

**POLICY
822**

**EFFECTIVE
DATE
4-27-18**

Eugene Police Department



Armed Barricaded Subjects

822.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Eugene Police Department holds as one of its greatest values, the sanctity of life.

The response to high risk incidents, therefore, involves strategies and tactics that are intended to preserve life. The objective with armed, barricaded subjects, is to move toward a resolution in which all parties survive. Each decision should be guided by this objective while adhering to standards for the priority of life. This objective applies to responses to all persons.

This policy should be used in conjunction with all other relevant policies including *Procedure 4.5 – Hostage or Barricaded Subjects*, *Procedure 4.6 – Large Scale Incidents*, *Policy 800 - Use of Force*, *Policy 820 - De-Escalation*, *Policy 418 – Mental Health Crisis Response*.

822.2 SUBJECTS IN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

It should be noted that many armed barricaded subjects are in a state of mental health crisis. Reasonable and appropriate considerations should be taken in order to ensure that those in mental health crisis are treated appropriately.

822.3 POLICY

As with all incidents involving police intervention, decisions will be proportional to the seriousness of the offense and to the risk posed to the public and police. Decisions must be reasonable under the totality of the circumstances known at the time, and will follow the priority of life:

- a. Public
- b. Police
- c. Suspect or Subject

The highest priority of life is the protection of the public, which includes victims, neighbors and innocent bystanders. The second priority of life is the safety of the officers. Reasonable risks may be taken to keep the public and EPD personnel safe. Officers shall not make decisions they reasonably believe place the public in danger or that put officers at unreasonable risk. The final priority of life is the suspect or subject, whose behavior led to the police response.

When a suspect/subject's actions create an imminent threat to the public or to officers, it is expected that officers will respond with reasonable and decisive force.

822.4 EQUIPMENT

The Eugene Police Department has a broad array of equipment, special teams, tactics, abilities, expertise, and personnel. It is expected that officers will use any and all necessary tools available in the application of this policy.

David N. James
Interim Police Executive Director