28.1 Purpose and Policy

28.1.1 The purpose of this order is to establish procedures to be followed when responding to instances of a bomb threat, hazardous spill, fires, hold-up alarms, barricade/hostage situations, inclement weather, crowd control, and emergency evacuation and closings of BSU buildings. This order also outlines the notifications of BSUPD officials whenever an emergency incident occurs.

28.1.2 The efficient and immediate response of police officers to emergency situations is necessary to achieve the police goal of protection of life and property. With the response of police personnel comes the added responsibility of notification of key personnel within the BSUPD and the university community.

28.1.3 The Assistant Director for Campus Safety shall be the person responsible for planning responses to unusual occurrences. In his/her absence, the on-duty Shift Commander shall serve in this capacity, but shall attempt to contact the Assistant Director so that the latter may assume this position upon his/her return to duty.
28.2 Emergency Incident Notification

28.2.1 Emergency incidents that occur on campus and/or involving Bowie State University personnel require notification of BSU officials.

28.2.2 Notifications of BSU officials shall include, but not be limited to:

a. On-duty Shift Commander,

b. Assistant Director of Campus Safety,

c. Director of Campus Safety,

d. Vice President of Administration and Finance,

e. Provost Vice President of Academic Affairs,

f. Vice President of Student and Academic Affairs,

g. Dean of Student Life, and

h. Physical Plant Administrator.

28.2.3 If the Director of Campus Safety is unavailable, the Assistant Director shall make the decision as to other notifications not listed in Section 28.2.2.

28.2.4 Notifications of incidents during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 0800 to 1700 hours) shall be as stated in Section 28.2.2.

a. Notifications during non-business hours shall be made by the Shift Commander, who shall notify or cause to be notified:

(1) Assistant Director of Campus Safety, and

(2) Director of Campus Safety.

b. The Director of Campus Safety and/or the Assistant Director shall direct what other notifications are to be made. (See sub-sections 28.2.2-d through 28.2.2-h.)

28.2.5 The Shift Commander shall initiate notification calls to a direct telephone line or pager system.

28.2.6 Types of incidents that require notification shall include, but not be limited to:

Updated 4/03
a. All major felony crimes and suicides, including attempts,
b. Disasters, flooding, and civil disorder,
c. Emergency disciplinary action,
d. Prisoner escapes and attempts,
e. Insufficient operating manpower,
f. All line-of-duty injuries to BSUPD members,
g. Chemical/hazardous material spills,
h. Deaths, and
i. Discharge of firearms by BSUPD members.

28.3  Inclement Weather Emergency

28.3.1 It is the general policy of the BSUPD to conduct business as usual on every scheduled day. Police personnel are considered essential twenty-four hour employees and are expected to ready and report for duty as scheduled, even if classes are cancelled because of inclement weather or other emergency, unless the member is notified that he/she should not report to work.

28.3.2 When, as a result of emergency conditions, any facility is closed, except for essential services, after the start of normal work hours or shifts, and the members assigned to the facility who have reported for work are dismissed, there shall be no loss of time or pay or charge to leave of any kind. Non-essential employees who have not reported to work and are not on prior approved paid leave, shall be given the option of the use of annual, personal, or accrued compensatory leave or approved leave without pay.

28.3.3 Police officers who are required to perform duties after an emergency condition is declared shall be compensated by means of time adjustment.

a. Time adjustment shall be equivalent to the release time of those employees who are released from the same facility on administrative leave.

b. The time adjustment shall be scheduled at the discretion of the BSU Department of Human Resources.

28.4  Crowd Control/Riot

28.4.1 The BSUPD shall deal quickly and decisively with any civil disturbance.
28.4.2 The services of local leaders and other citizens in restoring order shall be sought and encouraged. In accepting such services, deviation from normal police practices and normal community life shall not be permitted.

28.4.3 Police officers in sufficient number shall be summoned to eliminate any questions as to the capability of the BSUPD to cope with a given situation.

28.4.4 Upon notification of a riot situation, the Police Communications Officer shall immediately notify the Shift Commander of the situation, the location, and the approximate number of persons involved.

