



Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council

Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT)

Chief Michael R. Begonis Control Officer Wilmington Police Dept. Lt. Stephen D. Chaput Commanding Officer Dracut Police Department Sgt. Patrick Towle Officer-in-Charge Bedford Police Dept.

TO:

Sgt. Patrick Towle, Bedford Police

FROM:

Lt. Carmine C. Vivolo

DATE:

April 2013

SUBJ:

SWAT callout to Boston, Watertown, and Cambridge

On April 15, 2013 the Boston Police Department was conducting security for the annual Boston Marathon. During their security operations several Boston Police Officers were deployed at the finish line. While on deployment a large explosion occurred with a secondary explosion within seconds. Over 200 innocent bystanders were injured along with three fatalities, one being an eight year old child. At least fourteen of the injured had lost a limb with two of them losing two limbs. It was immediately apparent the incident involved a terrorist attack and the scene was in total chaos. The Boston Police, EMS, and innocent bystanders all started to triage the injured. At this time the NEMLEC SWAT/RRT was placed on immediate standby for further instructions.

At 1730 hours the NEMLEC SWAT Team was activated and responded to a staging area located at the Boston Police Special Operations Unit located at Warren Street Roxbury, Massachusetts. The RRT and Command Post was staged across from the Boston Police Headquarters located at Tremont Street Boston, Massachusetts. This location would be the staging area for most of the missions. The mission was for the RRT to post at certain locations throughout the areas of Boston with long arms. The RRT would deploy in four man teams with at least two officers with long arms. The locations would vary throughout the Financial District and would consist of 12-14 hour shifts during the day. The overnight shifts would deploy with less manpower due to Boston requesting higher visibility during the daytime and peak hours. The SWAT Team would also deploy with identical shifts as the RRT but would be staging as immediate action teams and respond if needed. The shifts had rotated throughout the week from April 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20, 2013. During the investigation it was learned two suspects had been involved with the Marathon Bombings. The suspects (and had been placed on a terrorism watch were brothers from list with their mother in 2011. The mother had moved back to Russia last year and had been studying Islam for the last four years while in the United States.

On April 18, 2013 the SWAT Team deployed their resources to the Boston Garden and Fenway Park areas due to the circus performing in the Boston Common and

the Boston Bruins and Red Sox Games scheduled. One of the Boston Bruins games earlier in the week had been cancelled due to the chaos and circumstances involving the crime scene investigations. Later in the evening an MIT Officer Sean Collier had been ambushed by the two bombing suspects and fatally shot in the head. The suspects committed a carjacking and fled the scene. It was learned the victim of the carjacking had left a cellular telephone inside the vehicle.

On April 19, 2013 at approx. 0100 hours the cell phone was tracked to the suspects where a police chase ensued and led them to an area in Watertown where a shootout would take place. During the police chase the suspects had deployed IED devices out of their vehicle towards the officers. Transit Police Officer Richard Donahue had been the first officer to engage the suspects and was seriously wounded. One of the suspects (had been shot and killed by police and the second suspect had fled the area. The town of Watertown had been locked down and a perimeter was secured. At this time the NEMLEC SWAT Team along with various tactical teams would be deployed to stage at the Arsenal Mall located on Mount Auburn Street in Watertown, Massachusetts. The perimeter was secured and broken up into a grid search pattern. Several teams would search there grids and respond to any hot calls being dispatched through the command post. The neighborhood was notified to stay inside their homes, lock their doors, and not come outside. The residents were also advised to call immediately for any suspicious activity or if they observe the shooting suspect who had just murdered a police officer. The searches would consist of clearing the rear yards, sheds, basements and speaking with residents. The Teams would ask the residents if any areas were left unsecured and needed to be checked by the officers. The searches of the residential areas continued throughout the early morning hours and into the evening.

