

**STAMFORD POLICE  
DEPARTMENT  
SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM  
(SRT)**



**2015 ANNUAL  
ACTIVITY REPORT**

## Activation Summary

High Risk Warrant Service-----	9
Hostage/ Barricade Operations-----	4
Patrol Assists-----	3
Dignitary Protection-----	1
Security Details-----	8
Special Assignments -----	3
<b>Total SRT Activations-----</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>**Guns Recovered-----</b>	<b>7</b>

## High Risk Warrant Service

Includes search warrant executions for NOC and BCI as well as high risk apprehensions. This included 9 high risk search warrants this year.....(6 guns recovered) during these operations

## Hostage/ Barricade Operations

We responded to 4 barricaded incidents over the course of the calendar year. All were resolved utilizing less than lethal tactics and HNT.

## Patrol Assists

Includes requests for assistance by the Patrol Division for such things as forced entry/welfare checks and building clears.

## Dignitary Protection

The SRT supported the USSS this year for the May 20<sup>th</sup> POTUS visit. The team conducted both security sweeps of the address as well as supporting the Counter Assault Team (CAT) at the target address.

## Security Details

Provided sniper/observer support and Immediate Action Team for Balloon Parade, Fireworks Celebration, and Alive @ Five venues. The team also deployed small teams of operators on high visibility train station walk thru operations for dates such as 9/11, Papal Visit, New Year's Eve, and the anniversary of the Boston Bombings

## Terror Incidents

-0-

## Special Assignments

This year we assisted the DEA in an operation where the SRT conducted a vehicle assault on an armed team of NJ drug traffickers during a multi-kilo powder cocaine deal. 1 gun recovered

## **TEAM INFORMATION**

This year the SRT conducted selection for new operators in early spring. We lost 2 operators to attrition and gained three new members after a comprehensive selection process. We have also added a Tactical Emergency Medical (TEMS) asset (Officer McMahon) who completed his EMT course this summer. We are currently at 17 operators and plan on conducting tryouts for the team in the fall to bring the number of operators up to 20.

There were no shots fired, no injuries to suspects and only 1 minor injury to an operator during SRT operations/ training in 2015.

Change to team structure: Team Commander/ Senior Team Leader: LT Baker

Team Leaders: SGT Steve Perrotta, SGT Brett Stoebel

Assistant Team Leaders: Ofcr. Bill Edson, Ofcr. Bob Somody

## **TEAM TRAINING**

The team has consistently trained 16 hours a month for the year of 2015.

The SRT took advantage of a unique opportunity to train with the FBI's Hostage Rescue Team in Quantico, VA in the spring of 2015. We conducted joint training/ information exchange in the areas of CQB, Combat shooting, TTPs, Explosive Breaching and combatives during the 4 day trip.

Alvarez and Sheperis attended a 3 day class in Maine focusing on Counter Ambush techniques

Edson and Stock attended a 5 day course: Special Operations Combative Program (SOCP) instructed by experts in Quantico, VA

Officers Brown and Petrizzi facilitated a significant amount of explosive breaching training during the course of the year here in Stamford and in Quantico, VA. Our team worked with the CT State Police, FBI HRT, and New Haven PD SRT during these breaching sessions.

We have also met with and discussed mutual aid agreements with Connecticut State Police ESU and South West Regional ESU.

Lastly, the SRT has continued interoperability training with EOD, HNT and SPD K9. The program is progressing significantly as we have sent an additional EOD tech to basic SWAT school this year.

## **ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

The SRT currently operates with 2 vehicles: the SRT van which is utilized for some search warrant executions and the Cadillac Gage V-150 Armored Personnel Carrier. The van is in good condition although limited in the equipment it can carry. The APC is outdated/ costly to repair/ and very difficult to utilize during real world operations.

The team is going to be in need of new ballistic vests in the coming (2) years along with some updated communications equipment. We have grown our inventory of equipment and have implemented a maintenance plan to ensure proper use, maintenance, and appropriate replacement/ upgrades.