28.4.5 The Shift Commander shall:

a. Notify the Director and Assistant Director;

b. Notify the Prince George's County Police Department as directed by the Assistant Director; and

c. Initiate the call-back procedures for police officers as directed by the Assistant Director.

28.4.6 Members called back to duty shall:

a. Respond to the BSUPD Police Headquarters in uniform; and

b. Stand by in a roll call area until ordered into the problem area;

28.4.7 The ranking supervisor on the scene shall document all police actions taken and submit the appropriate reports to the Assistant Director as soon as possible after the incident.

28.5 Emergency Evacuations and Closings of BSU Buildings

28.5.1 During normal hours of operation the President or his/her designee may order and/or authorize the evacuation of campus buildings due to an emergency situations. The Vice-President or his/her designee may authorize the evacuation or closing of buildings under his/her direct control.

28.5.2 During non-business hours, in the absence of the aforementioned party(s), the BSUPD may be required to make the determination involving the evacuation and/or closing of campus buildings in emergency situations.

28.5.3 Emergency Evacuation during Normal Business Hours

a. Upon notification of an emergency situation, the Shift Commander shall:
(1) Post an officer in the lobby of the concerned building in order to control egress of the building; and

(2) Dispatch a minimum of two (2) police officers to systematically canvass each office and advise occupants of the evacuation order. In the event the occupants refuse to leave, the officers shall:

(a) Secure the names and office number;

(b) Advise the Control Room and his/her supervisor; and

(c) Continue with the evacuation.

b. Each floor shall be canvassed from the upper-most floor to the basement. Officers shall document any and all refusals to evacuate the building.

28.5.4 Emergency Closing of Buildings during Normal Business Hours

Police personnel shall follow the evacuation procedures prescribed in section 28.5.3 prior to closing buildings.

28.5.5 Emergency Evacuation of Buildings during Non-business Hours

a. The Shift Commander shall make every effort to contact the Assistant Director. If time is a crucial factor, the highest ranking police official on campus shall make the determination to evacuate a building(s) during non-business hours.

b. The Shift Commander shall notify a representative from the Vice President for Student and Academic Services of the building concerned by using the night reference numbers. In addition, the Director of Campus Safety and the President's Office shall be notified.

28.5.6 When possible, the Shift Commander shall document the notification of campus administrators on the Emergency Incident Log.

28.5.7 The Shift Commander shall dispatch a minimum of two (2) police officers to systematically canvass each office and advise occupants of the evacuation order. In the event the occupants refuse to leave, the officers shall:

a. Secure the names and office number;

b. Advise the Control Room and his/her supervisor; and
c. Continue with the evacuation.

28.5.8 Emergency Closing of Buildings during Non-business Hours

a. In absence of campus administrators, the Shift Commander shall make the decision as to the closing of buildings.

b. The Shift Commander shall notify a representative from the Dean's Office of the building concerned by using the night reference. In addition, the Director of Campus Safety and the President's Office shall be notified.

c. The Shift Commander shall dispatch a minimum of two (2) police officers to systematically canvass each office and advise occupants of the evacuation order. In the event the occupants refuse to leave, the officers shall:

(1) Secure the names and office number;

(2) Advise the Control Room and his/her supervisor; and

(3) Continue with the evacuation.

d. Each floor shall be canvassed from the upper floor to the basement. Officers shall document any and all refusals to evacuate the building.

28.5.9 The Shift Commander shall ensure that:

a. The building is properly secured after an evacuation is completed; and

b. A written report outlining reasons for the evacuation and closing of buildings is prepared.

28.5.10 Even though the Shift Commander may be required to make the decision to evacuate and/or close a building, he/she shall consult with the Maintenance Supervisor and the supervisor of an emergency unit that may be called to the scene of the incident.

28.5.11 In the event the Shift Commander has to make the decision to evacuate and/or close, he/she shall make every attempt to notify the Assistant Director for direction. This section does not require the Shift Commander to make the call where exigent circumstances exist.

28.5.12 Closed or evacuated buildings shall not be reopened until an "all clear" is given by the appropriate emergency service agency, in conjunction with the Director or Assistant Director of Campus Safety and/or the University administrator responsible for the building.

