



Clay County | Civil Disturbance & Active Threat Preparedness

Two Households in an HSEEP Exercise

In 2025, Porsena supported public safety agencies in Clay County (FL) in validating concepts of operations related to mobile field forces during a civil disturbance, and responding to an active threat.

Inspired by William Shakespeare's *Romeo & Juliet*, Porsena designed **Exercise Escalus**, a two-day homeland security exercise that pitted two "households" – the Montagues and the Capulets – against one another. Clay County Sheriff's Office responded to the civil disturbance with its Mobile Field Force.

To allow Clay County public safety agencies to validate key response activities, Porsena's designer and controllers created "vignettes" on the first day of the exercise, where the scenario would play and pause, maximizing the utilization of over 120 volunteer role players. The civil disturbance scenario evolved into an active threat scenario, allowing Clay County to validate integrated response and special operations activities.

On the second day of the exercise, agencies and organizations from Clay County and Northeast Florida convened for an interactive discussion-based exercise, where participants had to complete a challenge within each module's timeframe. This kept the exercise participants solutions-oriented.

A consolidated analysis was presented to Clay County that provided them improvement pathways in integrated response, mobile field force, unified command, special operations, and family reunification operations.

Project Summary

Project Period of Performance: Four months

Exercise Structure: Two-day exercise; with the first day being a full-scale exercise, and the second day being a discussion-based exercise

Key Concepts: Civil Disturbance, Active Threat, Family Reunification, Integrated Response, HSEEP

Number of Participants: 250+ Participants

