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# BASIC COURSE INSTRUCTOR UNIT GUIDE

23

CRIMES IN PROGRESS

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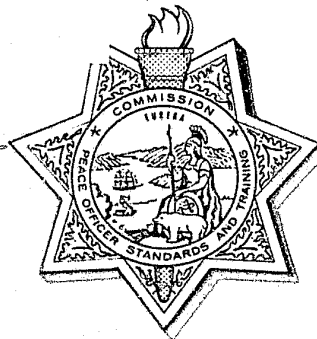
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THE COMMISSION  
ON PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The curriculum contained in this document is designed as a *guideline* for the delivery of performance-based law enforcement training. It is part of the POST Basic Course guidelines system developed by California law enforcement trainers and criminal justice educators in cooperation with the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

## UNIT GUIDE 23

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# CURRICULUM

## I. GENERAL CONCEPTS OF OFFICER SAFETY

NOTE: It is often effective to begin officer safety instruction by exposing the students to a variety of case studies, videos, news clippings or other sources of information relating to assaults and killings of peace officers. Instructors should include current statistics and trends in their lesson plans.

### A. Sources of information on assaults and killings of peace officers:

1. FBI peace officer killing statistics (national figures)
2. POST peace officer killing studies (California figures)
  - a. 1980-1986 POST Peace Officer Killing Study
  - b. 1987-1989 POST Peace Officer Killing Study
  - c. *Guidelines for Law Enforcement Officer Safety* (published by POST following completion of the 1980-1986 POST study of California peace officers killed in the line of duty)

NOTE: Copies of these studies are available by contacting the POST Media Distribution Desk. A study addressing 1990-1993 statistics is currently in progress.

- d. POST telecourse and associated student workbook - *Surviving Deadly Assaults* - July 1993

NOTE: Copies of the telecourse video and workbook are available by contacting POST Training Program Services Bureau.

3. Other sources of officer safety-related statistics and information including but not limited to the:
  - a. Bureau of Prisons
  - b. Department of Justice
  - c. ATF Explosive Incidents Summary

### B. Ten fatal errors

NOTE: Although patterns and trends in assaults and killings of officers may change, one or more of the following errors are always present in the assault or killing of an officer.

1. Attitude
  - a. If peace officers fail to keep their minds on their jobs while on patrol, or carry home problems into the field, they will start to make errors.

- b. The resultant errors can place officers and their peers at risk.
- 2. Tombstone courage
  - a. No one doubts the courage of peace officers, but in most situations, where time allows, it is prudent to wait for backup.
  - b. There are few instances justifying an unaided arrest of a dangerous person.
- 3. Not enough rest
  - a. For a peace officer to perform effectively, adequate rest is essential.
  - b. Being sleepy (or asleep) is not only a violation of professional standards of conduct, but endangers the officer, fellow officers and the community.
- 4. Taking a bad position
  - a. An officer can never let a person being questioned assume a superior tactical position.
  - b. Officers must be reminded that there is no such thing as a "routine" traffic stop
- 5. Danger signs ignored
  - a. An officer must remain alert to "danger signs"...movements, strange cars, and other warning signs that should alert the officer to danger and prompt a cautious approach.
  - b. It is essential that an officer "know the beat" to detect danger signs and effectively provide public protection.
- 6. Failure to watch hands of suspects: An officer must be alert to the potential of a suspect reaching for a weapon or preparing to strike.
- 7. Relaxing too soon
  - a. An officer must not become complacent. The "rut" created by repeated false alarms, for example, can tempt an officer into becoming careless.
  - b. It is essential for the officer to remain vigilant, to always observe for potential criminal activity, and to never "assume" that any call is false.
- 8. Improper use or no handcuffs
  - a. Once an officer has made an arrest, the prisoner should be properly handcuffed.
  - b. Many assaults and killings of officers have been perpetrated by suspects who were under arrest, but who were not properly handcuffed.

9. No search or poor search
  - a. Officers must remember that there are many places where a weapon may be secreted upon a person.
  - b. Many criminals carry several weapons. The discovery of one weapon should not prompt the officer to discontinue a search.
  - c. Officer must also remember that criminals often train with their weapons and are psychologically prepared to use them if given the opportunity.
10. Dirty or inoperative weapon
  - a. Officers must be scrupulous regarding the mechanical integrity of their firearms.
  - b. Questions that officers should frequently ask themselves include:
    - (1) Is my firearm clean?
    - (2) Will it fire properly?
    - (3) How about the ammunition?

NOTE: A one-page handout listing the ten fatal errors is included in the reference section of this instructor unit guide.

C. Differences between "officer safety" and "officer survival"

1. "Officer safety" refers to the practical application of tactically-sound procedures to perform law enforcement activities in a safe and effective manner. Officer safety involves, but is not limited to:
  - a. Effective training
  - b. Available resources
  - c. Appropriate equipment
  - d. Officer confidence
2. "Officer survival" refers to an officer's state of mind and physical reaction to a direct attack or assault. Officer survival is linked to the concept of the "will to live". Officer survival involves, but is not limited to:
  - a. Effective training
  - b. Mental preparation/rehearsal
  - c. Physical fitness
  - d. Confidence

D. The "will to live"

1. The "will to live" is a psychological concept involving a mental commitment to "never give up".
2. The elements of the "will to live" involve the concepts that:
  - a. the mind and body work together in harmony.
  - b. appropriate responses are based upon training and experience.
  - c. even if injured, an officer may be able to resist and successfully survive an assault.

E. Surviving a nonfatal wound

1. The "will to live" is the most important single element in an officer's ability to survive a nonfatal wound.
2. In addition to possessing the "will to live", officers must be trained and prepared to react appropriately after sustaining a nonfatal wound. Actions may include, but are necessarily limited to:
  - a. Self-administered first aid
  - b. Cover and/or concealment
  - c. Tactical retreat
  - d. Weapon retention
  - e. Suspect apprehension

## II. BODY ARMOR

### A. Characteristics of body armor

1. Body armor is generally rated by the following factors:
  - a. Caliber resistance
  - b. Resistance to nonfirearm penetration (vulnerability to hand-held objects such as ice picks, knives and other edged weapons)

### B. Using body armor

1. Insure proper fit and sizing of vest
2. The vest must be worn according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
3. The vest should allow for movement and body flexibility.
4. The vest should be maintained/cleaned in conformance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

NOTE: Technical information on body armor is available directly from individual manufacturers. In addition, information regarding the capabilities and limitations of body armor is available from independent resources. Instructors may wish to consult these resources to enhance individual lesson plans.





### III. CONTACT AND COVER

#### A. Contact officers

1. The contact officer is responsible for conducting the business of the contact. This officer records necessary suspect or incident information, performs searches, recovers evidence, writes traffic or misdemeanor citations, and handles radio communications.
2. The contact officer will usually initiate the action.

#### B. Cover officers

1. The "cover officer" assures the thoroughness of the investigation and the integrity of the chain of custody or evidence.
2. The "cover officer" is responsible for surveillance and control of all suspects, both to neutralize the possibility of assault, escape or destruction of evidence and to free the "contact officer" to perform a more thorough investigation. While the "contact officer" does not rely solely on the "cover officer" for protection or suspect security, that is the "cover officer's" primary function.

#### C. Designation

1. In some instances, an officer's expertise in a specific field may influence the designation of rules, and officers may agree to exchange duties. If, for example, a complicated evidence-retrieval situation exists, and one officer is a field evidence technician, the two may decide to reverse roles. Another example might be where the possession or use of narcotics is suspected and one officer has developed specialized expertise in the field. In such exchanges, the officer assuming the role of cover officer should be in position and fully prepared to respond to any sudden action by the suspect(s) before the original cover officer relinquishes that duty.
2. Some major crime scenes, or disturbances involving several suspects may require multiple contact or cover officers. This is particularly true when two or more suspects must be separated and other witnesses individually questioned, or when a potentially hostile crowd may interfere. In such cases, contact and cover duties should be assigned as appropriate by either the primary contact officer or a supervisor.

In any case, those assignments should be absolutely clear, and as specific as the situation permits.

#### D. Communication

1. Officers requesting a cover unit and those responding to cover calls should each assure that the other is briefed as thoroughly as possible.
2. Upon arrival, the contact officer should advise the cover officer of:
  - a. The reason for the contact and suspected criminal activity.

- b. Observations made or evidence obtained.
  - c. The contact officer's immediate plans.
  - d. Any previous knowledge of the suspect(s) and/or an appraisal of their potential for violence.
  - e. Whether or not a search for weapons has been conducted
  - f. Any other suspicious persons or activity in the area
3. The cover officer should receive this information and then brief the contact officer on:
- a. Previous knowledge of suspect(s).
  - b. Observations made while approaching the scene.
  - c. Any significant radio traffic the contact officer may have missed since calling for cover,
  - d. Acknowledgement of their role as cover officer.
4. Two-officer units: Personnel assigned to two-officer units should agree upon their roles in advance of each contact whenever possible. Whether agreement is reached that one will function as contact officer, the other as cover officer for an entire shift, or whether such assignment is made on a contact-by-contact basis, the agreement should be clearly understood and verbally acknowledged. Any additional officers responding will be assigned their contact or cover duties by the primary contact officer.
5. One-officer units: For personnel assigned to single officer units, the contact officer will normally be the one who initiated the activity. Additional personnel, whether responding to a call for cover, or simply stopping at the scene, should automatically assume the role of cover officer unless otherwise instructed.
6. "Assistance only" contacts: If the officer initiating the contact believes there is no need for a cover officer, but does need help with the business of the contact, he or she should inform any responding officer(s) that they need assistance, but not "cover". If the situation changes, then the contact officer needs only to ask the other officer(s) to assume the role of "cover".

