



# ERIE POLICE DEPARTMENT



## Written Directives

Number: **150.001**

<b>Title: Bomb Threats/Explosive Devices</b>		<b>Pages: 3</b>
<b>Effective Date: 11/18/09</b>	<b>Review Date: 05/18/19</b>	<b>Amended Date: 03/22/18</b>

### **POLICY:**

#### **CACP STANDARD 150.8**

It is the policy of the Erie Police Department that members of the department should consider a bomb threat as serious. Appropriate action shall be taken to establish the validity of the threat. Safety of all citizens and officers is paramount.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

NONE

### **PROCEDURES:**

#### **I. RECEIVING THE THREAT**

The person who received the threat is very important and should be questioned closely:

1. Where did the individual say the bomb was located?
2. What time did the individual say the device would explode?
3. What reason or motive did the individual give for placing the bomb?
4. What does the device look like?
5. Did the individual leave a name?
6. Was there any background noise during the call?
7. Could the recipient detect a speech impediment, accent or manner of speech from the caller?
8. Was the individual calm or excited?
9. What were the exact words used by the individual?

#### **II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRIMARY OFFICER AT THE SCENE**

- A. The primary officer is in charge of the incident unless relieved by a higher ranking officer.
- B. Communication:
  1. All communications should be over land-line (telephone) if possible.

2. If the radio must be used, move at least two blocks away from the scene. Any type of transmission within this area may activate an electrical blasting cap causing the device to explode.

C. Officers shall request the fire department be dispatched and stage a safe distance from the device.

D. Evacuation:

1. If there is no suspected device known, the decision to evacuate rests entirely with the person responsible for the control of the threatened building.

2. If a device has been located, the police will order immediate evacuation.

3. If the order to evacuate is given:

a. Remember the activation of an electrical device could set off the bomb, therefore, any order to evacuate should be given verbally and not by using a PA system or a fire alarm.

b. Keep doors and windows open; only open them as time allows.

c. Police personnel should be stationed to establish a perimeter to prevent anyone from entering the area.

4. If possible, persons who work in the threatened area should participate in the search of the area(s) they are familiar.

a. The decision to utilize civilians in the search rests with the person responsible for those persons.

b. If the person in charge of the civilians declines the use of his/her people in the search, police personnel will initiate the search without further discussion.

5. If police personnel conduct the search:

a. The search should be organized so it is done in a logical, systematic manner.

b. If there is more than one search team, they should trade off areas for cross searching.

6. If a suspected explosive device is located:

a. Notify dispatch to notify;

i. Boulder County Bomb Squad

ii. Commander or Deputy Chief who will notify the Chief of Police

b. Do not touch or go near the device once it has been located.

c. Do not turn on or off any lights or allow any flash bulb or lights to affect the object.

- d. Do not use any type of radio communications (including mobile data terminals) within two blocks of the target area.
- e. Evacuate all persons except for sufficient police personnel to do the tasks listed below:
  - i. Form a perimeter as far away as possible to protect the object from disturbance;
  - ii. Request the fire department respond and stage a safe distance from the target area;
  - iii. Open any doors and windows in the area;
  - iv. Establish a minimum perimeter of three hundred (300) feet; and
  - v. Request investigations to respond to the Incident Command Post.

**CACP STANDARD 150.8**

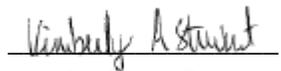
- 7. All explosive or incendiary device disposals will be handled by the Boulder County Bomb squad.

**RULES:**

NONE

**REFERENCES:**

NONE

  
Kimberly A. Stewart  
Chief of Police