Training Name: Specialty

Course Name: High Risk Scene Management for Patrol and non-SWAT Tactical Units

Dates: 02/22/2027 - 02/23/2027

Venue: El Paso Police Department Upper East Side Regional Command Center
El Paso, TX 79938

Price: $250

Instructors: Marco Lopez

Course Description:

High-Risk Scene Management for Patrol & Non-SWAT Tactical Units

This classroom-based course is designed specifically for patrol officers, supervisors, and non-SWAT tactical units responsible for the initial response and management of high-risk, rapidly evolving incidents.

A primary focus of the course is understanding the difference between a high-risk patrol incident and an incident that has transitioned into a barricaded-subject, hostage, or other tactical situation requiring a SWAT response.

Officers and supervisors will examine when to continue managing an incident with patrol resources, when to stabilize and contain, and when to request SWAT before the situation exceeds the capabilities, training, or equipment of the responding personnel.

The course will also address what must occur after SWAT is requested. Patrol and non-SWAT tactical units remain critical to the operation and must establish effective containment, gather and communicate intelligence, identify involved and uninvolved persons, establish command and control, and prepare for an organized transition when SWAT arrives.

Incidents Addressed

Instruction and exercises will include:

- High-risk open-air incidents
- High-risk vehicle incidents
- Residential and commercial incidents
- Barricaded subjects
- Armed barricaded subjects
- Barricaded subjects with additional occupants
- Hostage situations
- Mobile hostage situations
- Incidents involving innocent or uninvolved persons
- Incidents transitioning from a patrol response to a SWAT operation

Key Topics

- Recognizing the difference between a high-risk incident and a barricaded-subject incident
- Identifying circumstances that should trigger a SWAT request
- Understanding the capabilities and limitations of patrol and non-SWAT tactical units
- Legal considerations, liability, and risk management
- Incident stabilization and containment
- Command post establishment and information flow
- Primary and secondary react team responsibilities
- Less-lethal considerations
- Lethal/less-lethal boundary considerations
- Technology deployment
- Breaching considerations
- Medical planning and response
- Hostage and mobile-hostage considerations
- Intelligence gathering prior to SWAT arrival
- Patrol responsibilities after SWAT has been requested
- Preparing for SWAT arrival
- Patrol/SWAT link-up

- Transfer of intelligence, containment, and operational responsibilities
- Establishing a clear transition from patrol command to tactical operations

A major instructional component will focus on the question:

“When does this stop being a patrol problem and become a SWAT problem?”

Students will work through the decision-making process using the totality of the circumstances, including subject behavior, weapons, victims or hostages, location, mobility, available resources, time, tactical advantage, and overall operational risk.

The objective is not to have patrol or non-SWAT tactical units perform the mission of SWAT. The objective is to provide officers and supervisors with the knowledge to recognize the transition point, make the SWAT request early enough to matter, stabilize the incident, and properly prepare the scene for the arriving tactical team.

Scenario-Based Training

Group exercises and scenario-based discussions will address realistic incidents requiring students to determine:

What do we have? What is our immediate objective? What can we safely accomplish with the resources currently on scene? Has the incident reached the threshold for SWAT? What needs to happen while SWAT is responding? What information and resources does SWAT need when they arrive?

Each scenario will conclude with a structured debrief examining the decisions made, available options, risk considerations, communication, command and control, and the patrol-to-SWAT transition.

The overall goal is to create a common operating framework between patrol, non-SWAT tactical units, and SWAT so that high-risk incidents are recognized early, properly managed, and transitioned efficiently when specialized tactical capabilities are required.

Instructors:

Marco Lopez has devoted 28 years to law enforcement, showcasing his versatility and commitment across various roles. Starting in the patrol division and patrol tactical unit, he transitioned to the investigative division, where he gained experience in criminal investigations, until transferring to the SWAT Detail.

For over 19 years, Marco has been a dedicated member of the SWAT team, serving as an assaulter, team leader, and now sergeant. Throughout his career, he has been involved in numerous critical incidents and special threat situations and has participated in many warrant operations, demonstrating his tactical prowess and leadership.

Since 2009, Marco has played a pivotal role in the Texas Tactical Police Officers Association (TTPOA). His dedication to advancing tactical law enforcement practices has led him to take on various roles, including Conference Coordinator, Regional Director, Director of Operations, and, currently, Vice President of the TTPOA.

Marco Lopez's extensive experience, leadership, and unwavering commitment to excellence have significantly contributed to the success and advancement of the teams he leads and the broader law enforcement community.

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Scott Cogburn has over 20 years of law enforcement experience with state and local agencies. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice and a Master Peace Officer License. Scott has served 13 years on the Harris County Sheriff’s Office SWAT Team and currently serves as a Team Leader, where he has overseen hundreds of high-risk operations. He brings extensive real-world experience and practical application to the training environment.

Registration/Payment Instructions:

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You must register as a member for any TTPOA course ($30 for one year individual membership).

Credit card payment is strongly recommended. Last day to cancel and get your money back will be January 22, 2027.

Mail checks to:

TTPOA

Attn: High Risk Scene Management for Patrol & Tactical Units (Region 4)

PO Box 304

Burnet, TX 78611

*Please make checks payable to "TTPOA"

Food will not be provided

For any additional information regarding this course reach out to Regional Direcor Ken Law. ken.law@ttpoa.org 915-637-6338

Training Description:

TTPOA believes in bringing in some of the best instructors in the country to share their knowledge and experience. If you have requests for a specific instructor or course, contact your Regional Director.