28.6 Hold-Up Alarm Response

Updated 4/03
28.6.1 When responding to a hold-up alarms, sirens shall not be used in the close proximity of the hold-up scene. Extreme caution should be exercised at all times when approaching the crime scene.

28.6.2 Officers shall not rush into any BSU facility or business in response to a hold-up alarm. Such actions could result in a gun battle. Officers shall approach with caution and look through a window of the location to see if a robbery is in progress.

28.6.3 Members shall not at any time telephonically contact a BSU facility or other business establishment, after a hold-up alarm has been received, to verify the alarm.

28.6.4 Whenever a description is broadcast by the Police Communications Officer and a member stops a vehicle or encounters suspects fitting the description, he/she shall:

   a. Not flood the air with wanted checks;
   b. Advise the PCO that he/she has a possible suspect and that he/she is returning to Headquarters; and
   c. Notify the PCO that a suspect has been taken into custody.

28.6.5 If new information regarding a suspect or vehicle wanted for a crime is obtained after a description has previously been broadcast, the new information shall immediately be given to the PCO either by police radio or telephone.

28.6.6 The PCO shall rebroadcast the entire updated description.

28.6.7 After a hold-up alarm is verified, the PCO shall maintain telephone contact with the establishment and obtain a description of any subjects and/or vehicles involved. This description shall also include:

   a. The get-away method,
   b. The types of weapons displayed, and
   c. What type of container was used to carry away goods or money from the scene.

28.6.8 The primary officer assigned to the call shall:

   a. Check for injured persons;
   b. Survey the overall situation;

Updated 4/03
c. Secure the crime scene;
d. Forbid the entrance of unauthorized persons; and
e. Interview victims to determine what occurred.

28.6.9 The back-up officer assigned to the call shall:

a. Detain witnesses outside the establishment;
b. Survey the scene and determine any needs (ambulance, additional units, etc.);
c. Assist with the search of the area, if applicable; and
d. Assist with interviews.

28.6.10 Other officers responding to the general area shall begin patrolling in an inner and outer perimeter, and shall search for any subjects, evidence, recovered property, and/or vehicle wanted in connection with the crime.

28.6.11 The Shift Commander, upon verification of the hold-up alarm, shall:

a. Respond to the area of the alarm;
b. Establish a command post;
c. Advise the Assistant Director, if available, of the situation; and
d. Ensure that all appropriate field reports are accurately completed as soon as possible.

28.6.12 Concerning suspects, an arresting officer shall:

a. Search all suspects who are taken into custody for weapons and instrumentalities of the incident;
b. Transport all suspects to Police Headquarters and detain them;
c. Initiate warrant/record checks; and
d. Initiate all applicable reports.

28.7 Fires

28.7.1 A member who discovers, or has his/her attention called to a fire, shall notify the PCO by telephone or radio.

Updated 4/03
a. The member shall convey to the Shift Commander and the 911 Telephone Operator the location, size, and type of fire.

b. The member shall evacuate persons in the burning building and, if necessary, those in adjoining buildings.

28.7.2 Members must understand that at the scene of a fire the Fire Department is in full command. Members shall assist by ensuring that no person hinders or obstructs a member of the Fire Department in the performance of their duties.

28.7.3 The Shift Commander shall:

a. Make an immediate inquiry about the location and extent of the fire;

b. Promptly direct such number of personnel as may be necessary to the scene;

c. Notify the Assistant Director, if he/she is on duty; and

d. Proceed to the scene to assume general supervision of all members of the police department present.

28.7.4 Members shall cooperate with the Fire Department, but shall enter burning buildings only for the purpose of saving a life or at the request of a ranking officer of the Fire Department for the performance of a proper police service.

28.7.5 At a large fire, the police officer in charge shall establish a command post at a convenient and accessible point. When reinforcements are needed, the Shift Commander shall report conditions to the PCO, informing him/her of the number of personnel needed and the type of equipment required.

28.7.6 Members shall maintain a perimeter to facilitate the operations of the Fire Department and exclude unauthorized persons and vehicles.

a. Whenever possible, fire lines shall be extended beyond the apparatus of the Fire Department or hydrant in use.

b. In carrying out the above, care shall be taken that the rights and privileges of citizens, business interests, or pedestrian and vehicular traffic shall not be interfered with and obstructed any longer than public safety may require.