#### E. Responsibilities

1. Although the contact officer conducts the essential business required, the cover officer's two-fold role is paramount. First, the cover officer discourages hostile acts, assaults or escape by devoting complete attention to security. Second, the cover officer, in certain circumstances, may be required to intervene with appropriate force to protect the contact officer if a suspect reacts violently. (See F5 below)

2. The cover officer should not be distracted by the business of the contact, recover evidence, pat-down suspects, or engage in unnecessary conversation with either suspects or bystanders. If, for example, the cover officer observes anything of possible evidentiary value, such as an object dropped by a suspect, the cover officer should not retrieve it, but simply advise the contact officer.

F. Positioning

1. The ideal position for a cover officer provides a clear and unobstructed view of the suspect(s) as well as the best peripheral view of the surrounding areas; the safest possible background behind both the suspect(s) and officer in the event of gunfire; and a position controlling the likeliest route of escape.
2. The cover officer assures control of the suspect(s), and when necessary, directs their movements. The contact officer should avoid moving between the cover officer and suspect(s) or into a position of vulnerability, but it is the cover officer's responsibility to warn him or her if their actions might place them in jeopardy.
3. The most hazardous moment of the majority of contacts occurs during a search for weapons or handcuffing. Definition of roles is most important at this point. Adjusting their positions accordingly, the contact officer conducts the search or cuffing while the cover officer acts as security. If physical resistance to this process occurs in a situation with multiple suspects, the cover officer retains responsibility for preventing the others from joining the fight. Only if the contact officer requests help should the cover officer reintervene in a one-on-one struggle when other suspects are present.
4. Should the contact officer be unable to control a suspect's physical resistance in this situation, he or she may elect to jump back and break contact. Both officers will then be in a position to deal with any threat, particularly if the suspect(s) pull weapons. Once additional "cover" has arrived, two officers can confront and control the suspect, leaving a cover officer free to deal with the other suspects.
5. In a one-on-one struggle between the contact officer and a suspect when no other suspects or bystanders are present, the cover officer's role remains essentially unchanged. Unless requested to join in the struggle by the contact officer, the cover officer maintains a position of observation. Should the suspect gain control of the contact officer's weapon, the contact officer should shout a warning and if appropriate, GET OUT OF THE COVER OFFICER'S LINE OF FIRE. The cover officer will then be in the most advantageous position to deal with the now-armed suspect.

G. Release of the cover officer

1. In most instances, a cover officer can be released to go back into service or to assist with any remaining business once suspects have been handcuffed and secured in the back of a police vehicle. However, circumstances such as hostile bystanders or the continued presence of the suspect(s) companions, may dictate that the cover officer maintain a posture of vigilance until all of the business of the contact is completed. The determination of when the cover officer is released from his or her responsibility rests with the contact officer.



#### IV. HANDLING VIOLENT SUSPECTS WHO ARE INTOXICATED

A. Officers will frequently be called upon to handle violent suspects who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Appropriate tactics may involve, but are not limited to:

1. Calling for additional officers.
2. Being aware of potential weapons available to the suspect in the immediate area .
3. Realizing that traditional weaponless defense techniques may not work.
4. Considering the use of specialized equipment to subdue the suspect (i.e. T.A.S.E.R.™, stun gun, chemical agents, etc.).
5. Considering the use of team takedowns or other group control measures (e.g. swarm technique, capture net, etc.).
6. Considering the use of an impact weapon .

NOTE: Instructors should discuss the fact that certain drugs, (i.e. PCP) may affect a suspect's pain threshold. As a result, an impact weapon may not be effective.

7. Considering use of a carotid restraint control hold.

NOTE: Instructors should discuss the fact that the rapid movements of a violent suspect may affect an officer's ability to correctly apply the carotid hold.

B. Officers will also be called upon to handle violent persons who appear to be emotionally disturbed. The same tactical considerations may apply.



## **V. METHODS FOR RESPONDING TO CRIMES IN PROGRESS**

### **A. Crimes in progress response**

1. The assigned unit is normally used as the primary or first unit for in-progress calls. The objective is to arrive as quickly and safely as possible, consistent with agency policy.
2. Other units should respond and select a tactically advantageous position (i.e., in a position where fleeing suspects may be intercepted, covering possible escape routes, etc.)
3. Units closer to the scene should advise the dispatcher and may be substituted for the primary unit. The originally assigned primary unit should then be used as back-up.
4. The decision to use siren and flashing lights must be made on the basis of the following factors:
  - a. Distance from scene
  - b. Amount of traffic
  - c. Type and nature of the crime (i.e., need to halt ongoing physical assault by warning assailant of police approach)
  - d. Time lag -- time elapsed since crime occurred
  - e. Consistent with agency policy
5. The assisting units should consider alternative methods of clearing traffic consistent with agency policy.
6. Handling observed crime v. dispatched to crime
  - a. Advise the dispatcher of observed circumstances
  - b. Tactical deployment of on-scene unit
  - c. Ensure responding backup units are aware of on-scene unit location and updated observations
  - d. Tactical response and deployment of backup units

### **B. Establishing a perimeter**

1. A perimeter is used to contain and isolate the incident location for the following purposes:
  - a. To prevent the suspect from escaping from the area
  - b. To aid in apprehending the suspect



- c. To prevent unauthorized entry
- 2. Types of perimeters
  - a. Primary/inner perimeter
    - (1) May vary in size
    - (2) Is established to contain and isolate the scene
  - b. Secondary/outer perimeter
    - (1) Is only established in conjunction with a primary/inner perimeter
    - (2) Is also established to further contain and isolate the scene
    - (3) May aid apprehension of a suspect who manages to breach the inner perimeter
    - (4) To provide traffic control or otherwise assist in public safety
    - (5) Outer perimeter personnel also provide protection and cover for inner perimeter officers.

EXAMPLE: Patrol officers maintain secondary/outer perimeter control while SWAT officers maintain an inner perimeter in a barricaded suspect situation.

- 3. Integrity of the perimeter
  - a. It is difficult, but essential, that officers maintain the integrity of the perimeter.
  - b. Perimeter officers must avoid the temptation to leave their posts when it is tactically inappropriate to do so.
- 4. Responsibility for the perimeter
  - a. Generally speaking, the officer who establishes the perimeter retains responsibility for maintaining the perimeter until properly relieved.
  - b. Responsibility for perimeter management may be an issue addressed by individual department policies.

**VI. CRITERIA FOR SELECTING A RESPONSE ROUTE**

A. The following criteria should be used in selection of the response route:

1. Distance to be traveled
  - a. Surface street
  - b. Freeways, highways, etc.
2. Geographic environment (i.e., schools, street configuration)
3. Traffic situation in the area
4. Time of day
5. Condition of route to be taken
6. Best approach direction



## VII. PROWLER CALLS

### A. Prowler calls - Introduction

1. Because the percent of prowler calls resulting in arrests is small, officers must guard against complacency.
2. Reporting parties are usually extremely frightened and will sometimes arm themselves.
3. Suspect may be burglar, peeping tom, drunk, etc.

### B. Handling prowler calls

#### 1. Vehicular response to prowler calls

- a. Make a quiet and safe approach.
- b. Good knowledge of the area is of value.
  - (1) Allow officer to approach at right angles to residence of caller.
  - (2) By turning at the last intersection nearest the scene, the officer can largely avoid signaling their approach to prowler.
  - (3) Knowledge of area permits quiet, also possible "blackout" approach (car lights off, if safe).
- c. When necessary, check house number.
  - (1) Check numbers on opposite side of street (use flashlight).
  - (2) Check for curb numbers--light less conspicuous.
  - (3) Numbers on other blocks may be in same relative position and help give clues to location of victim's address (can use parallel street to find block number and also approximate location of address).
- d. Nearing scene, the officer should:
  - (1) Reduce speeds to eliminate tire squeal and motor noise.
  - (2) Coast to a stop.
  - (3) Avoid manhole covers.
  - (4) Turn radio down--avoid excessive noise.
  - (5) Avoid overshooting address.
- e. If officer overshoots address, he should roll past--should not back up.

- f. Interior lights should be switched off at night--not function when door is opened.
- g. Use brake light cut off switch.
- h. Car doors should be opened and closed quietly.
- i. Don't leave keys in patrol car ignition.
- j. Other responding units should be advised of officer's location, then coordinate their deployment.
  - (1) When only two officers are handling the call, they should remain together.
  - (2) Additional backup units should be deployed to cut off natural escape routes.
- k. Containment of the area is important.

2. Foot approach

- a. Officer should make a silent and undetected foot approach.
- b. Turn portable radio volume down, never off.
- c. Avoid rattling car keys or loose objects.
- d. Effectively use cover and concealment, avoid silhouetting.

3. Contacting the reporting person prior to initiating an area search

- a. The reporting person should be advised that law enforcement officers are on the scene and that they will be conducting the search
- b. Generally, the notification of the reporting person is made by the dispatcher so that responding officers do not have to compromise their tactical advantage prior to the search

NOTE: Direct contact with the reporting person will normally be made after the initial area search.

4. Locate and detain the subject

- a. Conduct a lawful search for readily accessible weapons.
- b. Interview the suspect to establish probable cause.
- c. Determine if crime occurred.
- d. Arrest the suspect.

