

La Plata Police Department – Standard Operating Procedure

	Title: Humvee		Number: SOD-01	
	Effective Date: June 10, 2015	Review Date:		
	Original Issue: √ New	o Amends	o Rescinds	
Approved by: Chief Carl Schinner			CALEA 5 th Edition	
CALEA Standard: 41.1.3				Pages: 3

1. **PURPOSE:** The Humvee may be used by patrol officers during severe weather events and during high risk incidents. The bullet resistant qualities of the armor plated body of the vehicle enables officers to move about the inner perimeter during periods of hostile fire in relative safety. (CALEA 41.1.3.a)

2. **USES:** The APC may be used during weather events, active shooters and other unusual occurrences. During hostile situations the APC can be utilized to transport personnel and equipment between a command post and the threat area. It can further be used for deployment of suppressive fire, smoke and chemical agents. It can be used to block the escape routes of vehicular traffic and to create diversions. Its appearance alone can have a psychological impact and serve as a visual deterrent.

3. **AUTHORIZED OPERATORS AND CREW:** Drivers shall be trained in operations of the vehicle. When the Humvee is used for tactical operations it will be staffed by a minimum of two officers, a driver and an observer. Prior to the Humvee being deployed, permission must be granted from a member of command staff except in the most exigent of circumstances. (CALEA 41.1.4.a & .b)

4. **RESPONSIBILITIES:**
 - A. Driver: Shall be responsible for operating the vehicle safely and during tactical operations the driver shall follow the direction of the observer.

 - B. Observer: Normally the observer is responsible for all radio transmissions from the vehicle, especially when the vehicle is in tactical mode. The observer will also direct and control the operator of the vehicle.

5. **ESCORTS:** Whenever possible, when driving the Humvee to an operation there should be at least one marked vehicle to provide an escort to the incident. When responding to incidents outside of the Town, it will be the responsibility of the requesting agency to provide an escort from a predetermined location to their incident, possible. If not, then a marked La Plata Police cruiser will assume said escort duties.

6. **REQUEST FOR USE OF VEHICLE BY AN ALLIED AGENCY:** The APC may be made available to other agencies outside of the City, however, its use must be intended for law enforcement purposes, to include training, demonstrations and parades. These requests shall be directed to the Special Operations Division Commander (SOD), or in his/her absence, the ERU Supervisor. Upon a request from an allied agency, a minimum of a driver and observer will respond with the vehicle. When the vehicle is used outside of the City for tactical operations, operation of the APC is restricted to a Department ERU member. (CALEA 41.1.3.a & .b)

7. **MAINTENANCE:** The ERU Supervisor shall be responsible for the proper maintenance of this vehicle. Routine maintenance should be performed by members of ERU. When not in use, the vehicle will be stored at a location approved by the Chief of Police. (CALEA 41.1.3.c)

8. DEPLOYMENT OF THE CREW: (CALEA 41.1.3.a)

- A. The driver and observer will remain inside the vehicle during normal tactical operations.
- B. During exigent circumstances, the driver may be required to exit the vehicle as ordered by the observer to facilitate rescue operations.
- C. The observer will be responsible for the expeditious ingress and egress of the vehicle at scenes during tactical operations by acting as the eyes for the driver. The observer will instruct the driver during maneuvers and will assist the driver in placing the APC in the most efficient position for the task, rescue, or in placing the ERU members in close proximity to the target location for an entry.
- D. The observer will also be responsible to locate and monitor any and all activity, hostile or otherwise, that occurs from around or within the suspect location as it relates to the APC, so that he/she can coordinate with the cover officer in providing necessary weapons coverage of the vehicle.
- E. Once the cover officers have deployed from the vehicle, their main cover points will be to the front and rear of the vehicle.
- F. It will be the responsibility of the rescue officers to bring the injured person(s) or evacuee(s) to the vehicle for removal from the scene. It is important that the rescuer closest to the injured person(s) or evacuee(s) communicate verbally, providing detailed and explicit instructions to them to ensure their safety.
- G. When possible, once the injured person(s) are on board, immediate medical attention will be provided by the ERU medic.

10 USING THE APC FOR COVER: (CALEA 41.1.3.a)

- A. Officers shall keep all their movements outside of the vehicle low, especially when the target/suspect may be in an elevated position.
- B. Officers should use the tires for low cover when moving or kneeling outside of the vehicle. It is imperative to try to conform to the profile of the tires when kneeling outside the vehicle to limit the possibility of hits from ricochets.
- C. Officers shall constantly be aware of the shape of the APC, vertically as well as horizontally. This is important not only in respect to cover and concealment, but also with respect to possible assaults on the APC.

11. SUPPORT FOR THE APC DURING TACTICAL OPERATIONS:

- A. Counter snipers will be the primary choice of cover fire, due to their optic and long range capabilities.
- B. Counter snipers and inner perimeter personnel will coordinate with the observer in reference to intelligence or hostile movement. Due to the limited fields of view available to the observer, it will be necessary for other cover personnel to maintain constant surveillance of the target suspect.

12. WEAPONS DISCIPLINE INSIDE THE APC: All shoulder weapons belonging to evacuee(s) will be placed on safe and put into a car safe condition. All handguns of the evacuee(s) will be holstered when

possible. Precautions will be made to minimize the danger of accidental discharges of chemical agents and smoke.

13. **TRAINING:** It will be the responsibility of the ERU Training Officer to ensure training on the operations of the APC. (CALEA 41.1.3.b)
14. **EQUIPMENT:** A fire extinguisher, first aid kit and two (2) rescue boards will be kept in the APC at all times. (CALEA 41.1.3.d)

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