28.7.7 When the Fire Department has departed the scene of the actual fire, the BSUPD has a responsibility to protect property on campus.

a. The Shift Commander shall take appropriate action to protect the damaged area.

Updated 4/03
28.7.8 The primary investigating officer shall initiate the appropriate field report. Included in the report, but not limited to, shall be the following:

a. The identity of the Fire Department units on the scene;

b. The name of the officer in charge of the Prince George's County Fire Department's units;

c. The cause of the fire, if known;

d. The number of alarms; and

e. The time "all clear" is given by the Fire Department.

28.7.9 If the Fire Department determines the fire to be of a suspicious origin, the BSUPD shall assist the Fire Department's investigator, wherever applicable.

28.7.10 The Shift Commander shall ensure that all reports are accurately completed and submitted prior to the conclusion of the reporting officer's tour of duty.

28.8 Hazardous Waste and Chemical Spills

28.8.1 Upon notification of a hazardous waste/chemical spill, the PCO shall:

a. Notify the Shift Commander giving the location and the type of substance, if known; and

b. Dispatch an officer to the scene of the incident and inform him/her of the type of substance, when possible.

28.8.2 The officer responding to the hazardous waste/chemical spill shall:

a. Isolate the area of the spill, denying access to unauthorized persons;

b. Not attempt to move or neutralize the material(s);

c. Check the area for possible injured persons;

d. Initiate an appropriate field report(s); and

e. Photograph the scene of the incident, if practical.
28.8.3 The Shift Commander shall:

   a. During normal duty hours, advise the Assistant Director of the situation, and contact him/her, if not on duty;

   b. Respond to the area of the incident and provide for whatever assistance is needed by the assigned officer;

   c. Provide for the assistance of the applicable clean-up crews, when requested;

   d. Ensure the officers' safety in contaminated areas;

   e. Ensure that all related reports are complete and accurate; and

   f. Ensure that the following notifications are made:

      (1) Radiation Safety, by calling 911, when the incident involves hazardous waste; or

      (2) Risk Management, by calling 911, when the incident involves a chemical spill.

28.9 Bomb Threat

28.9.1 Threat Levels

   a. Vague threats usually do not require evacuation, although this shall be a decision left to the Building Administrator, in consultation with BSUPD. Individuals in the immediate area shall be notified and searches possibly conducted.

   b. Specific threats occur when the threat is specific in regard to time, location, etc.

      (1) Depending upon the specific circumstances, evacuation becomes a very real possibility.

      (2) The threat of injury or death to personnel shall be weighed against the possible confusion, panic, and disruption of services.

      (3) For specific threats, the individuals in the affected area shall be notified and searches shall be conducted.

      (4) The decision to evacuate shall be made by the BSUPD.

      (5) The affected area shall be vacated one-half hour before, and one hour after, a specific time threat, if possible.
c. When an actual device is found, if the ranking official determines an immediate danger to public safety, he/she shall cause the evacuation of all persons to a safe area until the device is rendered safe or is removed.

28.9.2 When a bomb threat is received by the PCO, he/she shall listen for identifying background noises while asking the caller the following information:

a. When the bomb is scheduled to go off;

b. Why the bomb was planted;

c. The name of the party responsible for planting the bomb (a group or an individual);

d. The location of the bomb; and

e. A description of the bomb.

28.9.3 The PCO shall:

a. Immediately dispatch the Shift Commander to the scene and notify the Assistant Director;

b. Dispatch primary investigating and back-up units to the scene; and

c. For a specific threat of a bomb, notify the P.G. County Police Department, as determined by the ranking police official on the scene.

28.9.4 Responsibility for a search shall be the Shift Commander or the highest ranking officer at the scene. He she shall:

a. Determine if further evacuation is required;

b. Prevent the entry of unauthorized persons into the evacuated area;

c. Organize a search of the premises, by:

(1) Recruiting people normally familiar with the area to assist in the search;

(2) Obtaining floor plans, if possible,

Updated 4/03
(3) Assigning search teams to all areas accessible to the public,
(4) Searching inside and outside the building, and
(5) Maintaining control of search teams;
d. Discontinue searching if the premises are unoccupied and the threatened time of explosion is near, by:
   (1) Terminating all searching 20 minutes prior to the threatened time of explosion; and
   (2) Not resuming any searching for at least one (1) hour after the threatened time of explosion; and

e. Direct searchers, when searching a building, to use the stairways instead of the elevators.

