

	Abilene Police Department Operating Procedures		
	Subject: <i>Bomb Squad</i>	Issued: 10/19/2011	TBP:

Bomb Squad

The Bomb Squad of the Department shall consist of personal appointed by the Chief of Police. Although assigned to other divisions within the Department, these specifically trained personnel will assume the additional duties and responsibility of Bomb Squad Technicians. Members of the unit should be graduates of the Hazardous Devices Course sponsored by the FBI Bomb Data Center.

Types of Hazardous Devices

The Bomb Squad commander will be notified of all calls involving found or located explosives or suspect devices. If the unit commander is unable to be contacted, notification should be made to a Bomb Squad technician assigned to the unit. Explosives, as used in this written directive, include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. Ammunition of .50 caliber or larger;
- B. Homemade explosives or pyrotechnic devices, except fireworks;
- C. Commercial or military explosives or pyrotechnic devices, except fireworks;
- D. Acid bombs or explosive chemicals such as nitroglycerin, picric acid, or tri-acetone tri-peroxide (TATP);
- E. Blasting caps or
- F. Any item or material that may resemble explosives, the identity of which is unknown.

The Bomb Squad shall be notified upon discovery of any suspicious package. A suspicious package is defined as any item, by manner or method of placement, or location of placement, deemed out of the ordinary by any reasonable person. If a suspicious package is located, the item shall not be moved unless immediately necessary to preserve human life. Suspicious packages shall not be moved in order to minimize property damage except by members of the Bomb Squad Unit.

Bomb Squad Unavailability

In the event personnel from the Bomb Squad are not available for response to locate suspected explosives, one of the following agencies will be notified by the shift commander or their representative:

- A. The 47th Explosive Ordinance Detachment, Fort Hood, Texas will be notified for military explosive items such as artillery shells, grenades and ammunition of .50 caliber or larger.
- B. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Lubbock, Texas will be notified of any suspected explosives not of military origin.



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Hazardous Devices and Bomb Threats

Response to bomb threats will conform to guidelines of the SOP manual concerning Bomb Threats and Explosives.

Response Guidelines

The following guidelines should be followed when an explosive device is located:

- A. Do not touch or attempt to move any explosive devices, or suspicious packages. Should the on-scene supervisor determine that it is necessary to evacuate the area, the recommended minimum safe distance is 300 feet.
- B. Secure the area and request assistance from the Bomb Squad commander or a member of the Bomb Squad Unit.

Bomb Squad Support Functions

The Bomb Squad personnel will provide technical assistance to Criminal Investigation Division investigators during post blast investigations. Bomb Squad personnel are on 24 hour call and will assist in post blast investigations, search warrants or any emergency operation where there is any possibility of the involvement of explosives.