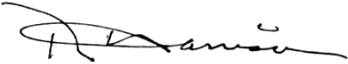


# TEXARKANA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>MRAP Deployment</b>		
<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>1109.08</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>January 13, 2015</b>
<b>Scheduled Review Date</b>	<b>February 01, 2017</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>January 13, 2015</b>
<b>Date Reviewed</b>		<b>REVISION DATE</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY</b>		<b>(Reserved for Expansion)</b>	

### I. Purpose

- A. This policy provides clear guidelines for the safe and effective deployment of the Texarkana Police Department's *Mine Resistant Ambush Protected* (MRAP) vehicle.

### II. Policy

- A. It shall be the policy of the Texarkana Police Department to develop and implement a policy that provides guidelines on the manner in which the MRAP is deployed and maintained.
- B. The policy will also contain guidelines that established a mandated training program for all personnel responsible for the MRAP's operational deployment. All department personnel shall recognize and adhere to the guidelines set forth within this policy.

### III. Procedures

#### A. MRAP Deployment

1. The Texarkana Police Department MRAP is assigned as a tactical unit to the TAPD SWAT team to be utilized in the mitigation of tactical situations requiring its use. More specifically, the MRAP is intended to be deployed during tactical situations that require additional protective measures for police officers who have encountered or might encounter gunfire or other hazardous situations during the performance of their duties.
2. The Texarkana Police Department may also deploy the MRAP to assist the citizens of our jurisdiction during natural disaster events that require the delivery of police services or rescue measures in extreme terrain or high water events.
3. The MRAP will not be utilized as the primary unit during vehicle pursuits. The MRAP may, however, be used in a tactical manner to terminate a pursuit under exigent circumstances.
  - a. All decisions to tactically deploy the MRAP as a support unit during pursuit events will be evaluated by the on-duty supervisor and based upon the guidelines contained within [General Order 1102.30--Pursuit Driving](#).
4. In the event the MRAP is deployed under the tenets of mutual aid, the Texarkana Police Department will always provide personnel trained to operate the MRAP. TAPD personnel shall have the final decision regarding the safe and appropriate use of the MRAP. All requests for

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deployment of the MRAP by other agencies will be managed in accordance to the guidelines contained within [General Order 1101.15---Mutual Aid](#).

- a. In addition to the requirements contained within *General order 1101.15---Mutual Aid*, the requesting agency must agree to remain responsible for paying for all damage to the MRAP and other TAPD equipment as a result of the MRAP's deployment during the mutual aid event.
5. The MRAP is not designed to travel long distances, and due to the MRAP's limitations on conventional roadways, the vehicle will not be driven a distance in excess of sixty (60) miles one-way without a waiver issued by the Chief of Police or his designee.
6. While the MRAP is primarily intended for deployment during SWAT operations, this policy shall not prohibit the MRAP's use by other police personnel within the agency whenever necessary. Any division commander may authorize the MRAP's use, provided the unit is deployed in accordance with the mandates provided in Section III B of this policy.

#### B. MRAP Operation

1. The Texarkana Police Department MRAP may only be operated by personnel within the agency having the training and requisite knowledge necessary for the unit's safe and effective operation.
2. Personnel who are assigned the responsibility of operating the MRAP shall complete an agency sponsored training session provided by trained military or civilian personnel who have extensive training in operating and maintaining MRAP units.
3. Only authorized department personnel shall drive the MRAP. All such operators shall hold a valid driver's license rated for the MRAP's vehicle classification (Class B license) and shall have completed the training as required within this policy. All personnel shall follow departmental policy during the MRAP's operation.
4. When the MRAP is used during police operations, the MRAP will, at a minimum, be operated in tandem by a qualified driver as well as a qualified Ground Guide / Observer.
  - a. The Ground Guide / Observer will complete the training curriculum associated with the safe operation of the MRAP prior to conducting Ground Guide / Observer duties.
  - b. The Ground Guide / Observer will assist the driver with navigation and observation of surroundings, and will dismount and assist the driver when practical to ensure safe movement of the vehicle.
5. Training curriculum used during this training shall be derived from the Center for Army Lessons Learned published by the Combined Arms Center located at Fort Leavenworth Kansas (*MRAP Vehicles; Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures*). All department training shall consist of classroom and practical hands-on training within the following specified topics:
  - a. Overview of the MRAP to include its capabilities and limitations;
  - b. Characteristics of the MRAP so operators will maintain detailed knowledge of the unit's size and weight;
  - c. Basic maintenance;
  - d. Safe operating speeds;
  - e. Effective methods for the proper maneuvering and steering of the MRAP;

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- f. Ground guiding techniques for the safe operation of the MRAP in areas containing diminished visibility;
- g. Operation of the MRAP on slopes, grades, and hills;
- h. Restricted terrain;
- i. Operating the MRAP on rough or uneven terrain features;
- j. Specific information relating to the MRAP's propensity for rollover;
- k. Danger areas that could result in falls, smashes, or pinched extremities;
- l. MRAP egress procedures during rollovers;
- m. The use of seat belts; and
- n. The risks associated with contacting high voltage power lines.

C. MRAP Maintenance and Storage

1. The MRAP will be maintained by personnel assigned to the Services Division. As such, personnel assigned to Fleet Management shall ensure the MRAP is serviced and maintained in accordance to the manufacturer's recommendations as required.
2. The MRAP shall be maintained in an operationally ready status at the Texarkana Police Department EOC.

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