At approx. 1830 hours the ban for residents leaving their home had been lifted. The tactical teams were advised to respond to the command post and received a meal break. While at the command post all SWAT teams were dispatched to Franklin Street Watertown, Massachusetts for a man in a boat. This location was just outside the grid search by a few blocks. It was learned the residential owner had a boat in his driveway on a trailer. The owner noticed a section of the cover on his boat had come loose and he came out to secure it. When he approached the boat he observed a blood stained shirt in his driveway. Further investigating revealed the suspect hiding inside his boat. The owner contacted the police via 911 on his cell phone. Several uniform officers responded to the scene and a shootout had ensued with several shots being fired through the boat and hitting the suspect. Upon arrival numerous uniform and tactical agencies responded and caused a bottle neck of police vehicles blocking the streets making it difficult to deploy the Bearcat. Due to the bottleneck the NEMLEC SWAT Operators formed a line and sprinted approx. a quarter mile to the suspect location. Once on location we immediately set up at the 2/3 corner of the target house and the 2/3 corner of a house located next to the 2 side of the target house. Several tactical teams along with the FBI HRT team were on location. It was immediately apparent several uniform officers deployed behind a shed were in a serious cross fire situation and needed to be removed. Several feet away was a plain clothes officer deployed behind a tree. The Command Post advised these officers to clear the area due to a possible cross fire. Two NEMLEC SWAT Operators deployed to the 4 side with bolt cutters to breach a chain link fence and remove the officers behind the shed. Two FBI HRT operators breached a wooden stockade fence and removed the officer behind the tree. Once the scene was secured the FBI negotiator attempted to make

contact with the suspect while the Massachusetts State Police Air Wing observed the suspect through thermal imaging from a helicopter.

During the negotiations the suspect was ordered to come out of the boat and show the palms of his hands. The Bearcat had removed the boat cover with the Bearcat Ram attached and attempted to tip the boat over. Several flash bangs were also deployed to disorient the suspect. The suspect eventually agreed to come out but was very weak due to the gunshot wounds he had sustained. The suspect stated "It hurts, It hurts", referring to the gunshot wounds. The suspect had made it to the side of the boat where he sat up but was unable to get down. Once it was confirmed the suspect was not armed and his palms were cleared the order was given to several agencies stacked with a shield to approach and remove the suspect. The suspect was placed in custody and treated for medical attention. The EOD Team was given the order to clear the boat and surrounding area for possible explosive devices. Once the area was secured all SWAT Teams were advised to respond back to the staging areas and clear the scene.

On April 20, 2013 the NEMLEC SWAT/RRT responded back to Boston for heightened security. The RRT staged officers along the TD Garden and Financial District areas while the NEMLEC and MSO SWAT Teams staged as an immediate action team at the corner of Causeway Street and Beverly Street during the Boston Bruins scheduled hockey game. During the mission several suspicious package calls were received and investigated. The Teams secured without incident and cleared the scene. Due to the various assignments throughout the week please refer to the IMAT Teams reports for attendance and assignment locations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lt. Carmine C. Vivolo

NEMLEC SWAT - CNT - K9 - IMAT ATTENDANCE SHEET

EVENT: Watertown Shooting DATE: 04/19/2013 TIMES: 0100-2300

	NAME	DEPT	PRESENT	ABSENT	IN-ROUTE	Comment - Assignment
	Borque, Mark, SGT	Tyngsboro	X			
	Chaput, Stephen, LT	Dracut	Х			
	Cogswell, Steve, Ptl	Billerica	Х			
	DiChiara, Chuck, Ptl	Waitham	Х			
	Dicker, Tom, Ptl	Watertown	X			
	Dorsey, Paul, Ptl	No. Reading	X			
S	Fay, James, SGT	Lowell	Х			
	Ferguson, Chuck, Ptl	Burlington	Х			
W	Fuller, Carl, LT	Winchester	Х			
	Frechette, David, SGT	Lowell	Х			
Α	Gualtieri, Mark, SGT	Billerica	Х			
	Heller, Thomas, Ptl	Stoneham	Х			
Т	Keins, Steven, SGT	Westford	Х			
	Max, Chris, SGT	Methuen	Х			
	McCarthy, Stephen, SGT	Waltham	Х			
	McDonough, Tim, SGT	Burlington	Х			
	Noonan, Patrick, Ptl	No. Andover	X			
	O'Leary, Sean, Ptl	No. Reading	X			
	Palmer, Eric	Wilmington		Х		
	Rego, Daniel, Ptl	Somerville		X		
	Saia, Mark, Ptl	Peabody	Х			
	Scotina, Alfred, Ptl	Peabody	Х			
	Seamans, John, SGT	Dracut	X			
	Shackelford, Kevin, Ptl	Somerville	X			
	Shelly, Jeffrey, Ptl	Concord	X			
	Surette, Robert	Lincoln	X			
	Towle, Pat, SGT	Bedford	X			
	Troiano, Chris, Ptl	Concord	X			
	Vaglica, James, SGT	Waltham	Х			
	Vivolo, Carmine, LT	Somerville	X			
	NAME	DEPT	PRESENT	ABSENT	IN-ROUTE	Comment - Assignment
	Fogarty, Andrea	CNT				
	Foley, Brian	CNT				
	Herrera, Armand	CNT				
С	Higginbottom, Mark, SGT	CNT - OIC	X			
	Peaslee, David	CNT				
N	Post, Greg	CNT				
	Ricci, Eric	CNT				
Т	Scharnick, Sean	CNT				
	Sedgwick, David	CNT				