## **VIII. BURGLARY IN PROGRESS CALLS**

### **A. Approaching the location**

1. Develop a plan of operation.
  - a. Must be flexible (plan ahead while patrolling beat)
  - b. Provide coordination between partners and other units
2. Officer should get to the scene quickly, quietly, and safely.
  - a. Avoid using red lights or siren near location.
  - b. Turn off headlights before final approach (when safe).
  - c. Slow speed on final approach to eliminate tire squeal and engine noise.
  - d. Turn radio volume down, never off. (Consider using ear plug for hand-held radio)
  - e. Don't rattle car keys or loose objects.
  - f. Don't slam doors - close them quietly.
  - g. Dome or other interior light should not function when doors are opened.
  - h. Use brake light cut-off switch.
  - i. Don't leave keys in patrol car ignition.
3. First officer at scene should:
  - a. Take a position to best observe and control the scene.
  - b. Advise dispatch and responding units of arrival and give specific location.
  - c. Make a silent approach on foot, effectively using cover and concealment.
  - d. Communicate and coordinate with other officers to contain suspects and prevent escape.
  - e. Request additional resources if necessary and available (i.e., canine unit, helicopter, SWAT, fire department, etc.)
4. Coordinate responding units to set up perimeter.
5. Exterior search of area
  - a. Vehicles parked at or near location (warm engine)
  - b. Boxes, trash bins, stockpiles

- c. Trees, hedges, shrubbery
- d. All places of possible concealment (Don't forget to look up)
- 6. Search for point of entry
  - a. Do not walk or stand in front of windows.
  - b. Be careful not to silhouette yourself or your partner.
  - c. One officer covers, the other searches.
  - d. Use wall for protection when looking into window or trying the door.
  - e. Check for possible indicators of point of entry.
    - (1) Pry marks
    - (2) Glass cut or broken
    - (3) Dust disturbed on window ledge
    - (4) Cobwebs
    - (5) Tunnel access
  - f. After checking the interior from the window, cross under the window and check from the other side.
  - g. Use flashlight properly and cautiously.
- 7. Searching roofs
  - a. Access to roof sometimes difficult
    - (1) May need ladder—if none available consider calling fire department
    - (2) Air support
  - b. Cover should be provided for officers ascending roof
  - c. Notify other personnel regarding the officers on roof.
  - d. Searching officer should check:
    - (1) Adjacent roof/crawl spaces
    - (2) Sign boards
    - (3) Air vents
    - (4) Any other place of concealment

- e. Advise officers on ground of conditions.
  - f. Use extreme caution and make use of natural cover.
8. When point of entry is located, notify dispatcher and other units. Be aware of and preserve physical evidence.
  9. Order all occupants out of building, if applicable.
  10. Use cover officer and communicate a plan for the building entry/search.
  11. Make a tactical building entry.
  12. Use a systematic searching method.
  13. Use safe tactics during search.
  14. Find and arrest suspect(s).
  15. Suspect should be removed from building when possible. Suspect should be removed by assisting units.
  16. Complete building search after suspect has been removed.





## **IX. ROBBERY IN PROGRESS CALLS**

### **A. Approaching the location**

1. Develop a plan of operation.
  - a. Must be flexible (plan ahead while patrolling beat).
  - b. Provide coordination between partners and other units.
2. Officer should get to the scene quickly, quietly, and safely.
  - a. Do not use red lights or siren near location.
  - b. Turn off headlights before final approach (when safe).
  - c. Slow speed on final approach to eliminate tire squeal and engine noise.
  - d. Turn radio volume down.
  - e. Don't rattle car keys or loose objects.
  - f. Don't slam doors - close them quietly.
  - g. Dome or other interior light should not function when doors are opened.
  - h. Don't leave keys in patrol car ignition.
  - i. When available use brake light cut off switch.
3. First officer at scene should:
  - a. Take a position to best observe and control the scene.
  - b. Advise dispatch and responding units of arrival and give specific location.
  - c. Make a silent approach on foot, effectively using cover and concealment.
  - d. Communicate and coordinate with other officers to contain suspects and prevent escape.
  - e. Request additional resources if necessary and available (i.e., canine unit, helicopter, SWAT, etc.)

### **B. Arrival at the scene**

1. Officers should utilize invisible deployment techniques, making maximum use of cover and concealment without being detected by persons inside.
  - a. Be observant for look-outs, get-away drivers and other accomplices.

- b. Avoid actions which could potentially contribute to a hostage situation. (e.g., entering the location prematurely, a noisy/visible response, etc.)
  - 2. Determine if robbery is in progress
    - a. Wait and observe
    - b. If appropriate, telephone the location
      - (1) Try to determine if a crime is occurring (e.g., using bank code or other means to verify whether or not a crime is in progress)
      - (2) Obtain relevant information
      - (3) Order occupants out
- C. If a robbery is in progress:
  - 1. Maintain invisible deployment.
  - 2. Communicate actions observed.
  - 3. Avoid entry.
  - 4. Wait for suspects to exit.
  - 5. Treat everyone that exits location as a suspect until determined otherwise.
- D. Apprehension of suspect(s)
  - 1. Officer should challenge the suspect while maintaining cover.
  - 2. Allow suspect to exit far enough to prevent re-entry.
  - 3. Control and secure suspect(s). Complete a safe arrest and thorough search of the suspect without endangering self or cover officer.
  - 4. Question suspect regarding additional suspects/weapons.
- E. If suspect(s) has (have) fled prior to the officer's arrival, the primary officer should be at crime scene and request additional back up if needed. Other assisting officers should cover escape routes and handle other tactical considerations.
- F. Primary officer should protect crime scene and obtain necessary information for quick initial or supplemental broadcasts.
- G. Area search for suspects who have left the scene in a vehicle
  - 1. Officers looking for the suspects in peripheral area should estimate the distance they might be able to travel in a given time after the crime occurred.

2. Variables such as whether the suspect is on foot or in a vehicle, the time of day, traffic, weather conditions and other considerations may impact the distance the suspect may be from the scene.
  3. Units should station themselves in position where they might intercept fleeing suspects.
    - a. Some departments require other units remain in assigned beats while units close to the scene respond directly. These units should figure out where the most strategic location in their beat is for possible intercept of suspects.
    - b. Intersections, major traffic arteries, alleys, parking lots, etc. should be placed under observation -- if suspect might use them in escape.
- H. The building should be completely searched; it is impossible to determine if all the suspects have left, or are trapped inside.
1. Natural tendency for everyone to rush to the scene.
  2. Equally important to support the units at the scene by watching for suspects trying to evade arrest.



## **X. SEARCHING A BUILDING FOR A SUSPECT**

### **A. Building searches**

#### **1. Interior search**

- a. Make certain perimeter is established and locate point of entry.
- b. It may be necessary to re-deploy units before entry into building. Position units to reduce hazard of crossfire.
- c. Use a loudspeaker or other appropriate method to communicate with suspects from outside the building.
- d. If available, consider utilizing canine unit.
- e. Entering the building
  - (1) Owner should be called to respond; it is better to wait a few minutes to unlock a door than to climb through broken windows, holes in the roof, etc.
  - (2) Owner can provide information on interior plans, location of lights, and keys to open doors.
  - (3) Do not let the owner approach building or unlock the door and place himself/herself in danger.
  - (4) Approach building with handgun ready.
- f. Advise other officers that police are approaching and entering the building.
- g. Searching interior should be conducted by at least two officers (one searches, one covers). The number of personnel will be determined by the type and size of building, and the arrangement of furniture, display counters, partitions, or stacks of merchandise.
- h. Only one opening should be used to enter. Officers entering from several directions can result in one mistaking another for a burglar.
- i. After door is open, position yourself by side of entry and listen.
- j. Enter quickly, keeping body low.
- k. Move quickly away from entrance.
  - (1) Use objects for cover.
  - (2) Be aware of crossfire situations.
  - (3) Avoid silhouetting

- l. Allow eyes to adjust if interior is dark.
  - m. Make proper use of available light.
    - (1) Flashlight
    - (2) Room lights
  - o. Push doors open fully to wall to preclude suspect(s) hiding behind doors. If door will not open fully, look between hinge edge of door and the door jamb before entering.
  - p. All places large enough to conceal a suspect should be checked.
  - q. Make sure each room is searched thoroughly before searching another. Close each door of every area already searched.
  - t. Systematic searching of multi-story buildings; the search should be confined to one floor at a time.
    - (1) Chances of escape will improve if suspects were permitted to move to a floor already searched.
    - (2) Elevators should be taken out of service on the ground floor.
  - u. All possible exterior exits should be guarded until interior is completely searched.
  - v. Do not abandon search just because several suspects are found.
2. Apprehension of suspects
- a. When suspect is observed
    - (1) Control and secure suspect
    - (2) Remove from location when possible
    - (3) Complete search for other suspects
  - b. Questioning regarding additional suspects/weapons
    - (1) Emergency situation
    - (2) Assume suspect knows desired information
    - (3) Frame questions positively
3. Secure building
- a. Owner, manager, employee

b. Patrol checks





## **XI. SEARCHING AN OPEN AREA FOR A SUSPECT**

- A. Prior to searching the scene, the officer should:
1. Estimate the size of the area to be searched.
  2. Request additional assistance.
  3. Establish a perimeter.
  4. Develop a flexible search plan.

B. Search patterns

Many buildings and exteriors differ from area to area. There are some basic types of search patterns that can be effective for exterior searches and for large commercial buildings for suspects and evidence.

NOTE: The instructor should cover basic search patterns. Some types of search patterns are:

1. Zone search - divide the room or open space on the exterior of the building into sections.
2. Spiral search - The searchers follow each other in the path of a spiral beginning on the outside and spiraling in toward the center. Not used very often.
3. Strip search - Area is blocked out in the form of a rectangle -  
Special attention should be paid to this type of search. This type of search is desirable for exterior searches. Interiors of most buildings do not lend themselves to this type of search due to partitioning of the building, furniture, hallways, and machinery. However, large stores are ideal for this method.



