TO: All Metropolitan Division Personnel

FROM: Commanding Officer, Metropolitan Division

SUBJECT: TACTICAL GROUP LEADER—LAPD OPERATIONAL COMMAND—CRISIS NEGOTIATION AND SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

PURPOSE

This Order outlines the command structure during tactical operations involving the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team, Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT), and the System-wide Mental Assessment Response Team (SMART). The Unity of Command and overall accountability delineated in this Order is compatible with regional, multi-incident tactical operations as required in the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

This Order adds the role of the Tactical Group Leader to the current command structure and includes Metropolitan detectives, when necessary, to conduct investigative duties at the direction of the SWAT Officer in Charge (OIC).

BACKGROUND

Historically, during tactical operations, the SWAT OIC had operational command of SWAT, CNT and SMART and reported to the Incident Commander either directly or via the Law Branch and/or Operations Section if these sections were activated. As Metropolitan Division has only recently added detectives to the division, this component acting directly under the SWAT OIC’s command has not occurred in the past.
PROCEDURES

Effective immediately, the Commanding Officer, Metropolitan Division, shall assume the role of Tactical Group Leader during SWAT operations. The duties of the Tactical Group Leader shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- Crisis negotiation strategy review
- SWAT tactical strategy review
- Investigative/Intelligence strategy review
- SMART intervention strategy review
- Liaison with Detective Support Division’s Mental Evaluation Unit
- Recommendations to the Incident Commander regarding overall intervention strategies

For all tactical situations where CNT and SMART are utilized, these sections will continue to report to the SWAT OIC as in the past. Metropolitan Division detectives, if utilized, will also report to the SWAT OIC. Rather than reporting to the Incident Commander, whether directly or via the Operations Section and/or Law Branch, the SWAT OIC will now report to the Tactical Group Leader.

The Tactical Group Leader will report to the Incident Commander, either directly or if activated, via the Operations Section and Law Branch.

SCOTT C. KROEBER, Captain
Commanding Officer
Metropolitan Division