

Maryland Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Work Group

September 8, 2023



Agenda

- ❖ Call to Order
- ❖ Subcommittee Updates
- ❖ MCAC Current Events Update
- ❖ Work Group Administration Update
- ❖ Member Roundtable
- ❖ Action Item Review
- ❖ Closing Remarks & Adjourn



Call to Order

- ❖ **Sgt. Travis Nelson, Co-Chair, MD AAIWG**
- ❖ **Mr. Randy Linthicum, Co-Chair, MD AAIWG**
 - Introductions
 - Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 23, 2023



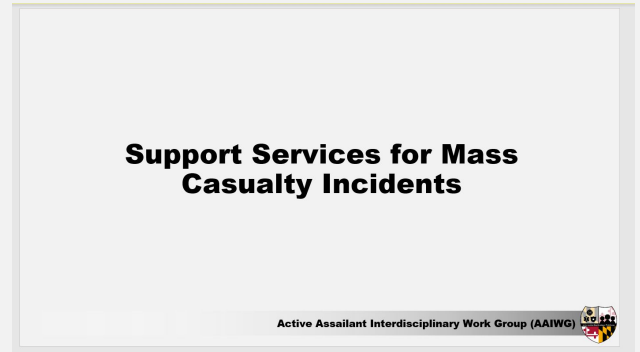
Subcommittee Update

- ❖ Emergency People Search & Recovery
- ❖ Community Outreach/Website
- ❖ First Responder Guidelines



Emergency People Search & Recovery

- ❖ Pilot Training
 - Recording case studies and introductions
 - Scheduling of pilot deliveries delayed due to instructor availability
- ❖ Next meeting: Sept 20



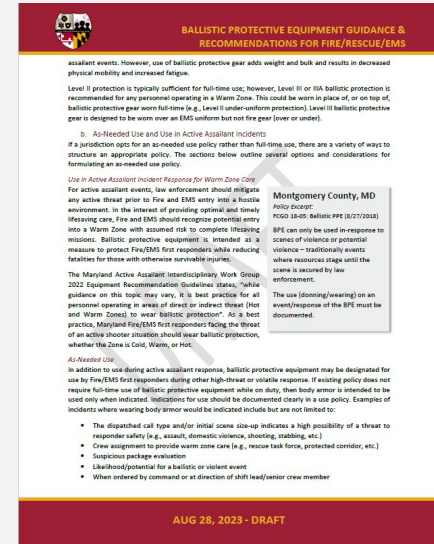
Community Outreach/Website

- ❖ Major resource library update continues
 - Adding new resources from 2021 - Present
 - Categorizing lists of resources on each page
- ❖ Website Analytics
 - 402 new users in last 90 days
 - Mobile users increased 37% - likely related to QR codes at conferences
- ❖ Private sector engagement focus
 - Partner with MDEM Partner Engagement and Integration Branch to include resource information in upcoming newsletter
- ❖ Next Meeting: Oct 27 (bi-monthly)



First Responder Guidelines

- ❖ Body Armor for EMS Document
 - Draft document discussed at Q2 meeting
 - Sent to:
 - Metro Fire Chiefs
 - MIEMSS JAC
 - Local EM Directors
 - Maryland Chiefs of Police
 - Maryland Sheriffs Assoc.
 - Major Cities Chiefs Assoc.
 - Comments submitted by:
 - Harford EMS
 - Queen Anne's Sheriff
 - Milwaukee PD
 - MSP Special Ops
 - Loudon County Fire



Need photo(s) for document cover



First Responder Guidelines

- ❖ RTF Exercises: Weapons Guidance
 - Developed one-pager of best practices surrounding use of weapons during rescue task force hands-on training/exercises
 - Lots of discussion among the Subcommittee on this topic
 - Comments are due to AAIWG inbox by Fri., 9/29
 - Reference which section
 - Photos welcome
- ❖ Next meeting: October 10


Rescue Task Force Exercises: Weapons Guidance

This document provides considerations for planning, conducting, and evaluating a Rescue Task Force exercise where Fire/Rescue, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Law Enforcement personnel will be participating. Specifically, this document focuses on considerations surrounding the use of weapons as part of exercise play and details a step-by-step process for determining an exercise weapons policy that best meets the needs of all participants. The information contained herein was compiled through various documents authored by subject matter experts and aims to serve as guidance and recommendations, not as prescriptive requirements.


