

The Special Enforcement Bureau originally started as the Special Enforcement Detail in 1958 to deal with protests and civil disorder. In the decades since, SEB has grown in size and specialties to become one of the preeminent tactical teams in the United States.



The Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) is responsible for handling high-risk tactical operations involving barricaded suspects, hostage situations, and high-risk warrant services. In addition, SEB provides security for visiting dignitaries and politicians including the President and Vice-President of the United States. Patrol stations and detective units also request SEB to provide "mission specific" police services in problematic areas.

SEB responds to approximately 200-300 tactical operations every year. Because of SEB's capabilities and national recognition, the Unit is called upon to participate in joint operations and training at the national / international level with federal and military units. The primary goal of SEB is to save lives. As such, its expertise is in solving dangerous situations through experience, training, and the use of highly specialized weapons and equipment.

SEB continues to develop and enhance tactics involving the assault of commercial airliners, passenger trains, and maritime vessels where hostages have been taken. SEB continues to stay on the cutting edge in numerous disciplines within the tactical community, such as rural operations, tactical explosive breaching, and aerial assault deployment. In this era of homegrown and international terrorism SEB has also developed a close partnership with the Department's Arson / Explosives Detail and Hazmat Detail.

SEB is a full-time unit that consists of Special Weapons, Canine, and Emergency Services Teams, made up of deputies, sergeants, and lieutenants all under the command of the unit commander, a captain. The unit is supported by a civilian staff.

On all operations involving Special Weapons Team activation, the Team is always assisted by at least two SWAT paramedics (ESD) who are capable of rendering advanced medical aid to victims, deputies and suspects under extremely stressful and hostile conditions. The team is also supplemented by Canine personnel who are also crossed trained as team members. Special Weapons Team members trained in a variety of disciplines to address the varied working

environment of Los Angeles County. Advanced training consists of rural / mountain operations, maritime interdiction operations, and WMD. Special Weapons Team cadres consist of instructor certified members providing training in hostage recovery, high-risk warrant service, barricaded suspects, armored vehicle tactics, firearms, breaching, technology, rural, maritime interdiction, and WMD.

SEB has developed several tactical schools that are highly sought after. These specialized schools are put on for our team members and outside agency tactical teams. These schools include the Basic SWAT school, tactical long rifle school, and tactical explosive breaching school. Students of these schools come from local, state, federal, and military units.



Canine Detail members are primarily responsible for assisting patrol stations by conducting searches for felony and / or armed suspects with the use of specially trained dogs. Canine members support the Special Weapons Teams on all hostage rescues, barricaded suspect, and high-risk arrest warrants. Canine members are specialist in urban / rural tracking operations and can be inserted into tactical operations with their dogs via rappel and / or fast rope. Canine members also train and operate in the highly specialized area of maritime interdiction operations.

The Emergency Services Detail is the Department's tactical paramedics and rescue / recovery specialists. The detail's members are special weapons team members and are trained / certified in the following areas: SWAT / Tactical Operations, Rural / Mountain Rescue, Ocean / Swift Water Rescue, Helicopter-Based Rescue, and Public Safety Diving. Additionally, each member is a licensed paramedic / certified tactical medic and is able to deliver advanced life support care in any of the austere environments SEB deploys in. ESD also maintains cadres with advanced expertise involving instructor level certifications, in the mentioned skill set, to train its own members and those from outside agencies. Advanced specialized training involves Combat Medical, Combat Technical Rescue, Confined Space Rescue / Recovery, Tactical HAZMAT, and advanced underwater recovery operations. ESD also functions as a FEMA asset and has been called on numerous times to offer its expertise and services in California and across the nation involving natural disasters. ESD members

have extensive tactical experience and can only be selected after serving with the Special Weapons Teams. Training to be an ESD deputy takes approximately 18 months to become operational.

