



ADVANCED ACADEMY

Search Awareness

March 2021



Course Outline

- **Uniforms**
- Missions
- Crime Scenes
- Training
- SAR 3 and SAR 2 Program
- Helicopter
- Medical
- Firearms
- Media / Social Media



Missions: Uniforms

- Standard callout/training uniform
 - Orange Shirt
 - Tan Pants (shorts may be permitted)
 - Boots (must have ankle support)
- Meetings
 - Varies by units
- Community Events
 - Determined by MCSO or Unit coordinating the event
- Public Areas (before/after search or training)
 - No misconduct
 - You are a representative of the Sheriff



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Missions: Callouts

- Resgrid Responder (units may use additional tools, such as texting, Signal or Whatsapp)
- Phone Calls (may use in limited callouts)
- We need you!
 - If you are available, please make every effort to respond to a call out.
 - If you are delayed, but will be available – we may need you! Let us know you are delayed and when you will be available.
 - If you are not available, don't respond to the point of contact – as they are preoccupied with the Search.



Missions: Expectations

- Once activated for a callout, expect very little information until you arrive at Command.
- ***Begin sharing your location on SARTopo.***
- In some cases, a Deputy is still enroute to the scene.
- Oftentimes, we don't have details on what clothing, names, ages, and so forth – until an interview is conducted with the reporting party.
- Most callouts will have a meeting place or Command Post location.
- A map will be provided, once available.



Missions: Rosters

- Rosters are used for both missions and trainings.
 - You must sign in and out on the roster
 - Print clearly and complete all fields
 - Mileage is round trip traveled for that roster/day/shift
- Time – Round to the nearest 15 minutes
- Missions
 - Times are “Portal to Portal”
- Trainings
 - Times for “Training Only”
- Multiple Operational Periods



Missions: CP Preparedness

- When you get to the Command Post (CP) and before you check in, ***make sure you have a pen/pencil and paper.***
- The CP can be pretty chaotic when it is first established.
- Be patient and wait for your assignment, as we may be waiting on additional resources to arrive before sending out a team.
- Keep in mind the family, friends or media may be nearby.



Missions: Assignments

- The CP will brief on the situation and any updates that have become available since activation.
- Once you have received your assignment, make sure you understand it and have a map for navigation on SARTopo – you may need to download Tiles.
- ***Then Start Recording Your tracks!!***
- Upon completing your assignment, contact Command. Be prepared for Command to debrief your assignment.
- Do not search areas not assigned to you.
- Do not deviate from assignment or self-reassign without approval from Command.
- Know the radio channels being used for the search.



Missions: Equipment

- Make sure to pack up the necessary equipment to complete your assignment.
 - Flashlights
 - Radio and extra battery
 - Tracking stick
 - 24-hour pack
 - Adequate amount of water
 - Cell phone and extra battery
 - GPS, maps, compass
 - Proper clothing (jacket, rain gear)
 - Flagging/survey tape



Missions: Fuel Reimbursements

- When activated, begin the search with a full tank of fuel.
- During a search, if there is an amount of traveling involved, Command may have instructions on getting additional fuel.
- Once the search is complete and you have returned home, fill up your tank again and turn the receipt into your Unit for reimbursement.
- Follow the procedures established for your Unit.



Missions: Damages

- Vehicle and equipment damages are going to happen.
- Expect heavy pin-striping
- Make sure you have current insurance on the vehicle
 - The State may reimburse your insurance deductible, but not much more than that
 - Flat tires are iffy on reimbursement
 - Equipment break downs (track bars, drive lines, etc) may not be covered
- Rescue equipment (such as rope gear) may be covered



Missions: Red and Blue Lights

- May only be used at the direction of Command.
- There are times that red and blue lights may be appropriate:
 - Roadblocks
 - Attractants – trying to gain someone's attention
- Mounting types:
 - Magnet mounts
 - Permanent mounts – must not be visible when off (the lenses need to be white, clear or covered)
- Insurance may not cover your vehicle.