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S	Bradbury, Jerry	MEDIC	Х			
U	Clark, Keith	MEDIC		Х		
P	Regan, Tim	MEDIC	X			
Ť	Russell, Wes	MEDIC		Х		
•	Cooper, Paul	Support		Х		
		Саррон				
	NAME	DEPT	PRESENT	ABSENT	IN-ROUTE	Comment - Assignment
	Harring, John	Billerica				Call Sign K-1
	Genovese	Gloucester	Х			
	Hogan, Michael	Arlington				Call Sign K-8
Κ	Tsoukalas, Mark	Billerica				Call Sign K-3
	Papsedero, Joe	Burlington				Call Sign K-4
9	Kinney, Brian	Lowell				Call Sign K-11
•	Peladeau, Corey	Westford	Х			Call Sign K-5
	Toumyan, Slyvia	Concord				Call Sign K-6
	Fogg, Mike	Waltham				Call Sign K-9
	Picallo, Al	Tewksbury				Call Sign K-7
	Polston, Mike	Malden				Call Sign K-12
	Connors, Michael	Andover				Call Sign K-10
	Roccicone, Brett	Wakefield				Call Sign K-13
	NAME	DEPT	PRESENT	ABSENT	IN-ROUTE	Comment - Assignment
	Arnold, Scott	Waltham				
	Buckley, William	MSO				
	Burnham, Ken	Lynnfield FD				
ı	Cassidy, Shane	MSO				
•	D'Agostino, Phil	Watertown				
М	Davis, Damien	MSO				
141	Duffill, John	Danvers				
Т	Dragone, Lauren	Newton				
•	Eldridge, Frank	Newton				
	Foley, Mike	Arlington				
	Griffin,Michael	Salem				
	Keefe, Brian	Lowell				
	Landers, Richard	Concord				
	Magee, Dave	Woburn				
	Malm, Chris	Wakefield		-		
						
	Mathers, David	Amesbury	<u></u>			
	Mondalto, Jamie	Danvers				
	Riccio, James	Belmont				
	Riendeau, Dan	Cataldo				
	Rudolph, Mark	Medford	ļ			
	Ryan, Christopher	Andover				
	Scafidi, Jeff	Armstrong				
	Scholtz, William	Amesbury				
	Skory, Steve	Wakefield				
	Simonds, Dave	Woburn				
	Spinosa, David	Lexington				
	Stokes, Keegan	Salem				
	Thibodeau, Joseph	N. Reading				
	Trombly, James	Contractor				
	Vinciulla, Jeffrey	Bedford				
	Vestri, Fabrizio	Pepperell	L			

NAME	DEPT	PRESENT	ABSENT	IN-ROUTE	Comment - Assignment
Fram, Thomas	Methuen				
Sheehan, Timothy	Tewksbury	Х			
Begonis, Michael	Wilmington	X			
Fisher, John	Carlisle	X			
Picariello, Robert	Marblehead				
Palma, Donald	Groton				
Ray, Mark	Beverly				