## **XII. BARRICADED SUSPECT SITUATIONS**

- A. The responsibilities of the responding officer to the scene of a hostage or barricaded suspect situation are containment of the scene and protection of life (primary) and apprehension of the suspect (secondary).
1. Safe approach: If the responding officer is aware of the type of call, caution should be used during the approach to maintain cover, contain the scene, evaluate circumstances, and provide information to other responding officers, communications, and supervisors.
  2. Containment
    - a. Identify the location of the suspects/ hostages.
    - b. Once the scene and notifications have been made, all efforts should be made to safely contain the scene. This would include keeping all foot and vehicular traffic out of the area.
    - c. For the immediate safety of responding officers, identify a perimeter and assign other officers to perimeter positions.
    - d. Consideration should be given to the selection of a command post site.
  3. Requesting the appropriate assistance
    - a. A SWAT Team and hostage negotiator should be called as soon as it is determined that a hostage or barricaded suspect situation is occurring.
    - b. Normally the request for assistance would come from a supervisor.
  4. Evacuation: In the event an evacuation must be made, the safety of officers and citizens is of paramount concern. Evacuations should be systematically conducted as safely as possible.
  5. Communication with the suspect(s)
    - a. Negotiation with the suspect(s) should be done by a qualified negotiator if possible.
    - b. Any contact made with the suspect(s) should be as non-threatening to the suspect(s) as possible.
    - c. Departmental policy considerations



### **XIII. SNIPER SITUATIONS**

#### **A. Ambush/sniper fire when officer is on foot**

1. Take cover and/or concealment.
2. Look for the suspect's location; if the officer can see the suspect, the suspect can probably see the officer.
3. Assess situation.
4. Call for assistance.
5. Isolate and clear the area.
6. Warn bystanders.

NOTE: The circumstances particular to the situation will determine sequence of action.

#### **B. Under sniper fire when in a vehicle**

1. Immediately exit the "kill zone" or turn into available cover
2. Abandon target vehicle using cover and concealment
3. Draw weapon or remove shotgun from vehicle, if able
4. Notify dispatch of situation
5. Locate and identify suspect's location
6. Safely deploy responding units

#### **C. Ambush while in moving vehicle: The proper evasive action while in a moving vehicle is to exit the kill zone by accelerating rapidly and making self a minimal target in the vehicle.**

1. Accelerate rapidly-feather the accelerator pedal.
2. Use evasive driving techniques and turn off all lighting.
3. Once out of the kill zone, turn into the direction toward where the shots fired from.
4. Exit the vehicle on the opposite side of the ambusher and if two officers, both exit the same side of the car.
5. Use cover and concealment.
6. If possible, remove shotgun while exiting the vehicle and leave firearm in holster until locating a good cover position.

7. Attempt to locate ambusher's position and notify dispatch and responding units.

D. Firebomb attack while in vehicle

1. Accelerate from the area
2. Roll up windows
3. Abandon vehicle

#### **XIV. PERSONS WITH A GUN/SHOTS-FIRED CALLS**

##### **A. Approaching the location**

1. Develop a plan of operation.
  - a. Must be flexible (plan ahead while patrolling beat).
  - b. Provide coordination between partners and other units.
2. The officer should get to the scene quickly, quietly and safely.
  - a. The use of red lights and siren near the location is tactically inadvisable.
  - b. Turn off headlights before final approach, consistent with agency policy
  - c. Slow speed on final approach to eliminate tire squeal and engine noise
  - d. Turn radio volume down.
  - e. Don't rattle car keys or loose objects.
  - f. Don't slam doors - close them quietly.
  - g. Dome or other interior light should not function when doors are opened.
  - h. Don't leave keys in patrol car ignition.
  - i. When available use brake light cut off switch.
3. First officer at scene should:
  - a. Take a position to best observe and control the scene.
  - b. Advise dispatch and responding units of arrival and give specific location.
  - c. Make a silent approach on foot, effectively using cover and concealment.
  - d. Communicate and coordinate with other officers to contain suspects and prevent escape.
  - e. Request additional resources if necessary and available (i.e., canine unit, helicopter, SWAT, etc.)

##### **B. Arrival at the scene**

1. Officers should utilize invisible deployment techniques, making maximum use of cover and concealment without being detected by persons inside.
2. Be observant for suspects and other accomplices



3. If appropriate, recontact the reporting party and try to determine any relevant or new information (i.e. the current location of suspect(s))
- C. If a shooting is observed:
1. Maintain invisible deployment while using cover.
  2. Communicate actions observed.
- D. Apprehension of suspect(s)
1. Officer should challenge the suspect while maintaining cover.
  2. Be aware of a possible hostage situation.
  3. Allow suspect to move to a position which allows the officers to establish control of suspect(s).
  4. Control and secure suspect(s): Complete a safe arrest and thorough search of the suspect without endangering self or cover officer.
  5. Question the suspect regarding additional suspects/weapons.
- E. If suspect(s) has (have) fled prior to the officer's arrival, the primary officer should be at crime scene and request additional back up if needed. Other assisting officers should cover escape routes and handle other tactical considerations.
- F. Primary officer should protect crime scene and obtain necessary information for quick initial or supplemental broadcasts.
- G. Area search for suspects who have left the scene in a vehicle
1. Officers looking for the suspects in peripheral area should estimate the distance they might be able to travel in a given time after the crime occurred. Variables such as whether the suspect is on foot or in a vehicle, the time of day, traffic, weather conditions and other considerations may impact the distance the suspect may be from the scene.
  2. Units should station themselves in position where they might intercept fleeing suspects.
    - a. Some departments require other units remain in assigned beats while units close to the scene respond directly. These units should figure out where the most strategic location in their beat is for possible intercept of suspects.
    - b. Intersections, major traffic arteries, alleys, parking lots, etc. should be placed under observation if suspect might use them in escape.
- H. If the suspect has been removed from a building, it should be completely searched. It is unknown if all the suspects have left, or if there is a victim.

## **XV. OFFICER-DOWN CALLS**

### **A. Respond to the scene safely**

1. Officer-down calls are one of the most emotional types of events an officer can be called upon to respond to. As a result, officers should be reminded to not forget sound tactics in their urgency to respond.
2. In some instances, false officer-down calls have been used as a ruse to lure officers into an ambush situation.

**NOTE:** Some of the considerations discussed below are applicable to any type of officer-down situation. (e.g. a motorcycle officer involved in a traffic collision)

### **B. Tactically locate the involved parties**

1. The downed officer(s)
  - a. Evaluate ability to reach the downed officer(s).
  - b. Use cover and concealment .
  - c. Develop a tactical plan to rescue the officer.
  - d. If able to reach the downed officer(s):
    1. Evacuate the officer(s) from the hazard area.
    2. Render urgent first aid.
2. The suspect(s)
  - a. Locate and identify suspect(s).
  - b. Use cover and concealment.

### **C. Other considerations for responding to officer-down incidents:**

1. Coordination of assisting units
2. Preparation/acquisition of equipment and resources to facilitate an officer rescue and suspect apprehension
3. Identification of officers to provide cover fire during the officer rescue, if necessary



## **XVI. SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES/UNKNOWN TROUBLE CALLS**

- A. Suspicious circumstances/unknown trouble calls consistently represent a significant danger to responding officers.

NOTE: A variety of statistics are available to support this point from resource documents that are identified in section I.

- B. Effective tactical response to suspicious circumstances/unknown trouble calls is similar to responses to crimes-in-progress calls. Consideration should be given to:
1. Selecting an appropriate method of response.
  2. Stopping a short distance away to be able to approach the incident location on foot.
  3. Applying proper observation and listening skills.
  4. Using a cautious/quiet approach to provide a tactical advantage.
  5. Following appropriate procedures if a crime is in progress or has recently occurred. (i.e. establishing a perimeter, requesting additional assistance, etc.)



## **XVII. TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR HANDLING A SUICIDAL PERSON**

- A. Officers will occasionally be called upon to handle persons who are threatening suicide. Often these types of incidents will involve a variety of important considerations.
1. These persons may be in possession of a variety of a different type of weapons including firearms, edged weapons, or even explosive devices.
  2. These persons may deliberately attempt to provoke an officer into utilizing deadly force.
  3. Although a person may be threatening self-destruction, they can become assaultive to the officer.
  4. A suicidal person may be mentally disordered to the point that it is difficult to effectively communicate with the person.
  5. A suicidal person may also be under the influence of drugs or alcohol or both.

NOTE: Instructors should discuss the fact that certain drugs, (i.e. PCP) may affect a subject's pain threshold. As a result, an impact weapon may not be effective.

B. Tactical considerations.

1. Calling for additional officers.
2. Establishing appropriate perimeter.
3. Request specialized resources (e.g., special weapons and tactics teams, crisis intervention resources, etc.)

NOTE: Additional information related to handling person's with mental disorders is contained in Instructor Unit Guide #37 (Person's with Disabilities).

4. Considering the use of specialized equipment to subdue the subject (e.g., T.A.S.E.R., stun gun, chemical agents, etc.)

NOTE: Although rare, it is possible that an officer is required to respond to a suicidal person that the officer knows personally. It is essential that the officer not become emotionally involved in the situation to the point of compromising officer safety or failing to apply appropriate tactics.



