

## GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

**General Order 518.00**

**Reviewed: 12/23**

### **518.00 USE OF FORCE – SPECIAL TACTICS AND CIRCUMSTANCES**

- The purpose of this directive is to establish procedures governing the use of force via special tactics or devices, specifically the use of Noise Flash Distraction Device (NFDD) the ARWEN, certain chemical agents, and the use of canine units.
- NFDD Procedures
  - The use of NFDD is authorized in the following circumstances:
    - An armed barricaded suspect,
    - Hostage situations,
    - High-risk warrant service,
    - Distracting an unarmed but uncontrollably violent mentally deranged person during which conventional non-lethal weapons have failed, or
    - During times of civil disorder, when the need arises to provide a diversion as part of crowd control.
    - Exigent circumstances where the use of a NFDD would provide a specific tactical advantage to officers trained in its use and after receiving supervisory approval.
  - Use considerations:
    - The NFDD is not a substitute for good tactics. Prior to their use, officers will consider other forms of diversionary tactics and if they will resolve the situation.
    - If very young children, the elderly or infirm are present and their presence is known to the officer, the NFDD shall not be deployed, unless aggravating circumstances merit its use; and a supervisor approves the use.
    - The use of a NFDD is a fire hazard and in some circumstances this would prohibit their use, such as in the presence of flammable chemicals as can be encountered in a drug lab.
    - Although the NFDD is not a fragmentation producing device, the explosion may produce projectiles if the device lands on loose objects.
  - Training: Only those officers trained on the carrying and delivery of the NFDD will be issued such equipment and deliver or deploy such equipment.

### **EXPLOSIVE BREACHING-SWAT TEAM**

## GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

○ **Purpose**

- The utilization of explosive breaching charges can be a safe and viable tactic when supporting Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) personnel during the resolution of certain critical incidents.
  - Situations where explosive breaching may be used, but not limited to:
    - ◆ Terrorist Events
    - ◆ Hostage rescue operations
    - ◆ Service of particularly high-risk search/arrest warrants
    - ◆ Barricaded gunman scenarios
    - ◆ Civil disaster scenarios
  - Tactical breaching charges commonly used by law enforcement are not typically used as weapons, however, there are extreme circumstances where a breaching charge may be used as a weapon. In situations where all other means have been exhausted, or there are no other options, then the use of a breaching charge could be considered as a viable option.
  - Tactical breaching charges are specialized tools which are deployed in the furtherance of legitimate law enforcement duties. Tactical explosive breaching/entry and the use of explosive materials to affect an entry, can be a useful tactical option. An explosive breaching charge should not be viewed as a “bomb”, but rather as a forced entry tool. An effective breach is designed to efficiently use the minimum amount of explosives to achieve successful penetration. Effective breaching techniques allow immediate entry with minimal risk to victims, tactical officers, and the suspect(s). This technique enhances the speed and shock effect required of dynamic rescue or entry operations. Explosive breaching may also be useful to pre-detonate any emplaced booby-traps known to be present at the crisis site.
- **Definitions:**
  - **Explosive Breach:** A technique of employing explosive materials to create an opening through a door, window, wall or other barrier to allow access.
  - **Breacher:** A member of the Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit, or Tactical Unit, who is specifically trained in the construction, placement, and firing of explosive breaching charges.
  - **Assistant Breacher:** A member of the Tactical Unit or designated tactical operator who works with and trains under the direction of

## GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

the Breacher who assists with construction, placement and firing of explosive breaching charges.

- **Explosive Breaching Device:** A target-specific device constructed with explosives and non-explosive materials for the purpose of gaining entry into a structure.
- **Breachers Report:** A detailed form used to document the use of explosive breaching charges during training and actual operations.

