




COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

"Policing Excellence through Community Partnerships"

Directive Type: General Order	Effective Date: 09-07-2006	General Order Number: 09.02
Subject: Section 8 – Bomb Threats		
Amends/Supersedes: Section 8 – Bomb Threats 2008	Chief of Police: 	
Distribution: All Personnel	Review Date: July 1	# of Pages:

1.0 BOMB THREAT NOTIFICATION

When a bomb threat notification is received, Columbia-Richland 911 Communications will record the location of the device, type of the device, time frame given by the caller, and all other information that can be ascertained as to the possible identity and location of the caller. The Columbia-Richland Communication Center will immediately dispatch a patrol officer, police supervisor, and the Fire Department to the location indicated by the caller. The on-call member of the City's Bomb Squad will be notified and respond to the location.

2.0 APPROACH PROCEDURES

All radio and cell phone transmissions will cease within one fourth (1/4) of a mile of the incident location. Officers shall notify the Communications Center of their proximity to the location and their intent to cease radio transmissions.

Upon arrival, if the building or area has not been evacuated, the officer shall provide occupants with information concerning the nature of the threat and ask them if they wish to remain in the building or leave the area during the search.

- If the manager (occupants) choose to exit the location: The officer and the occupants should make visual observations as they are leaving the building and notify emergency responders of anything suspicious or that appears to be out of place.
- If the manager (occupants) does not think the threat is viable and chooses not to evacuate the location: The officer should make visual observation as they exit the building.

3.0 SAFETY PROCEDURES

If a suspicious package or device is located, do not touch the suspicious package or device. Make quick, careful observations as to the location, placement, and be able to provide a description of the suspicious package or device and then exit the area.

DO NOT USE A RADIO OR CELL PHONE TO CONFIRM THE PRESENCE OF A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE OR DEVICE.

A command post should be established one thousand (1000) feet away from the location (outside the perimeter).

4.0 PERIMETER

A perimeter (one thousand feet radius from the location) shall be established and maintained by the Police Department until the bomb squad determined to be non-viable or eliminates the threat.

- If a suspicious package or device has not been confirmed, all persons wishing to enter the area shall be notified of the threat and must be allowed to proceed into the area if they choose to do so.
- If a suspicious package or device has been confirmed, entry into the perimeter will be prohibited.

5.0 SEARCHES

Once a perimeter has been established, the City's bomb squad will responsible be for conducting a search of the area. **ONLY PERSONS AUTHORIZED BY THE BOMB SQUAD WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE SEARCH AREA.**

6.0 CONFIRMED THREAT

Upon confirmation of a suspicious package or device, the bomb squad may request that the Fire Department order an evacuation of the area within a one thousand (1000) feet radius of the package or device.

Officers will establish traffic control points and prohibit foot traffic with the established perimeter.

Officers shall assist the Fire Department with evacuation efforts as requested.

The Bomb Squad will be responsible for removal and/or disposal of the suspicious package or device.

7.0 RETURN TO NORMAL OPERATIONS

The Bomb Squad will notify the Police Department Incident Commander and Fire Department Incident Commander when the threat has been eliminated or determine to be non-viable

Once the Bomb Squad has given the order that the location is clear, normal operations may be resumed.