## **XVIII. OFF-DUTY OFFICER SURVIVAL**

- A. Although the degree to which officers become involved in off-duty enforcement actions is often addressed by individual department policies, it is important for an officer to be aware of safety issues when off duty.
- B. Each and every year a considerable number of peace officers are seriously injured and killed during off-duty enforcement incidents.
- C. General considerations concerning off-duty officer survival include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Recognition that the decision to take off-duty enforcement action will generally create an extraordinary safety risk due to the following:
    - a. Lack of radio communication
    - b. Lack of cover officers
    - c. Lack of protective equipment
    - d. Potential identification problems
      - (1) The suspect may not recognize the off-duty officer as a peace officer.
      - (2) Responding officers may fail to recognize the off-duty officer as a peace officer.
  - 2. Because of the extraordinary safety risks involved with off-duty intervention, officers may wish to consider intervening only when the crime is serious in nature or poses a direct danger to the public or the officer.
  - 3. In most cases, the best course of action will be to avoid direct enforcement in favor of functioning as an effective witness.



**SUPPORTING MATERIAL**

**AND**

**REFERENCES**

This section is set up as reference information for use by training institutions. These materials can be used for instruction, remediation, additional reading, viewing, or for planning local blocks of instruction. This list is not an endorsement of any author, publisher, producer, or presentation. Each training institution should establish its own list of reference materials.

**TOPICAL LIST OF SUPPORTING MATERIALS AND  
REFERENCES INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION**

Supporting Materials for the Tactical Response Learning Activity

# SUPPORTING MATERIALS FOR THE TACTICAL RESPONSE LEARNING ACTIVITY

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

### PURPOSE

The overall purpose of this learning activity is to provide students with the opportunity to apply enabling instruction related to law enforcement responses to crimes-in-progress and similar tactical emergencies. A variety of situations are depicted. The general intent is to stimulate discussion and promote critical thinking regarding the following:

1. Approaching the incident location appropriately
2. Establishing and maintaining an effective perimeter
3. Conducting a safe and thorough area search.
4. Minimizing risks to responding officers and the public

### TYPES OF EVENTS

The following types of events are depicted:

1. Prowler call
2. Commercial burglary - suspect seen
3. Commercial robbery - silent alarm
4. Strongarm robbery
5. Person with a gun (2 examples)
6. Residential burglary-in-progress
7. Commercial robbery-in-progress
8. Suicidal person - armed with a firearm
9. Ambush situation
10. Officer down incident (2 examples)

### APPLICATION OF SPECIFIC TACTICS

No "model response" scheme is provided for any of the events. A number of response considerations, however, are described in some detail. An integral component of this activity is the recognition that every tactical emergency has unique characteristics which must be individually evaluated. Additionally, actual law enforcement responses will be impacted by prevailing agency policies and the types of resources available. Responding officers must be prepared to justify their actions based upon the specific circumstances of the event.

Instructors are encouraged to alter event details to further stimulate discussion and problem-solving. Changing factors such as number of available cover units, the time of day, the types of resources available, the type of terrain, or the relative threat to bystanders will all affect response tactics.

## INTERPRETATION OF EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

Most of the event descriptions included in this section contain references to a specific time of day and/or to the location of the officer prior to being dispatched. The intent of including this information is simply to provide the student with a frame of reference as to how to effectively and safely respond to the scene.

For example, a crime described as occurring at 11:30 a.m. would simply infer that a commercial establishment was likely to be open and that the response would occur during daylight hours. Likewise, a reference to a crime occurring at 5:00 a.m. would suggest that a business is closed and that the tactical response would occur during hours of darkness. There is no deliberate significance to any other details.

Most of the event descriptions pre-suppose a one-person unit being dispatched to a call with back-up units responding independently. Instructors have complete discretion to modify response conditions (e.g., use of two-person patrol units, identifying the number of available back-up officers, etc.)

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #1

## Prowler Call (Suspect Seen) INSTRUCTOR NOTES

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At 0145 hours while proceeding eastbound on "N" Street at 12th Street, the officer is dispatched to a prowler-in-progress call at a single-family residence located at 1524 "H" Street. This area contains multiple single-family residences. All the houses face either north or south and there are three per block. 1524 "H" Street is located at mid-block with the front door facing "H" Street. There are other single family residences located on the east and west side of the residence and to the north and south (a typical residential area). There is a moderate amount of ambient lighting. The prowler was seen on the east side of the residence by the occupants at 1524 "H" Street.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Generally speaking, the most effective response to an in-progress prowler involves a "stealth" (invisible) approach. This maximizes the chances of suspect apprehension.
- B. Regardless of the type of incident, the officer should consider selecting a response route which is as direct as possible without compromising the officer's tactical advantage on arrival or which exposes the officer or public to undue hazards.
- C. Vehicular Approach Considerations
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., elimination of tire noise, motor noise, radio noise, slamming car doors, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., turning off brake lights, dome lights, avoiding driving in front of the target address)
- D. Foot Approach Considerations
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., turn portable radio down -but not off, avoid rattling keys or loose objects, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., avoid silhouetting, improper use of flashlight, etc.)
  - 3. Effective use of available cover and concealment

### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security
  - 1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter
  - 2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene

C. Officer Safety

1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

A. Contacting the reporting person prior to initiating an area search

1. The reporting person should be advised that law enforcement officers are on the scene and that they will be conducting the search
2. Generally, the notification of the reporting person is made by the dispatcher so that responding officers do not have to compromise their tactical advantage prior to the search

NOTE: Direct contact with the reporting person will normally be made after the initial area search.

- B. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
- C. Applying a systematic search pattern
- D. Avoiding a cross fire situation
- E. Use of available resources and equipment

V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Availability of resources and equipment
- E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #1

## Prowler Call (Suspect Seen) STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At 0145 hours while proceeding eastbound on "N" Street at 12th Street, the officer is dispatched to a prowler-in-progress call at a single-family residence located at 1524 "H" Street. This area contains multiple single-family residences. All the houses face either north or south and there are three per block. 1524 "H" Street is located at mid-block with the front door facing "H" Street. There are other single family residences located on the east and west side of the residence and to the north and south (a typical residential area). There is a moderate amount of ambient lighting. The prowler was seen on the east side of the residence by the occupants at 1524 "H" Street.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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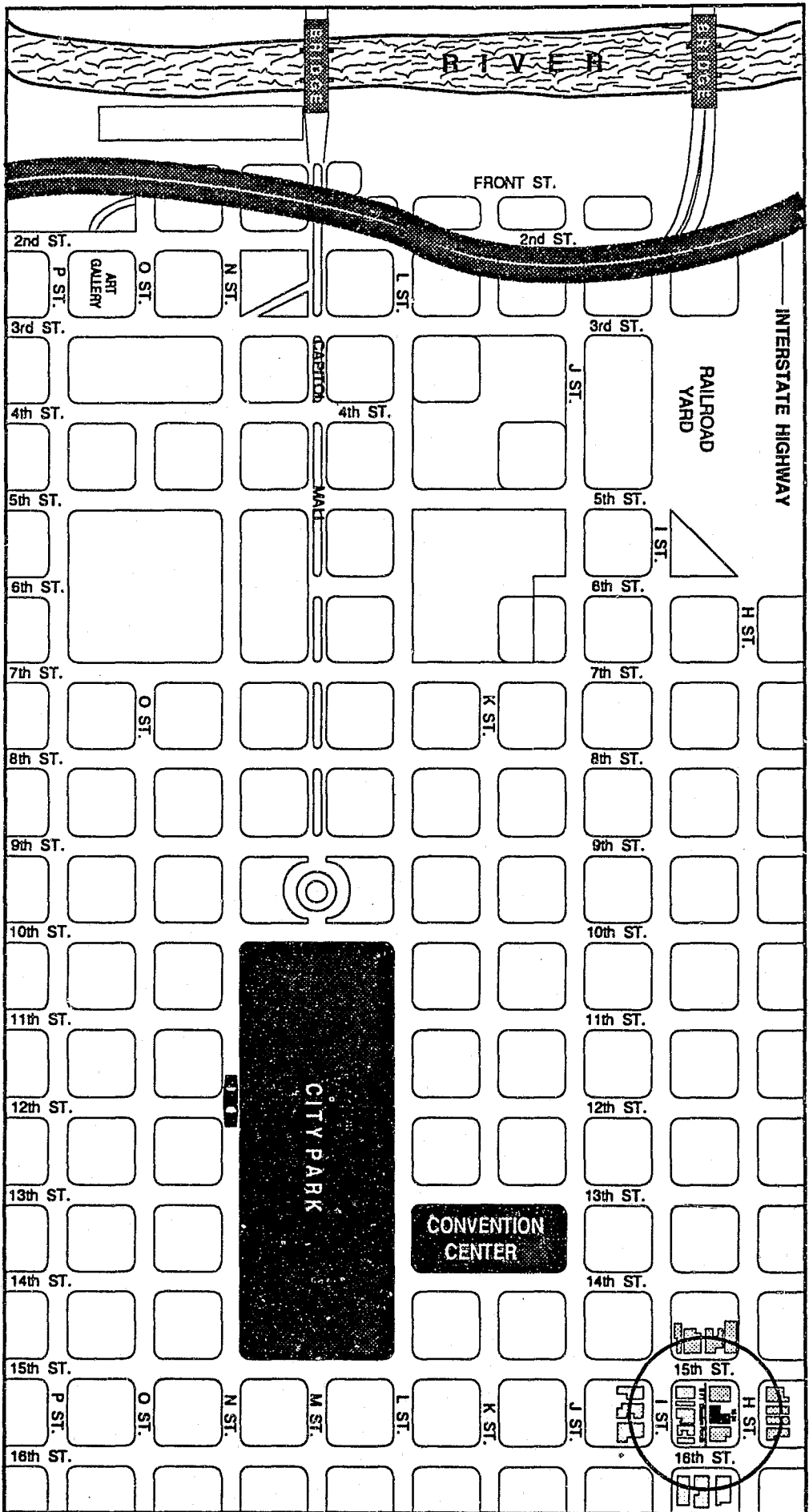
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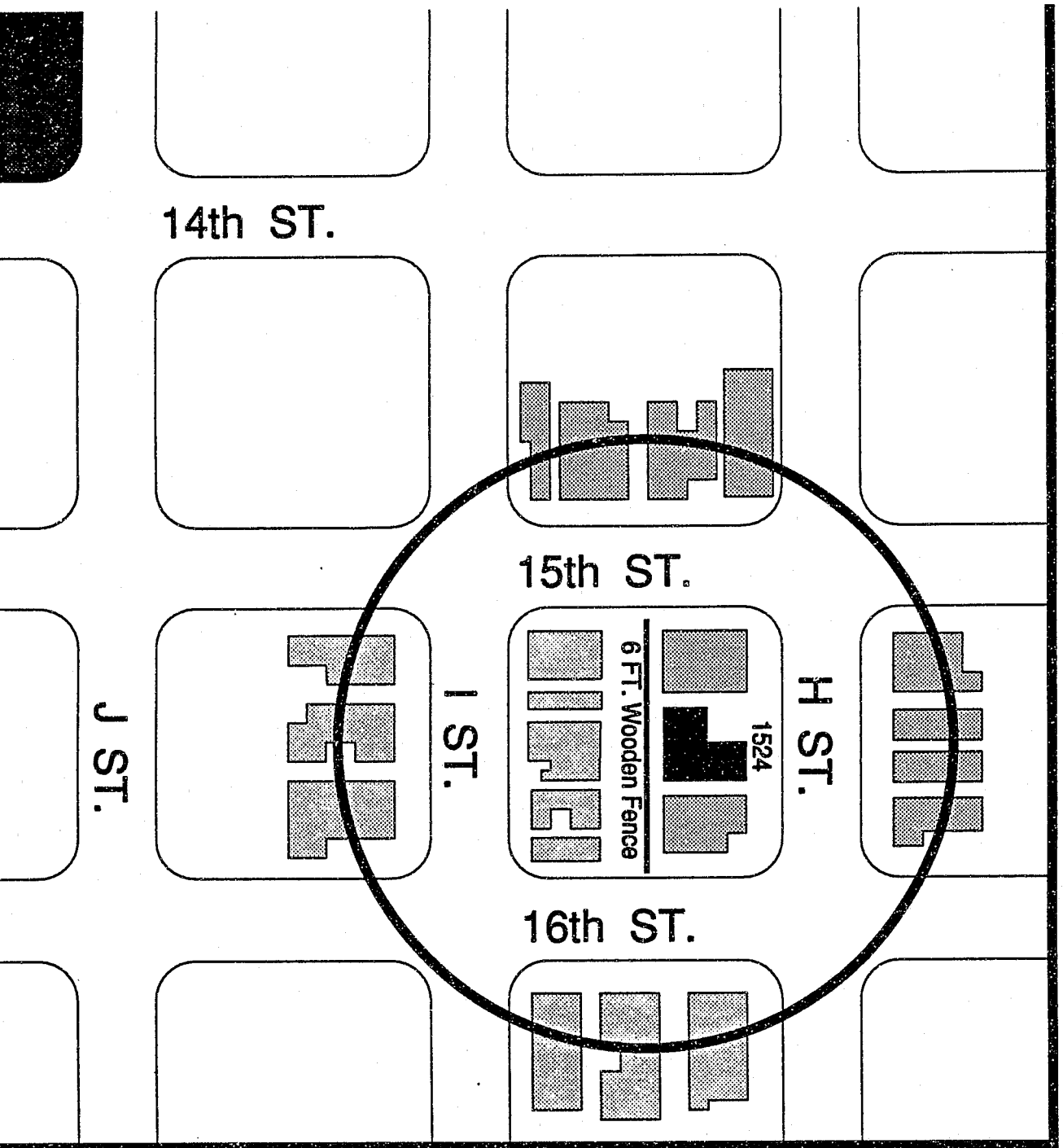