- **Criteria for Explosive Breaching:**

- Situations where explosives are the only means capable of physically defeating the locations barriers/fortifications.
- Situations where the suspect possesses, or has demonstrated, a propensity for violence.
- Situations where the breach point has an unusually risky configuration.
- Situations where other breaching methods are deemed unsafe or impractical.
- Situations where a penetration/compromise of the structure is desired (regardless of whether entry is being made at the time, i.e. Breach and Delay).

- **Procedure:**

- The option to utilize an explosive breach will be at the discretion of the SWAT Team Commander, or his designee.
- The construction of all Explosive Breaching Devices shall be supervised by a Breacher or EOD technician.
- Scouting, a target analysis, is an important pre-breach responsibility of the Breacher and/or Assistant Breacher.
- Construction of the specific device to be used will vary from situation to situation. It will be designed based on the known target intelligence, experience, and training for the Breacher. A selection of certain pre-made charges will be on-hand at all times and available for immediate deployment.
- Prior to setting the explosive breach, the Breacher will present a "Breach Brief", to the SWAT Team commander, Supervisors, team members, and others involved in the situation.
- Placement of the explosive breaching devices shall be performed by the Breacher or the Assistant Breacher.
- The safe and tactically sound location of the entry team's "stack" will be determined by a SWAT team leader in consultation with the Breacher.
- Once the explosive breaching device(s) are set and the entry team positioned, the firing device will be readied.

## GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

- The SWAT team leader will direct the Breacher and/or Assistant Breacher when to initiate the charge(s).
  - At the conclusion of the mission, it will be the Responsibility of the Breacher and/or Assistant Breacher to complete and maintain a “Breachers Report”, which details the specific composition of the explosive charge(s) used and their performance.
  - A copy of the completed Breachers Report will be included with the After-Action Report.
- **Explosive Breaching Considerations:**
    - Explosive breaching charges are useful tools; however, they may not be appropriate in all situations. An explosive breach **should not** be employed when:
      - The construction of the doors, walls or target to be defeated is not known.
      - There is a presence of unstable chemicals or other incendiary material in close proximity to the crisis site.
      - Other means of mechanical breaching would be more effective to provide positive entry, officer safety and mission success.
- **Safety Procedures:**
    - All explosives will remain in control of the EOD Unit and be stored as appropriate to ensure their security, and in compliance with all Federal and State Laws.
    - Tactical Emergency Medical personnel should be present during missions and training where explosive breaching techniques are performed.
    - The Breacher and/or Assistance Breacher will be in control of the firing device at all times to prevent an unintentional detonation by other persons.
    - Any misfires will be handled at the direction of an EOD Technicians.
    - Safety clothing and equipment will be worn by all members of the SWAT team during explosive entry training and operations. This will include, but is not limited to, long sleeve Tactical uniform, balaclava and gloves, eye protection, hearing protection, helmet, ballistic/load bearing vest and boots.
- **Training and Documentation:**
    - Explosive breaching training shall be conducted with all members of the tactical unit.
    - Breachers and Assistant Breachers shall conduct additional on-going training to test and evaluate the types of charges best suitable for various targets.

## GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT


- A Breaching Log will be maintained to document explosive entry training and operations. The log may be used as a database for future use when determining the most appropriate charge to be selected.
  - Breachers and Assistance Breachers will successfully attend an approved Explosive Breaching Training School before fulfilling the role as Breacher or Assistant Breacher.
- ARWEN
    - The ARWEN may be used in the following situations:
      - The suspect's combative behavior threatens the safety of an officer or citizen, and other attempts to subdue the suspect by conventional means have not been or would not be effective.
      - The suspect is armed with an edged weapon or blunt striking weapon and is maintaining a stand-off position and officers, or citizens are not in imminent danger.
      - The use of less lethal force is justified, and it is unsafe for the officer(s) to approach within contact range of the suspect(s).
      - In riot or crowd control situations where less lethal force is justified and approved by the on-scene Commander.
    - Equipment/Training
      - The ARWEN is available for use by authorized personnel on a 24-hour a day basis. It is stored in the SWAT locker in a bag also containing ammunition for the weapon.
      - Only those trained and qualified in the use of the ARWEN will use the device.
  - Chemical Agents (other than individually issued OC) Procedures
    - Chemical agents may be used in:
      - Barricaded suspect situations,
      - Hostage situations,
      - High-risk warrant service,
      - To overcome an unarmed but uncontrollably violent person on whom conventional non-lethal weapons have failed, or
      - Riotous situations involving violence, property damage and officer safety issues, in order to deny mob access to areas combined with the provision of avenues of dispersal.
      - In crowd control circumstances involving passive demonstrators, chemical agents would not be justified.

## GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Officers deploying chemical agents by use of a firearm will not intentionally fire the weapon at a suspect unless deadly force is justified.
- Only officers trained in the use of a firearm to deliver chemical munitions, will deploy them.
- Use considerations:
  - Only authorized chemical agents, to include OC (oleoresin capsicum), CS (chlorobenzylidene malononitrite), and CN (chloracetetophenone) will be deployed. CN will only be deployed outdoors.
  - Chemical agents affect individuals in a variety of ways. Evidence indicates that individuals under the influence of alcohol or emotionally disturbed may not respond as expected.
  - The unpredictability of the effect on mobs needs to be considered. The mob may panic; therefore, avenues of escape/dispersal free of chemical agent will be designed into a chemical agent deployment plan. The best use of chemical agents in this instance is to deny the mob access to an area, such as a building or other specific location, by the presence of chemical agent.
  - Factors to consider in any chemical agent deployment are the wind and terrain and that effect on the dispersal of the agent.
  - If very young children, the elderly or inform are present, and their presence is known to the officer, chemical agents shall not be deployed, unless aggravating circumstances merit their use, and the use is approved by a supervisor.
  - The use of chemical agents may create a fire hazard. If chemical agents are used against a building or structure, the Fire Department will be notified and stand by in case of fire.
  - Prior to the use of chemical agents, a trained chemical agent officer will develop a deployment plan addressing: the type of agent used, quantity and concentration, dispersal system, and the other use considerations described in the preceding subsections.
  - The use of chemical agents excluding individual officer's mace against an individual suspect will require SWAT activation. In barricade, hostage, or riot situations, SWAT will be activated and be used for chemical agent deployment.
  - Training: Only certified, trained chemical agent officers will develop and implement chemical agent deployment plans. Other officers trained in delivery system may assist this officer.
  - Authority: the decision to utilize chemical agents will be made by the Commander on scene.
- Police Service Dog (Canine Unit):

GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Use of the Greeley Police Canine Unit will conform to Greeley Police General Order 515.00 Use of Force and Patrol Manual – Canine Unit.
- Medical Assistance
  - When a NFDD, the ARWEN, chemical agents, or canine units (when the suspect has been bitten), have been used, medical assistance will be offered.
  - Once the suspect(s) is under control, the officer will check the suspect(s) for injury and apply first aid if required. The suspect(s) will be transported to the most accessible medical facility for examination as soon as practical and prior to processing into jail.
- Destruction of Animals: The destruction of an animal is justified for self-defense, to prevent substantial harm to the officer or another person, or to destroy an injured animal upon direction and with prior approval of the Watch Commander. A seriously wounded or injured animal may be destroyed only after reasonable attempts have been made to request assistance from the agency (Division of Wildlife) responsible for the disposal of the type of animal in question. The destruction of vicious animals is authorized when it is apparent the animal will injure someone if not dealt with immediately and capture is not practical.

<b>General Order 518.00</b>	<b>Reviewed: 12/23</b>
<b><u>USE OF FORCE-SPECIAL TACTICS AND CIRCUMSTANCES</u></b>	
<b>Authorized by Adam Turk, Police Chief</b>	
<b>Effective Date: December <u>8</u>, 2023</b>	
<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>E1F3B9936247460...</small>	<b>Date: <u>December 8, 2023</u></b>
<b>Signature</b>	