# SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS TEAM

## DESCRIPTION
The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team provides increased law enforcement capabilities using specially trained and equipped tactical officers to prevent or respond to high-risk emergency incidents.

## RESOURCE CATEGORY
Law Enforcement

## RESOURCE KIND
Team

## OVERALL FUNCTION
The SWAT Team responds to:
1. High-risk warrant service and apprehensions
2. Active shooter or active threat situations
3. Barricaded situations
4. Hostage rescue operations
5. Terrorism threats
6. VIP protection needs
7. Special event perimeter control needs (high-risk security operations)
8. Sniper and counter-sniper operations

## COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS
1. Discuss logistics for deploying this team, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment
2. This team typically works 8 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 3 days
3. Discuss the need for additional operational support teams, including a Crisis Negotiation Team, Bomb Response Team, Hazardous Materials Response Team, and canine or aviation unit
4. Requestor specifies need for hazardous materials response capabilities
5. Discuss the need for specialized capabilities that are unique to the mission, as not all teams offer every capability
6. Requestor may order Tactical Medics, Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) teams, K-9 teams, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Teams, logistics specialists, and intelligence specialists to augment this team
7. Discuss arrangements related to arrest authority, such as deputation, before deployment
8. Requestor and provider discuss communications system requirements such as 800 MHz requirements or need for secure channels
9. Discuss use of chemical agents and munitions, and less-lethal munitions
Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>TYPE 1</th>
<th>TYPE 2</th>
<th>TYPE 3</th>
<th>TYPE 4</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MINIMUM PERSONNEL PER TEAM</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
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<tr>
<td>MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT PERSONNEL PER TEAM</td>
<td>Same as Type 2, PLUS: 1 – National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 SWAT Team Leader</td>
<td>Same as Type 3</td>
<td>1 – NIMS Type 1 SWAT Team Commander 2 – NIMS Type 1 SWAT Team Leader</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>1. All types include an advance team that remains as a component of this team. 2. All types train together prior to deployment.</td>
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<td>SUPPORT PERSONNEL PER TEAM</td>
<td>Same as Type 2, PLUS: 6 – NIMS Type 1 SWAT Team Officer</td>
<td>Same as Type 3, PLUS: 4 – NIMS Type 1 SWAT Team Officer</td>
<td>12 – NIMS Type 1 SWAT Team Officer</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>1. Tactical support may include specialties such as breacher, sniper, observer, and grenadier. 2. Teams can include Tactical Medics, TEMS teams, logistics specialists, and intelligence specialists.</td>
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<td>PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) PER TEAM MEMBER</td>
<td>Same as Type 2</td>
<td>Same as Type 3</td>
<td>PPE is mission specific and may include: 1. Level 3 body armor with ballistic plates 2. Helmet 3. Hood (fire-resistant) 4. Eye protection 5. Gloves 6. Knee pads 7. Full-face air purifying respirator (APR) 8. Tactical medical supplies, including tourniquets and clotting bandages</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>The following regulation addresses PPE: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment.</td>
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</table>
| WEAPONS SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM   | Same as Type 2                        | Same as Type 3                        | Department and Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) approved weapons, which may include:  
1. Duty weapons  
2. Specialty weapons  
3. Ammunition  
4. Less-lethal weapons | Not Applicable                       | Not Specified |
| TACTICAL TOOLS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM    | Same as Type 2                        | Same as Type 3, PLUS:  
1. Chemical agent and munitions delivery system  
2. Chemical agents and munitions | Tactical gear is mission specific and may include:  
1. Breaching shotguns  
2. Battering ram  
3. Breaching equipment  
4. Flash-bang distraction and diversionary devices  
5. Night vision tools  
6. Ballistic shield  
7. Surveillance equipment | Not Applicable                       | Not Specified |
| TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT PER TEAM    | Same as Type 2, PLUS:  
1 – Sport utility vehicle | Same as Type 3, PLUS:  
1 – Tactical vehicle | Department assigned vehicles:  
1 – Sport utility vehicle  
1 – Tactical vehicle (armored) | Not Applicable                       | Department assigned vehicles may include patrol cars, unmarked police cars, sport utility vehicles, and other vehicles. |
| COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM    | Same as Type 2, PLUS:  
7– Short-range, two-way portable radio  
7 – Cell phone | Same as Type 3, PLUS:  
4– Short-range, two-way portable radio  
4 – Cell phone  
1 – Satellite phone | 15 – Short-range, two-way portable radio  
15 – Cell phone | Not Applicable                       | Not Specified |
NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Bomb Response Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 508: Crisis Negotiation Team, pending publication
3. FEMA, NIMS 508: Hazardous Materials Response Team, pending publication
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Special Weapons and Tactics Team Commander, pending publication
5. FEMA, NIMS 509: Special Weapons and Tactics Team Leader, pending publication
6. FEMA, NIMS 509: Special Weapons and Tactics Team Officer, pending publication