28.9.5 Upon notification of the discovery of a suspected explosive or incendiary device by either citizens or police officers:

a. The PCO shall:
   (1) Notify the Assistant Director and request that he/she respond to the scene and assume command of police activity;
   (2) Ensure that the Prince George's County Police Emergency Vehicle Unit has been notified;
   (3) Dispatch additional personnel to secure the entire endangered area and prevent entry of unauthorized persons;
   (4) Notify the following by telephone of the discovery and verification of the suspected device and location:
      (a) Director of Campus Safety,
      (b) Prince George's County Mobile Unit, Laboratory Division,
      (c) Prince George's County Bomb/Arson Unit, Criminal Investigation Division, and
      (e) Prince George's County Fire Department.

b. The ranking officer at the scene shall:

Updated 4/03
(1) Not touch or move the device under any circumstances;

(2) Ensure that the suspected device is not disturbed;

(3) Immediately notify the PCO of the findings and location;

(4) Order the evacuation of the area of all unauthorized persons. Evacuations of buildings shall be determined by the structure of the building, the size, and the type of device;

(5) Isolate the area within the safety range of 350 feet on a horizontal plane, after consulting with Prince George's County Bomb Technicians;

(6) Establish a command post in a safe area, at a minimum of 350 feet;

(7) Continue the search for multiple devices, even when a single device has been located (The location of one device does not preclude the existence of other devices.); and

(8) Relinquish control of the isolated area to the Prince George's County Police and Fire Departments, upon their arrival.

28.9.6 The following shall occur in instances where a device has detonated:

a. The Prince George's County Bomb/Explosive Emergency Unit shall:

   (1) Make the inside investigation (area which logically contain parts of the device) of the explosive scene, to secure the area of hazardous conditions;

   (2) Be chiefly concerned with collecting physical evidence of the device; and

   (3) Remove and take into possession all hazardous materials found at the bomb scene.

b. The Prince George's County Mobile Unit of the Laboratory Division shall:

   (1) Process all neutralized suspected explosive or incendiary devices, if feasible. Such feasibility shall be determined by authorized Emergency Vehicle Unit personnel/U.S. Army Explosive Ordinance Detachment personnel; and

   (2) Process all scenes where explosive or incendiary devices are found intact or detonated.
c. The BSUPD shall isolate the area of the explosion and provide the assistance necessary or requested by the Prince George's County Police Department.

28.9.7 The BSUPD investigating officer shall be responsible for filing complete reports on any incidents involving bomb threats, suspected bombs or explosions.

28.10 Resolution of Barricade/Sniper and Hostage Incidents

28.10.1 It is the policy of the BSUPD, in resolving barricade/sniper/hostage incidents, that the ranking police official at the scene of an incident is in command and shall direct all related field operations.

28.10.2 The BSUPD shall not initiate negotiations but shall isolate the area of the incident. However, when required, BSUPD shall act with reasonable care, diligence, and skill in exercising any other police action necessary to resolve the incident.

28.10.3 Responsibilities are as follows:

a. Police Communications Officer

The PCO shall:

(1) Immediately notify the Shift Commander upon receipt of a call indicating the possibility of an ambush, sniper, barricade, or hostage situation;

(2) Maintain telephone communications with the caller, if possible;

(3) Ascertain the location of the caller;

(4) Ascertain the name and description of the assailant;

(5) Ascertain the exact location of the assailant and the description of the inside and outside premises;

(6) Ascertain the type of weapon;

(7) Ascertain the number of shots fired;

(8) Ascertain the mental stability or any physical impairments of the assailant;

(9) Dispatch primary and backup units with the Shift Commander;

(10) Order all other units out of the area until ordered in by supervisory personnel; and
Monitor and assist the responding units, advising them of a safe route of approach to the command post.