Problem # 1 - Prowler Call (Suspect seen) 1524 "H" St.



Patrol car (responder) on 12th & "N" Streets

Problem # 1 - Prowler Call (Suspect seen) 1524 "H" St.



Door opens  
onto "H" Street

## **TACTICAL RESPONSE #2**

### **In-Progress Commercial Burglary**

#### **I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION**

On a Sunday, at 0500 hours, an officer completing a disturbance call at the city park located at 15th and "L" Streets, received a radio call of an interior silent burglar alarm at the National Bank at 3rd and "N" Streets. The bank is a single story building. The entrance of the bank is located on the northeast side of the building directly across from the parking lot which completes the northeast corner of the block. Vehicle access to the building is from 2nd Street, 3rd and "N" Streets. The alarm company advises they detected movement inside of the bank building. The dispatcher advises that a pedestrian saw a rope ladder dangling from the roof on the west side of the bank.

#### **II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS**

- A. Generally speaking, the most effective response to an in-progress commercial burglary involves a "stealth" (invisible) approach. This maximizes the chances of suspect apprehension.
- B. Regardless of the type of incident, the officer should consider selecting a response route which is as direct as possible without compromising the officer's tactical advantage on arrival or which exposes the officer or public to undue hazards.
- C. Vehicular Approach Considerations
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., elimination of tire noise, motor noise, radio noise, slamming car doors, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., turning off brake lights, dome lights, avoiding driving in front of the target address)
- D. Foot Approach Considerations
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., turn portable radio down -but not off, avoid rattling keys or loose objects, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., avoid silhouetting, improper use of flashlight, etc.)
  - 3. Effective use of available cover and concealment

#### **III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS**

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security
  - 1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter

2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene
- C. Officer Safety
  1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
  2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

#### IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
- B. Applying a systematic search pattern
- C. Avoiding a cross fire situation
- D. Use of available resources and equipment

#### V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Availability of resources and equipment
- E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

## TACTICAL RESPONSE #2

### In-Progress Commercial Burglary STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

#### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

On a Sunday, at 0500 hours, an officer completing a disturbance call at the city park located at 15th and "L" Streets, received a radio call of an interior silent burglar alarm at the National Bank at 3rd and "N" Streets. The bank is a single story building. The entrance of the bank is located on the northeast side of the building directly across from the parking lot which completes the northeast corner of the block. Vehicle access to the building is from 2nd Street, 3rd and "N" Streets. The alarm company advises they detected movement inside of the bank building. The dispatcher advises that a pedestrian saw a rope ladder dangling from the roof on the west side of the bank.

#### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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#### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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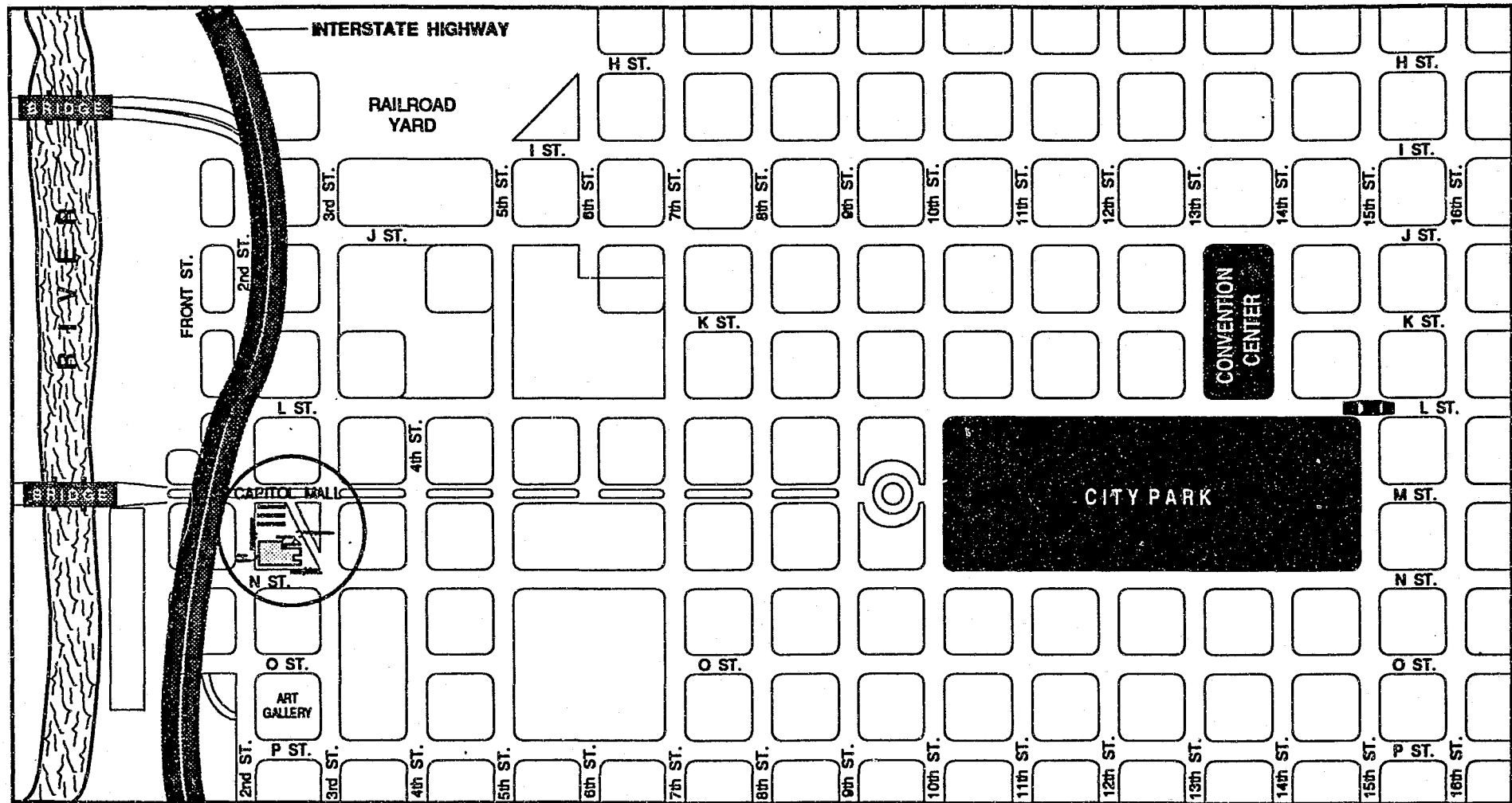
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## Problem # 2 - In-Progress Commercial Burglary



