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- I. Policy
  - II. Responsibilities
  - III. Training and Certification

- I. Policy

The Special Events Response Team (SERT) is a multi-agency team consisting of six platoons of police officers from the Montgomery County Department of Police, Sheriff's, Fire Marshall's Office, Rockville City Police and MNCPP Montgomery County Division.

This specially trained and equipped team can respond to a variety of events occurring within our jurisdiction and is also capable of responding to requests for mutual aid. Events may be spontaneous or pre-planned. The team is primarily trained and outfitted by the Montgomery County Police; however, the Park Police component may act independently as needed to fulfill our mission.

- II. Responsibilities

- A. The following are some of SERT's abilities and responsibilities:

- 1. The SERT is capable of deployment to a neighboring jurisdiction for a pre-planned or spontaneous event requiring significant law enforcement support.
- 2. The SERT is responsible for staffing pre-planned large-scale events within the county, such as large festivals, sporting events, etc.
- 3. The SERT provides training to all department personnel to enhance the patrol officers' ability to respond in conjunction with the SERT.

- B. The SERT will serve as a ready resource for any incident, event, disaster, or public emergency.

- C. The on-scene SERT Commander will serve as the Police Incident Commander for any event to which SERT responds unless directed otherwise.

- D. The SERT Commander will remain the authority regarding the abilities of SERT to perform specific tasks as part of a larger operation.

- E. The Park Police component when not working in conjunction with Montgomery County Police will be commanded by a Lieutenant or Sergeant who is SERT certified and currently assigned to the team.

- F. Personnel, the rank of sergeant and below, will be assigned to the unit as determined to be necessary to the mission and the ability to operate independently from the multi-agency team. SERT officers must be able to effectively function as part of a well-disciplined team. Officers must have successfully completed the initial SERT training in order to be assigned to the team.

III. Training and Certification

- A. All SERT personnel must complete the Basic Civil Disturbance Unit (CDU) course (40 hours). SERT members are required to attend annual training days. Annual skills training includes:
1. Wearing the gas mask under stressful conditions for a 20 minute period.
  2. Wearing the gas mask and completing a course of fire with the service weapon.
  3. Dragging a 150 pound dummy a distance of fifteen yards.
  4. Being able to maneuver in a CDU formation and navigate obstacles used in crowd control for a distance of 50 yards while fully dressed in CDU equipment.
  5. Engaging a heavy bag using the riot shield and baton while fully dressed in CDU equipment.
  6. Demonstrating proficiency with all issued weapons/protective instruments while wearing the gas mask (excluding service weapon).
  7. Maintaining certification in any specialty area used in the SERT mission.
- B. Selected SERT personnel will receive additional training depending on their specific mission within the team. The SERT Commander, working with the either Park Police Training personnel or Montgomery County Training personnel is responsible for ensuring the annual training requirements are met.

**Approved Park Police Document  
Signed Original on File**

**End of Directive**