



Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

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Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

September 2000

Course Title: Emergency Response to Terrorism -
Tactical Considerations -
Company Officer (NFA)

Course Code: ERTTCCO

Course Length: 16 hours

Lecture/Lab Breakdown: 16/0

Prerequisites: One of the following: FEMA's Basic Concepts course (ERT:BC) **or** self-study course (ERT:SS) **or** PSFA Terrorism Operations (TODP).

Referenced Text(s): National Fire Academy Instructor Guide & Student Manual for the course in question

Course Goal: The goal of the course is to supply the responding officer with the strategic and tactical tools to recognize a hostile act, minimize losses, communicate (identify) the information necessary to other arriving units, establish command, manage the incident, and direct operations until relieved by a senior ranking officer.

Course Description: This course is designed for the first on-the-scene supervisor (Company Officer). Students will be able to identify outward warning signs or indicators of terrorism, anticipate unusual response circumstances, assess information and take corrective actions, and determine strategies for surviving these hazardous conditions. Students will be expected to apply their knowledge about response to identify and preserve evidence, manage site safety, document the event, and debrief personnel.

Description of Methodology to be used (brief): A combination of lecture, guided discussion, and individual/small group activities.

Student Equipment/Supply needs: Pen/Pencil, notebook, copy of the Student Manual for the course in question.

Equipment/audiovisual/supply requirements: Classroom of adequate size with the usual amenities; audiovisual kit (CD ROM or 35 mm slides) for the course in question; audiovisual projection equipment appropriate for the AV kit used (see Instructor Guide); easel pads (6) and marker pens; one copy of student manual per student.

Special notes and conditions: Maximum class size: 25 students; Student Manual to remain in possession of the student at the course's conclusion.

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Minimum Standard for Accreditation

Emergency Response to Terrorism; Tactical Considerations: the Company Officer (NFA)ERTTCCO

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Course Outline (Topical)

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Welcome And Registration	30 minutes	
Introduction to Terrorist Operations	3 hours	
Common Considerations for Response Actions	3 hours	
Recognition and Survival	3 hours	
Terrorism Response Strategies and Tactical Op	4 hours	
Transition of Command	1 hour	
Examination & grading	1 hour	
Summary & Conclusion	30 minutes	
Total Classroom Time	16 hours	

Competency Evaluation Mechanism: 30 question written examination at conclusion of course; instructor assessment of student performance in individual small group activities.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain terrorist operational concepts and planning criteria.
 - 1.1. List the phases of terrorist operational planning.
 - 1.2. List terrorist target criteria and methods of operation.
 - 1.3. Describe responder vulnerabilities that enhance the effectiveness of a terrorist act.
2. Given a scenario, describe the common considerations for response actions when dealing with a terrorism attack.
 - 2.1. List key vulnerability issues that may hinder operations during primary and secondary response actions.
 - 2.2. Identify preplanning response action considerations for acts of terrorism.
 - 2.3. Identify and list response, incident site, and offsite security considerations.
3. Identify and evaluate information and explain how it relates to establishing protection measures at a suspected terrorist event.
 - 3.1. Describe initial reconnaissance requirements.
 - 3.2. Outline the unique site characteristics associated with responses to potential terrorist-related incidents.

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Course Objectives (continued)

4. Explain how a specific response strategy for a given scenario and proposed tactical options will increase responder survivability and response effectiveness.
 - 4.1. Explain how the strategic goal in a given scenario as well as the tactical options available will enhance the effectiveness of the response.
 - 4.2. Identify the general concerns that affect tactics to combat terrorism.
 - 4.3. List and explain self-protective measures that will enhance overall responder survivability when responding to acts of terrorism.
 - 4.4. Explain how the strategic goal in a given scenario as well as the tactical options available will enhance the effectiveness of the response.
 - 4.5. Identify the general concerns that affect tactics to combat terrorism.
 - 4.6. List and explain self-protective measures that will enhance overall responder survivability when responding to acts of terrorism.
5. List and explain Incident Command transition considerations.
 - 5.1. Describe anticipated strategic and tactical changes.
 - 5.2. Outline the conditions that promote a safe and effective transition of Command.