Pre-Exercise

Successful exercises require significant planning to ensure a productive and safe learning experience for participants. Like any other exercise, rescue task force exercises should follow the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) process to plan, deliver, and evaluate the exercise. The steps below are intended to provide additional context to exercise planners as they implement the HSEEP planning process.


What are the objectives of the exercise?


 The exercise planning team should first determine the objectives of the exercise, prior to determining what types of weapons are most appropriate. Consistent with HSEEP, the initial step in planning any exercise is to first determine the objectives of the exercise. Rescue task force exercises are no exception to this process. The exercise planning team should first determine the objectives of the exercise. In some cases, an exercise may be designed to allow participants to gain familiarity with rescue task force operations and support skill development for participants who may have less experience. In other instances, exercise objectives may seek to create a highly realistic environment for more experienced participants to refine their skills.

Which type(s) of weapons best support exercise objectives?

 Weapons should be selected to best support exercise objectives, weighing the pros and cons of each weapon option. Once exercise objectives have been developed, the exercise planning team can determine the most appropriate type of weapon to help achieve exercise objectives. If participants have less experience and the exercise is focused on skill development, simulated weapons might be most appropriate. However, if the exercise seeks to create a highly realistic experience for more experienced participants, real weapons might be a better option. The exercise planning team will also need to consider the resource requirements associated with each option in making this determination. Using real weapons requires additional safety checks and personnel to ensure a safe exercise environment.

Who needs to be notified?

 Exercise participants should be notified ahead of time of the weapons policy for the exercise. Once a decision has been made on the appropriate type of weapon, that information should be regularly communicated throughout the exercise planning process. Additionally, participants should be made aware of the weapons policy when they are invited to the exercise so there is no confusion on exercise day. The general public should also be made aware that an exercise is happening through public information officers for participating organizations.



Questions? Email aaiwg.mdem@maryland.gov DRAFT



MCAC Briefing

- ❖ **Ms. Ariana Shockley, Intelligence Analyst, MCAC**
 - Overview of recent active assailant incidents and successful prevention activities



Work Group Administration Updates

- ❖ Sgt. Travis Nelson, Co-Chair, MD AAIWG
- ❖ Mr. Randy Linthicum, Co-Chair, MD AAIWGMs. Sabrina Chase, Legal Counsel
 - Contract support has ended
 - Photo request for website updates
 - Avoid posed photos and clear faces (esp. general public)
 - Training, exercises, or real-world events
 - Multi-disciplinary if possible



Work Group Administration Updates

- ❖ **Sgt. Travis Nelson, Co-Chair, MD AAIWG**
- ❖ **Mr. Randy Linthicum, Co-Chair, MD AAIWGMs. Sabrina Chase, Legal Counsel**
 - **Q4 Meeting Plans**
 - Week after Thanksgiving (11/28-29 or 11/29-11/30)
 - In-person, with meals and lodging*
 - Combined meeting and training/speaker
 - **Upcoming training opportunities**



Member Roundtable Discussion

Discussion of items of interest or concern from any voting member



Action Item Review

- ❖ Sgt. Travis Nelson, Co-Chair, MD AAIWG
- ❖ Mr. Randy Linthicum, Co-Chair, MD AAIWG



Closing Remarks

- ❖ Sgt. Travis Nelson, Co-Chair, MD AAIWG
- ❖ Mr. Randy Linthicum, Co-Chair, MD AAIWG



Adjourn

aaiwg.mdem@maryland.gov

