



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Silverton Police Department
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In response to questions of how Silverton Police will respond to critical incidents, we wanted to provide the following information for the community. Critical incidents vary, but can be highly hazardous, dynamic with rapidly changing circumstances and can be emotionally charged for all involved. Even after the incident is resolved, there is a distinct possibility of those involved in being affected due to the trauma and mental stress experienced. The department has policies and procedures, training and expectations for response to critical incidents. The department has policies and procedures to deal with critical incidents which could involve threats or actions to the lives and safety of community members. The policies are developed in conjunction with Lexipol, a nationally recognized company that specializes in policy development and is used by a large number of Law Enforcement agencies in Oregon and other states. The Officers receive on-going training using critiques and de-briefs of incidents occurring across the country or internationally. Using this information, the department has developed response procedures should a critical incident occur. The department trains on the different skill sets that could be needed for a critical incident by department and outside instructors in using best practices for hazardous critical incidents, many of which could require immediate action to minimize the threat to others. Training also includes critical incident scenario training under a variety of different conditions. This allows Officers to practice response, deployment, assessment and immediate actions based on the scenario and to adapt to the changing situation. Due to the variety of situations that could occur, the department has equipped Officers with specialized equipment that could be deployed during critical incidents. The department has worked with adjoining agencies that have Special Teams, increased capabilities, and can assist if needed. Currently, the department has several Supervisors and Officers who have been involved in a variety of critical incidents. Their knowledge and experience is used in the on-going training and debriefings of incidents to discuss department response, tactics and expectations should Officers respond to a critical incident. The ultimate goal is to resolve a critical incident in as peaceful manner as possible, but if necessary, to take action and use the minimum amount of force necessary to protect all involved.

Jim Anglemier
Chief of Police