

Best Practice Title:

Civil Disobedience Operational Approach

Point of Contact:

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Brief Description of Best Practice:

Provide a standardized response to Civil Disobedience Events through training of the site's first responders and support personnel such as Local Law Enforcement Agencies (LLEA). These practices are developed and implemented across the DOE sites as an effective means of handling civil disobedience situations.

Additionally, first responders and emergency personnel are trained in Unified Incident Command protocols which aid in the handling of these situations. These skills are reinforced through drills and training exercises throughout the year per site training plans, and through real events as they occur.

Why the best practice was used:

This practice is utilized to ensure that sites respond to events appropriately and safely. Having a trained staff of professionals who have practiced with other entities (LLEAs) on these events ensures that response to real emergencies is handled appropriately. In addition, a well-trained staff limits liabilities from inappropriate handling of suspects, civilians, and unjustifiable force. Finally, security professionals should be aware of their legal jurisdiction and responsibilities in the securing of those detained during these events.

What are the benefits of the best practice:

Like all emergency events or situations, the greatest benefit of having established procedures and proper training is that the response to real world emergencies is that much safer and effective for the responding officers. Additionally, protective force members who train in conjunction with supporting LLEAs will have an understanding for the measures needed to be successful as well a better understanding on how each agency will support one another during an event.

What problems/issues were associated with the best practice:

Typical areas for Improvement or noted deficiencies that must be addressed include locations where civil disobedience may occur. Some site Protected Areas may fall into areas where this could occur. Due to the nature of a Protected Area versus a lower security area can cause issue and may require a different response to the event as rules of engagement and protection of assets will be elevated.

Sharing lessons learned across the DOE complex can be challenging as every site and situation can be vastly different. To share information sites should be open to communication with other sites, network with other protective forces, and be willing to use groups such as EFCOG for best practices or lesson learned processes.

Along these lines, Performance Testing groups should take advantage of sharing training information with other sites through EFCOG or alternative groups such as the Performance Testing Working group where a collaboration occurs between the sites testing personnel. This sharing of information allows sites to expand beyond their own boundaries and provides greater opportunities for training.

How the success of the Best Practice was measured:

The site Performance Test group currently performs drills at regular intervals with the protective force as well as taking advantage of LLEA support, as available. First responders, such as emergency services, take part in similar drills to ensure support processes are followed, unified command is established between first responder organizations, proper cordon actions are practiced, and the protection of the site workforce is taken into consideration.

In all cases this training is documented and recorded with identified deficiencies being noted. These deficiencies are then used to create follow-up training and education pieces to ensure that protective force personnel are effective in their response. In cases where catastrophic deficiencies are noted, immediate retraining is conducted, and follow-on drills occur to ensure the training was effective.

Description of process experience using the Best Practice:

As the state of this nation changes and the general lack of respect for law enforcement grows, lawlessness amongst the population increases due to governmental defunding movements, lack of enforcement of laws, and limited LLEA presence site Protective Forces face a greater potential for civil disobedience events to occur. As such plans should be written, officers should be trained, and sites should be ready to handle these types of events should they occur. Listed below are a few key points to consider:

- Initial Response
 - Planned Events vs. Unplanned Events- Considerations for staffing, logistics, resources, etc.
 - Utilize intelligence gathering from LLEA, internet, FBI, etc. for planned events to respond appropriately.
 - Send an appropriate number of personnel that the site can handle to control the situation. All sites should partner with LLEA, however small sites that have limited staffing and resources, **must** consider partnering with LLEA for assistance.

- The first responding SPO assumes On Scene Commander duties until relieved by a supervisor. This process should be outlined in Site Security Plans (SSP) and Incident Response Plans.
- Initial responder(s) should provide critical information (SALUTE report, etc.) to command elements to properly assess and plan for the event, communication of observations and location is key.
- Command and Control Response
 - Utilize Incident Command Systems (ICS). Establish an Incident Commander and On-Scene Commander (may be same individual initially).
 - IC will determine needed resources and scale up or down as needed.
 - Should be scalable and located in a safe location, close enough to monitor and control the event but far enough to avoid becoming part of the event.
 - Have resources available located for easy dispersal.
 - Sites should identify responsibility of command and control in response plan.
- Hold Points
 - Pre-identified areas where assessments of the situation are made (i.e., is it under control? Do we need additional resources? Can we scale it down? Etc.)
 - Areas where the Protective Force will not fall back, (the line in the sand) where unauthorized persons will not be allowed, and arrests will be made if crossed.
 - Provide relief for officers as needed and appropriate.
- Officer Ratio
 - The minimum ratio of officers should be 3 to 1 if possible. Ideal ratio would be 5 to 1: Two control officers, one arresting officer, one over watch officer and one supervisor.
 - Large-scale protests will be dependent on resources available, including LLEA.
 - The number of officers needed should include relief officers for prolonged incidents.
 - For riot events, having two lines of officers with basic riot gear such as helmets with face shields, riot shields, shin guards, etc. with teams of two arresting officers behind these lines.
 - Have agreement with LLEA for large-scale protests/riots who may have better resources and legally cover SPOs for detaining individuals.
 - If a planned event has a history of being peaceful, sites should consider limiting frontline officers to avoid antagonizing and escalating the event. However, additional officers should be available for a quick response.
 - Optics of response should be considered when known to be peaceful event, while maintaining control and officer/personnel safety.
- Collection Points
 - Have designated area for suspect handling, searching/segregating (dirty/clean), and transport loading.

- Have designated area for casualty collection and EMT response in case of injuries.
- Have designated area for staging relief officers, additional equipment/PPE, water/food, and logistical support.
- Have a designated area for media if needed or at minimum have them move to a safe location.
- Legal Ramifications
 - Coordination with LLEA partners before and during incidents.
 - Plan in advance with contractor and local DOE legal departments.
 - Robust Legal Authority training for SPOs.
 - DOE “No Comment” Policy training for SPOs.
 - SPOs when approached by media should direct them to local public relations for contractor, DOE, or Emergency Operations Center/Joint Information Center.
- Liaison with LLEA
 - Sites should have joint training exercises to learn and mesh each other’s communication, tactical movement, and command and control. Integrate into procedures.
 - Established contacts between agencies improve process to request resources and assistance. Fosters teamwork and cooperation. Increasingly important with high turnover rates of all agencies.
 - Have agreements in place and keep updated.
 - For planned events, coordinate with all stakeholders – contractor, DOE, LLEA, Fire Department, etc.
- Defined Procedure
 - Have a well-defined plan/procedure that is also broad enough to be flexible. Make it tailored to your Site’s specific needs.
 - Test it to failure. Find the weak points and focus on improvements.
 - Run through legal department.