Missions: Magnets

- Should be used at the direction of Command.
- Should not be used on freeways (or other roadways where they may fall/fly off):
 - Road Speeds
 - Wind
 - Brush
- Store in flat places to prevent warping.



Missions: Plates / Decals

- SAR Plates and decals draw attention to you and your vehicle
- You are a representative of the Sheriff



Missions: ID Cards

- Issued upon SAR membership and passing the background check.
- Not to be used as a “Get Out Of Jail Free” card!
 - Card will be confiscated
 - You will be removed from SAR
- May be used for “Pro Discounts”.
- May be used for “County Parks” entry fee.



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Crime Scenes

- As the circumstances leading up to SAR activation oftentimes remains unknown – it is important to consider all missions as a crime scene until it can be clear.
- Do not disturb anything until instructed to do so by Command.
- Contact Command.
- Protect the scene.
 - Use flagging, people, vehicles to block off the area
 - Don't destroy the scene while trying to protect it



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Required Training

There is a minimum set of training that must be completed within your first year:

- First Aid / CPR / AED – every 2 years
- Bloodborne Pathogens – every year
- Swift Water Awareness
- Rope Awareness
- Use of Communication Equipment
- Basic Navigation
- Use of Smart Phone applications (Resgrid / SARTopo)
- ASARCA SAR Tracker 3
- ASARCA SAR 3
- NIMS Classes



Advanced Training

Requires maintaining proficiency:

- Technical Rope Rescue Team
 - Ground Support
 - Technical Rope Technician
 - Short-Haul
- Swift Water
 - Operations
 - Technician (rescue swimmer)
- Advanced Tracking (Tracker 2 and Tracker 1)
- Inland Search Management



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SAR 3 and SAR 2 Programs

The SAR 3 and SAR 2 programs were developed to provide standardization across Arizona for resources.

- SAR 3
 - Basic Academy
 - FEMA/NIMS Classes
 - 24-Hour Pack
 - Chain of Command
- SAR 2 includes:
 - Fitness Test
 - Helicopter Ingress/Egress
 - Land Navigation
 - Wilderness Survival – First Aid/CPR/AED
 - Low-Angle Rescues and Patient Packaging



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Helicopters

- Limitations and availability
 - Not always available
 - High risk tool with an extremely low POD
 - At times, hand communications only
 - Fuel
 - Weather (such as heat, rain, fog)
 - Weight
- DPS Safety/Awareness training, required
 - Ingress/Egress training, recommended for everyone
 - Short-Haul training for observations or helping
- Pictures/videos – your assignment comes first



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Medical

- All searchers are required to maintain First Aid / CPR and AED certification.
- Advanced medical (EMT, Paramedic, Nurses, or Doctors) may perform as allowed under your Medical Direction.
 - Copies of current certifications must be on file
 - May not perform above your level of certification or competency
 - Limited to equipment you carry



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Firearms

- Firearms are not industry standard in search and rescue operations.
- Upon successful completion of Range Qualification, searchers may conceal carry a firearm.
 - Must be in the unit for at least a year.
 - Must have a current State-issued CCW on file.
 - Must be conceal-carry.
- LEOSA certified
 - May carry prior to Qualification.
 - Must have LEOSA certification on file.



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Media / Social Media

- Mission specifics, efforts, goals, and objectives, should not be discussed or divulged to anyone without prior authorization.
- Team members should always avoid voicing personal opinions publicly before discussing with IC.
- Media should be directed to PIO or the IC.
- Cameras and news crews may be encountered in field and professional demeanor must be followed.
- Laughing and unexplained gestures can be interpreted differently from a distance or on video.



Media / Social Media

- Be aware of who is around at all times.
- Impossible to anticipate when family member, friend, or media may be on scene.
- Information not released in the agency's official media release should not be shared in a social media post.
- Some information is protected by law. Posting photographs that can identify the subject of a SAR operation may violate the law and expose the individual and agency to legal action.



Search Awareness

Questions??