CRISES INTERVENTION TEAM

A. Policy

The purpose of the Crisis Intervention Team is to assist the Patrol Division in providing an effective response to situations involving subjects that are suspected and/or verifiably mentally ill, suicidal or experiencing severe crisis. The purpose is to avoid unnecessary violence, potential civil litigation and to provide an opportunity for proper medical attention.

B. Procedure

1. All members of the Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) must complete a 40-hour C.I.T. certification course.

2. The Crisis Intervention Team will consist of a Patrol Sergeant who will act as the team coordinator. Additional team members may consist of both C.I.T. certified sergeants and patrol agents.

3. Selection of Crisis Intervention Team members.
   a. Openings are to be announced by memorandum department wide. Persons wishing to be considered will submit a memorandum of interest via chain of command.
   b. Selection will be based on the following criteria:
      (1) Must have at least two years of police experience.
      (2) Must be recommended by the applicant’s immediate supervisor.
      (3) Must have demonstrated outstanding communication skills, an ability to defuse volatile situations, sound judgment and strong officer safety skills.

4. Crisis Intervention Team agents may respond, when available, to assist with calls for service as well as during interview and interrogation involving a crisis where mental illness is believed to be a factor or where a subject in crisis represents a danger to him/her self or others.

5. The C.I.T. may also respond at the request of the on scene supervisor or agent at the scene of a crisis situation.

6. When not acting in the capacity of a C.I.T., the team member will perform their normal duty functions.

7. When the circumstances warrant the activation of the SWAT Team, continued use of the C.I.T. will be at the discretion of the SWAT Crisis Negotiation Team Leader.

8. Crisis Intervention Team members will be involved in training set forth by the C.I.T. coordinator.