b. **Primary Unit**

The first unit observing or being assigned to (primary unit) a potential barricade/sniper incident shall:

1. Respond in a calm manner minimizing the risk of personal injury;
2. Approach the immediate location on foot and advise the PCO upon arrival;
3. Determine if a barricade/sniper/hostage situation exists and advise the PCO accordingly;
4. Maintain firearms discipline;
5. If necessary to evacuate buildings, or clear the area or stop vehicular traffic, advise the PCO where to assign units to accomplish this task;
6. Provide the PCO with all available information, which shall include, but not be limited to:
   a. Location and description of the assailant(s) and, if applicable, hostages;
   b. Weapon(s) used;
   c. Possible avenues of escape;
   d. A description of the field of fire and unsafe areas or streets additional units should not enter; and
   e. The cause of the incident and any demands that are being made, if applicable; and
7. Detain all witnesses to the incident, or friends and relatives of the assailant, for investigative assistance at the command post.

c. **Back-Up Unit**

The back-up unit shall:

1. Respond in a calm manner minimizing the risk of personal injury;
(2) Establish a command post as near as practical to the scene of activity, but removed from the line of fire, and advise the PCO of its location;

(3) When possible, establish an open telephone line with the PCO;

(4) Advise the PCO of the number of additional police units needed to establish a perimeter to control both vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and of a safe route of approach to the command post or staging area;

(5) Develop further information from any witness, friends, and relatives concerning the incident through a calm interview.

d. **Additional Units**

Additional units responding shall:

(1) Respond to the vicinity of the scene only if requested by the command post or the PCO.

   (a) The command post shall be the reporting location for all additional units, unless an alternate staging area is established by a supervisor.

   (b) Responding units shall be given specific locations for traffic control.

   (c) Vehicles shall be parked away from the assailant's location and the command post, and in such a manner as to ensure the free flow of additional emergency units. Vehicles parked to block traffic shall not be left unattended.

   (d) Additional officers and supervisors responding to the area shall cover the distance on foot in an orderly manner;

(2) Respond only to the location designated for the assignment given or approved by the command post.

   (a) If requested only to respond, units shall report to the command post or staging area only and stand by for instructions.

   (b) The staging area shall be manned by a supervisor who shall be in constant communication with the command post in order to supply personnel as required; and
(3) Direct radio transmissions to the command post, using the appropriate call number in order to maintain communications discipline and efficient coordination of efforts;

e. **Ranking Supervisor**

The ranking supervisor arriving on the scene shall:

(1) Assume command of the operation and take charge of all subordinates at and responding to the scene;

(2) Once an inner perimeter is established, restrict the area to assigned police personnel only, unless otherwise directed by the command post;

(2) Once perimeters are secure, ensure witnesses are methodically interviewed to determine:

(a) The assailant's exact location and telephone number;

(b) The assailant's name, sex, race, and age;

(c) The assailant's mental condition;

(d) Whether or not hostages are involved, as well as who specifically observed them;

(e) The type of weapons possessed and the amount of ammunition available;

(f) The reasons for the individual's behavior;

(g) Possible escape routes and the physical layout of the perpetrator's position;

(h) The number of other persons in the building;

(i) Where relatives, physician, friends, clergy, etc., of the assailant can be located; and

(j) Any other pertinent information.

f. **Shift Commander**
The Shift Commander shall be responsible for the notification of BSUPD officials when the incident occurs after normal duty hours. He/she shall:

1. When the report of a sniper, barricade, or hostage situation has been verified, notify the Assistant Director;

2. If the incident occurs after the normal duty hours, notify the Assistant Director;

3. Contact the Prince George's County Police Department for assistance, if needed; and

4. Upon notification of the P.G. County Police Department, assist the P.G. County Police Department in coordinating efforts to neutralize the incident.

* Rescissions – Former Articles

1. Article 7, Section 0
2. Article 7, Section 1
3. Article 7, Section 2
4. Article 7, Section 3
5. Article 7, Section 4
6. Article 7, Section 5
7. Article 7, Section 6
8. Article 7, Section 8
9. Article 7, Section 9
10. Article 7, Section 11