Other than a new Bearcat/ APC and ballistic vests, there are no significant expenditures on the horizon in terms of equipment/ capabilities over this coming year.

TO: Lt. Scott Duckworth  
FROM: Lt. Gene Dohmann  
RE: Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) callouts for 2015

2/19/15 6 Avon Lane

Patrol responded to Avon Lane to render aid to a female victim who was struck in the face with the butt end of a kitchen knife. Suspect and victim were believed to be within the residence but no contact could be made. Incident was deemed as a criminal barricade/hostage situation. SRT and HNT teams were requested. At one point the victim was able to escape the residence. She confirmed the suspect's location within the residence. HNT negotiators could not make phone contact with the suspect. HNT then hailed the suspect out of the bldg. through use of a bull horn from the 1-2 side of the residence. SRT offered safety coverage during the procedure. The suspect exited the bldg... and surrendered.

2/22/15

Patrol responded to a 34 yr. old male in a violent rage throwing things about in the apartment. The caller, the disturbed person's mother, reported that he son suffers from PTSD and hallucinates, hearing voices that tell him to kill himself. Prior to the police arrival the EDP locked himself in the bathroom. The EDP was contained within the bathroom as patrol officers offered assistance to the struggling man from a nearby hallway. As HNT was arriving the EDP surrendered ending the ordeal. He was transported to the hospital.

4/12/15 1155 Shippan Ave 1218 hrs.

Mathew Aikler, drug and alcohol abuser, threatened to kill his brother and sister after a failed family intervention. Mathew texted family members that he had his AR-15 fully loaded. It was determined that Aikler was at the residence and a perimeter was put in place. HNT/SRT members were activated. At one point not yet directed Aikler exited his home and was placed in custody. Several rifles were located within the residence with over a thousand rounds of ammo.

4/12/15 127 Myano La 1705 hrs.

Shots reported fired on Myano La. A witness reported that the shooter(s) ran into 127 Myano La. HNT/SRT notified. HNT negotiators attempted to hail the occupants/suspects out of the residence. As intelligence was gathered it appeared as the residence was unoccupied. SRT bldg. search confirmed that belief.

4/23/15 68 E Cross Rd

Fifty two year old male reported suicidal thought to a crisis line. SPD responded to that location last January. At that time he was interested in a suicide by cop ending. He had several weapons in his

possession when a HNT negotiator arranged for his peaceful surrender. On this occasion an HNT negotiator made phone contact and the EDP agreed to exit to awaiting officers.

5/12/15 241 Fairfield Ave

Officers were dispatched to the above location on a report of a man with a handgun. The man was approaching individuals in the street waving the gun and informing them he was looking for crack. He was observed by responding officers on a rear porch at 241 Fairfield. He barricaded himself within the residence. The suspect was identified and it was learned that he was a U.S. marine veteran with a criminal and psychiatric history. SRT/HNT responded and many attempts via phone and later bear cat loud speaker were made but fell on deaf ears. The suspect later exited the residence and surrendered.

5/20/15 32 Grenhart Rd Super 8 Motel

EDP James Fitzsimmons via a phone call with his counselor claimed he had a hand gun and was going to take his life. He had recently lost his home, job, and wife. Complicated call as the location of the EDP location became tricky, first starting at the Super 8 and then clues pointing to the La Quinta Hotel several blocks away. The EDP was located unarmed within the hotel restaurant at the La Quinta.

**Stamford Police Bomb Squad  
Call Volume  
July 2014 – June 30, 2015**

Suspicious Packages /Unattended Bags	56
Explosive Materials / Military Ordinance-	16
Security / Explosive Sweeps	19
Ballistic Investigation Searches	19
Presentations and Explosive Demos	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>



**Stamford Police Bomb Squad  
Call Volume  
July 2015 – December 31, 2015**

Suspicious Packages /Unattended Bags	47
Explosive Materials / Military Ordinance-	4
Security / Explosive Sweeps	30
Ballistic Investigation Searches	14
Presentations and Explosive Demos	17
Bomb Threats w/ Searches	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>