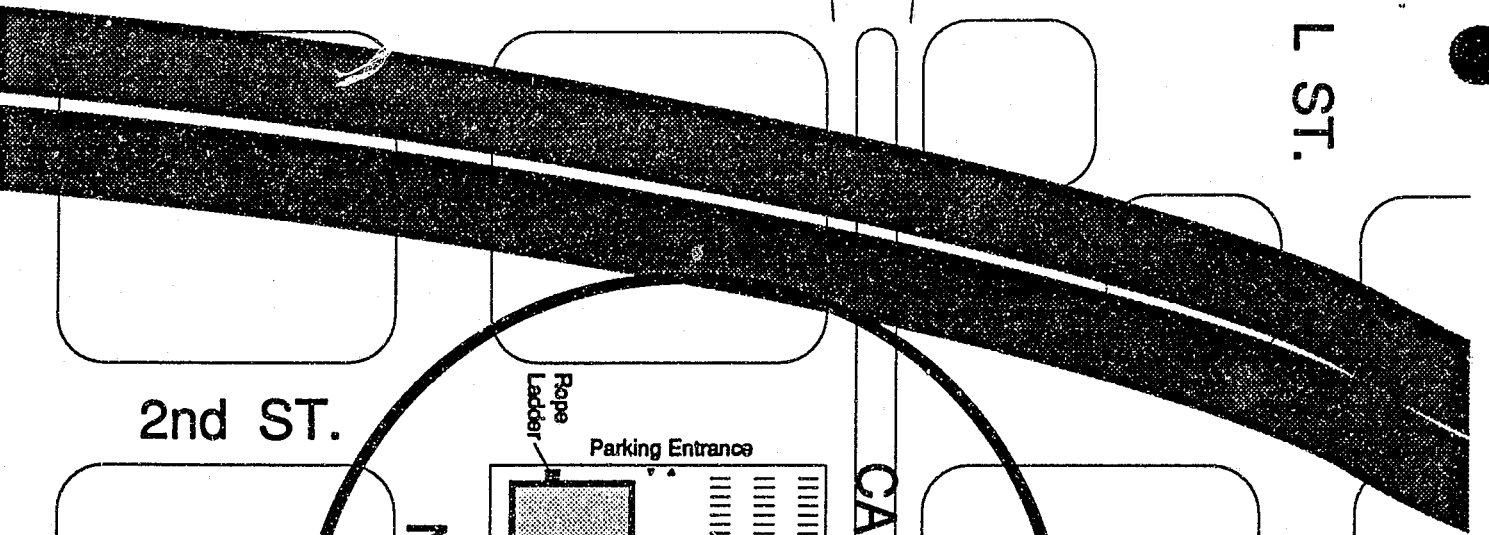
Patrol car (responder) on 15th & "L" Streets



L ST.

# Problem # 2 - In-Progress

## Commercial Burglary



2nd ST.

O ST.

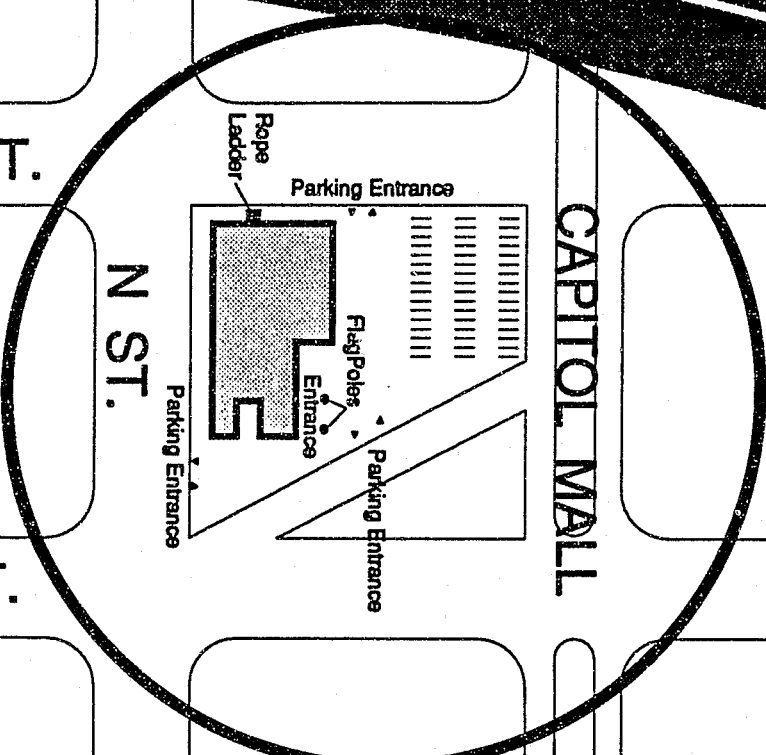
3rd ST.

4th ST.

5th ST.

N ST.

CAPITOL MALL



Front entrance N/E  
side of 3rd & "N" Streets



# TACTICAL RESPONSE #3

## Commercial Robbery (Silent Alarm)

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At 1:30 a.m. on a Wednesday afternoon, an officer is parked in a patrol vehicle at the corner of 14th and "O" Streets completing a report. The officer is dispatched as the primary unit to a silent robbery alarm at the American Savings Bank located at 1151 8th Street. The bank is located in the middle of the block between two other commercial structures. There is a main door to the bank that fronts on 8th Street and a rear door that leads to a parking lot. The parking lot is accessible from both "J" Street and "K" Street.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Generally speaking, the most effective response to an in-progress commercial robbery (silent alarm) involves a "stealth" (invisible) approach. This maximizes the chances of suspect apprehension.
- B. Regardless of the type of incident, the officer should consider selecting a response route which is as direct as possible without compromising the officer's tactical advantage on arrival or which exposes the officer or public to undue hazards.
- C. Vehicular Approach Considerations (dependent on the time of day)
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., elimination of tire noise, motor noise, radio noise, slamming car doors, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., turning off brake lights, dome lights, avoiding driving in front of the target address)
  - 3. Be observant for "look-outs," "get-away" drivers, and other accomplices
  - 4. Make maximum use of available cover and concealment
- D. Foot Approach Considerations (dependent on the time of day)
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., turn portable radio down -but not off, avoid rattling keys or loose objects, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., avoid silhouetting, improper use of flashlight, etc.)
  - 3. Effective use of available cover and concealment

### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security

1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter

NOTE: The nature of the location (a bank which is open for business) suggests the possibility that customers will be present at the scene. Particular consideration should be given to public safety and to avoiding actions which could potentially contribute to a hostage situation (e.g., premature entry, noisy/visible response, etc.)

2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene

C. Officer Safety

1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

A. Prior to initiating any search:

1. Determine if a robbery is in progress (e.g., wait and observe)
2. If appropriate, telephone the location and try to determine if a crime is occurring
3. If a robbery is in progress:

- a. Maintain perimeter deployment
- b. Communicate actions observed
- c. Avoid entry
- d. Wait for suspects to exit
- e. Consider everyone that exits the bank a suspect until it is determined otherwise

B. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)

C. If a search of the building or of the immediate area is deemed necessary, apply a systematic search pattern

D. Avoiding a cross fire situation

E. Use of available resources and equipment

V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

A. Number of available cover units

- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Availability of resources and equipment
- E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #3

## Commercial Robbery (Silent Alarm) STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At 1:30 a.m. on a Wednesday afternoon, an officer is parked in a patrol vehicle at the corner of 14th and "O" Streets completing a report. The officer is dispatched as the primary unit to a silent robbery alarm at the American Savings Bank located at 1151 8th Street. The bank is located in the middle of the block between two other commercial structures. There is a main door to the bank that fronts on 8th Street and a rear door that leads to a parking lot. The parking lot is accessible from both "J" Street and "K" Street.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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V. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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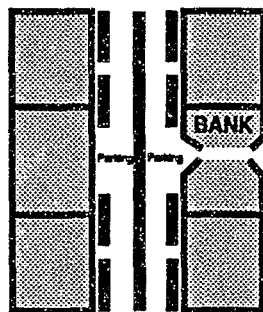
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I ST. Problem # 3 - Robbery Silent Alarm at  
American Savings Bank, 1151 8th St.

6th ST.

7th ST.

J ST.



