas Police Department
Dallas Fire-Rescue**