

Police Critical Incident Rapid Start

All actions shall serve to address three main priorities in the following order:

1. Life safety
2. Incident stabilization
3. Preservation of property

Arrive, Assess & Secure the Scene

- (a) Set inner & outer perimeter (containment)
- (b) Set routes of ingress/egress
- (c) Deny entry to non-essential personnel
- (d) Provide traffic & crowd control
- (e) Situational Awareness
 - Size-Up: What do you have? What do you need?
 - Is the situation stable?
 - Accountability: Who is already where – doing what?
 - Treat the injured

Establish Command Post / Structure

- (a) If already established, make on-scene face to face contact with IC
- (b) “Warm” hand-off of COMMAND & notify everyone of change
- (c) If not established, initiate ICS and Command Post (CP) * give location
- (d) Designate a “scribe” / assistant / aide
 - Document everything
- (e) Ensure notifications are made up chain of command

Command Post Considerations

(a) Site Selection Factors

- Out of kill/hot zone
- Between inner/outer perimeter
- Sufficient space (equipment/parking)
- Accessible to restroom facilities
- Accessible to utilities: phone, electric, water
- Protection against weather
- Security of the area

(b) Possible Site Locations

- Schools/Universities
- Public Facilities
- Church

- Park
- Large Parking Lots

Designate Tactical Radio Talkgroup for incident

- (a) Hold the air, emergency traffic only
- (b) Set up different talkgroups for various functions
- (c) Ensure regular street patrol radio is supervised

Intelligence

- (a) Situational awareness
- (b) Video
- (c) Maps, keys, floorplans
- (d) Keyholders & representatives
- (e) Social media

Request Additional Personnel/Specialty Units or Outside Agencies as Needed

- (a) Establish staging area (paired with eventual re-hab area?)
- (b) Mutual aid – determine the need to activate
- (c) Advise mutual aid responders of where to stage (not to incident scene)
- (d) A representative from jurisdictional legal authority, as needed
- (e) Liaisons or supervisors with radio & authority to the CP
- (f) Ambulance staged on stand-by (Hospital notified)
- (g) Staging area manager
- (h) Manage self-deployed personnel
- (i) Plan for breaks to be given to first units (bathroom/food/heat/cold)
- (j) Safety officer appointed

Identify Specific Hazards & Responses

- (a) Hazardous Materials – use Emergency Response Guidebook
- (b) Explosion, threat vs detonation
- (c) Crowd conditions, i.e. violent, armed, etc.
- (d) Weather conditions
- (e) Secondary hazards, i.e. downed power lines, traffic conditions, etc.
- (f) Secondary devices
- (g) SWAT
- (h) K-9
- (i) Social Workers / Chaplains
- (j) Helicopter / Drone

Special Considerations

- (a) Evacuation – determine if needed or not, set evacuation routes

- (b) Establish relocation shelters, transportation, special needs population
- (c) Public Warning – conduct by public address, telephone, door-to-door, media (Make warnings uniform, consider special needs population [deaf, other language])
- (d) Crime Scene Investigation – Evidence Techs
- (e) Media area - designate a location for media, advise media of briefing schedule & designate a PIO
- (f) Mass casualties/fatalities – consider the establishment of a Family Assistance Center (FAC) run by the American Red Cross
- (g) Intelligence – Detectives, contact the Fusion Center or JTTF

Department of Justice Critical Incident Sheet:

<https://www.justice.gov/file/1376336/download>

NYPD 7-C's

C-1. Take Command of the scene.

- There should be ONE IC that all resources are funneled through.
- Establish a command post.
- Display confidence. No one wants to follow someone who is not confident.
- Be the supervisor. Focus more on the big picture of an incident.

C-2. Be in Control

- Being calm during a chaotic situation helps instill confidence.
- Ensure subordinates are controlled and focused on the mission.
- Duty to intervene and remove officers from an incident if needed.
- Delegate assignments to other supervisors

C-3. Communicate

- Clearly and calmly communicate to officers and over the radio.
- During a chaotic scene, orders can easily be misunderstood. Speak clearly and directly, naming them when giving commands. For example, say:
 - "Officer [Name], watch that door."
 - "Officer [Name], stand by this evidence/weapon."
 - "Officer [Name], go with the ambulance to the hospital."
- Ensure that there is a common radio channel at an incident.

C-4. Containment – make sure the scene is safe.

- Establish perimeters and zones (hot/warm/cold).
- Control ingress and egress points.
- Consider the possibility of a sudden unexpected event & how to respond.

C-5. Coordinate the resources that are available to you.

- No critical incidents are static. There will always be moving parts.
- Preventing unnecessary personnel from operating. Control "self-dispatched".
- Officers and resources that respond should report to staging.
- Have situational awareness
- Officers' biological needs should be considered, including food and water as well as bathroom breaks.

C-6. Complacency – these incidents are dynamic; do not become complacent.

- Complacency can occur at all ranks on scene.
- Maintain situational awareness.
- Adequate relief and rotation to refresh personnel if possible.

C-7. Critique – Conduct debrief sessions to discuss both positive and negative actions during the incident

- Use debrief sessions as a learning opportunity to train and prepare.
- Use constructive criticism.
- All primary personnel on scene should contribute to the discussion.
- Identify vulnerabilities, pitfalls, and shortcomings.