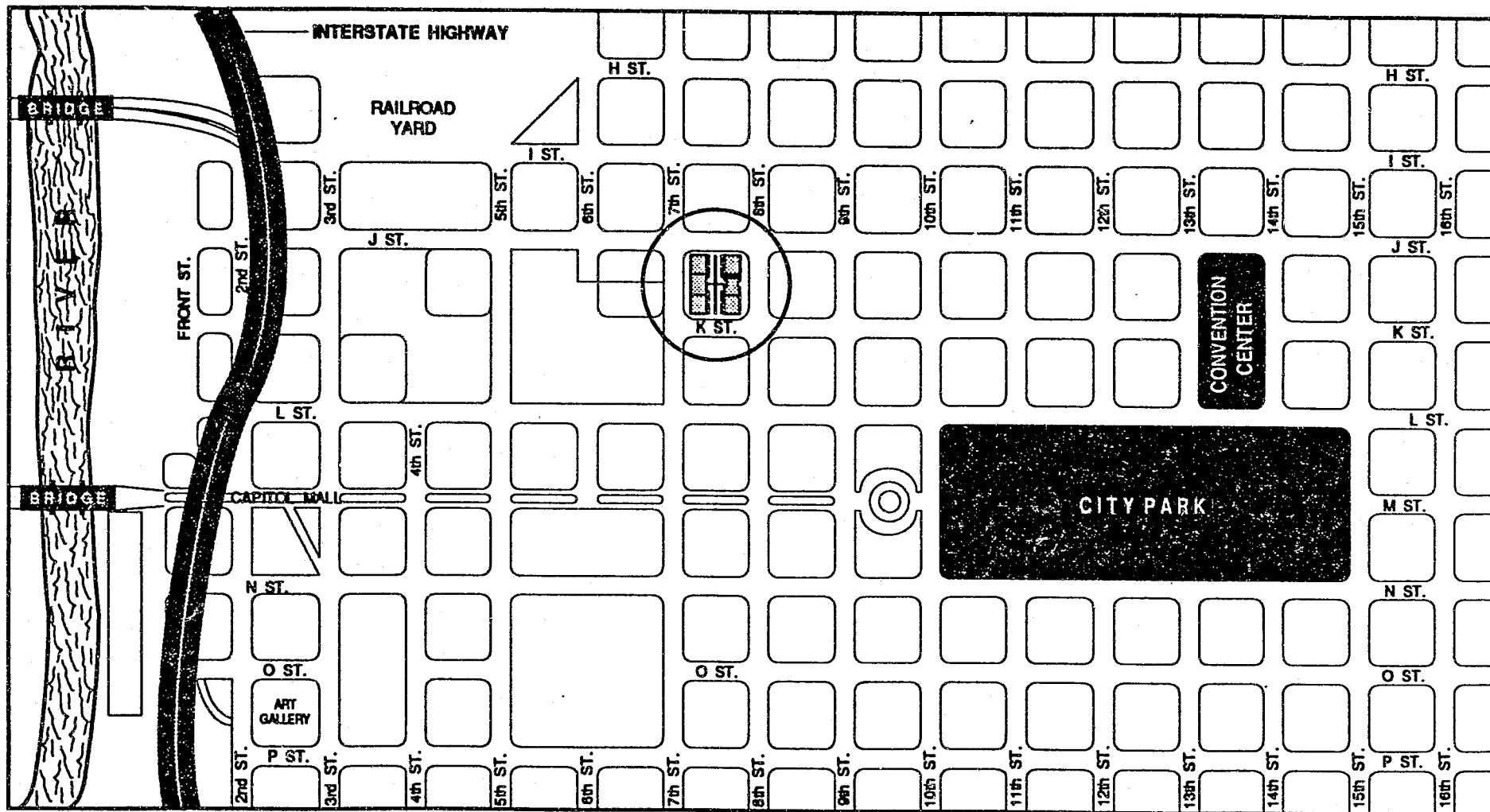
K ST.

8th ST.

9th ST.

L ST.

# Problem # 3 - Robbery Silent Alarm at American Savings Bank 1151 8th Street



# TACTICAL RESPONSE #4

## Strongarm Robbery

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

On Saturday, at 1410 hours, while northbound on the interstate approaching the "J" Street off ramp, the officer receives a 211-strong-arm-in-progress call at the ATM (automated teller machine) located in the "K" Street Mall. This is a three-story outdoor mall with pedestrian access to the shops by means of elevators, escalators and stairs placed throughout the mall at various locations. The ATM is centrally located on the second level of the mall. There are various entrances/exits to 5th Street, 6th Street, 7th Street, "L" and "J" Streets.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Often the suspect in a strongarm robbery has fled the immediate area on foot. A fundamental objective is to contain the area where a suspect may be hiding. It is still advantageous, to the extent possible, to affect a quiet approach. This may help to avoid compromising the tactical advantage of the responding officers by inadvertently revealing their whereabouts.
- B. Vehicular Approach Considerations (dependent on the time of day)
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., elimination of tire noise, motor noise, radio noise, slamming car doors, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., turning off brake lights, dome lights, avoiding driving in front of the target address)
- C. Foot Approach Considerations (dependent on the time of day)
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., turn portable radio down -but not off, avoid rattling keys or loose objects, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., avoid silhouetting, improper use of flashlight, etc.)
  - 3. Effective use of available cover and concealment

### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

- A. Response to a strong arm robbery generally suggests that a perimeter be quickly established to prevent the suspect from escaping from the area. Likewise, it is necessary to contact the victim as soon as possible (e.g., at the same time as the perimeter is being established).
- B. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- C. Scene Security



1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter
2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene

D. Officer Safety

1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
- B. Applying a systematic search pattern
- C. Avoiding a cross fire situation
- D. Use of available resources and equipment

V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Availability of resources and equipment
- E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #4

## Strongarm Robbery STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

On Saturday, at 1410 hours, while northbound on the interstate approaching the "J" Street off ramp, the officer receives a 211-strong-arm-in-progress call at the ATM (automated teller machine) located in the "K" Street Mall. This is a three-story outdoor mall with pedestrian access to the shops by means of elevators, escalators and stairs placed throughout the mall at various locations. The ATM is centrally located on the second level of the mall. There are various entrances/exits to 5th Street, 6th Street, 7th Street, "L" and "J" Streets.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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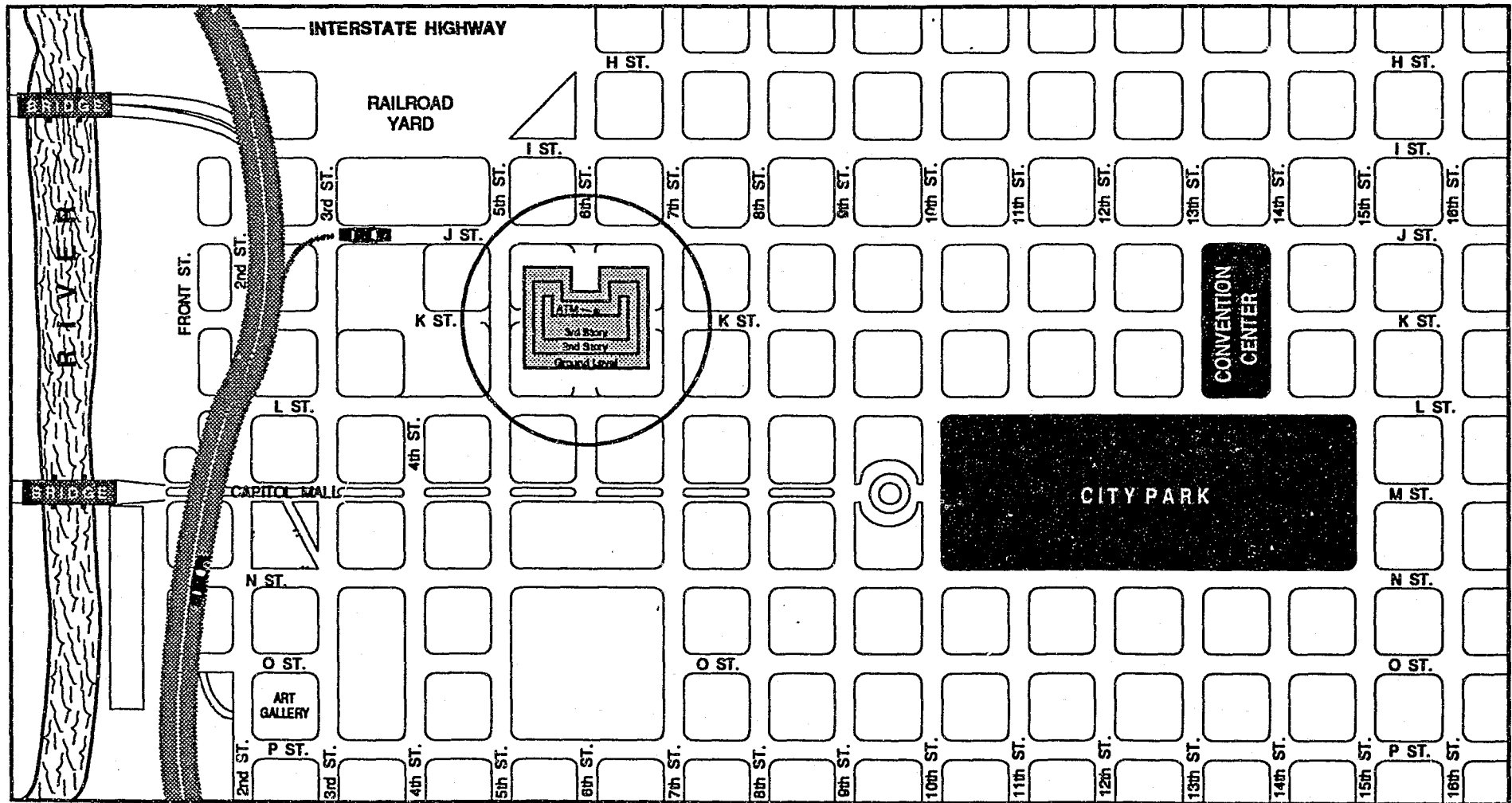
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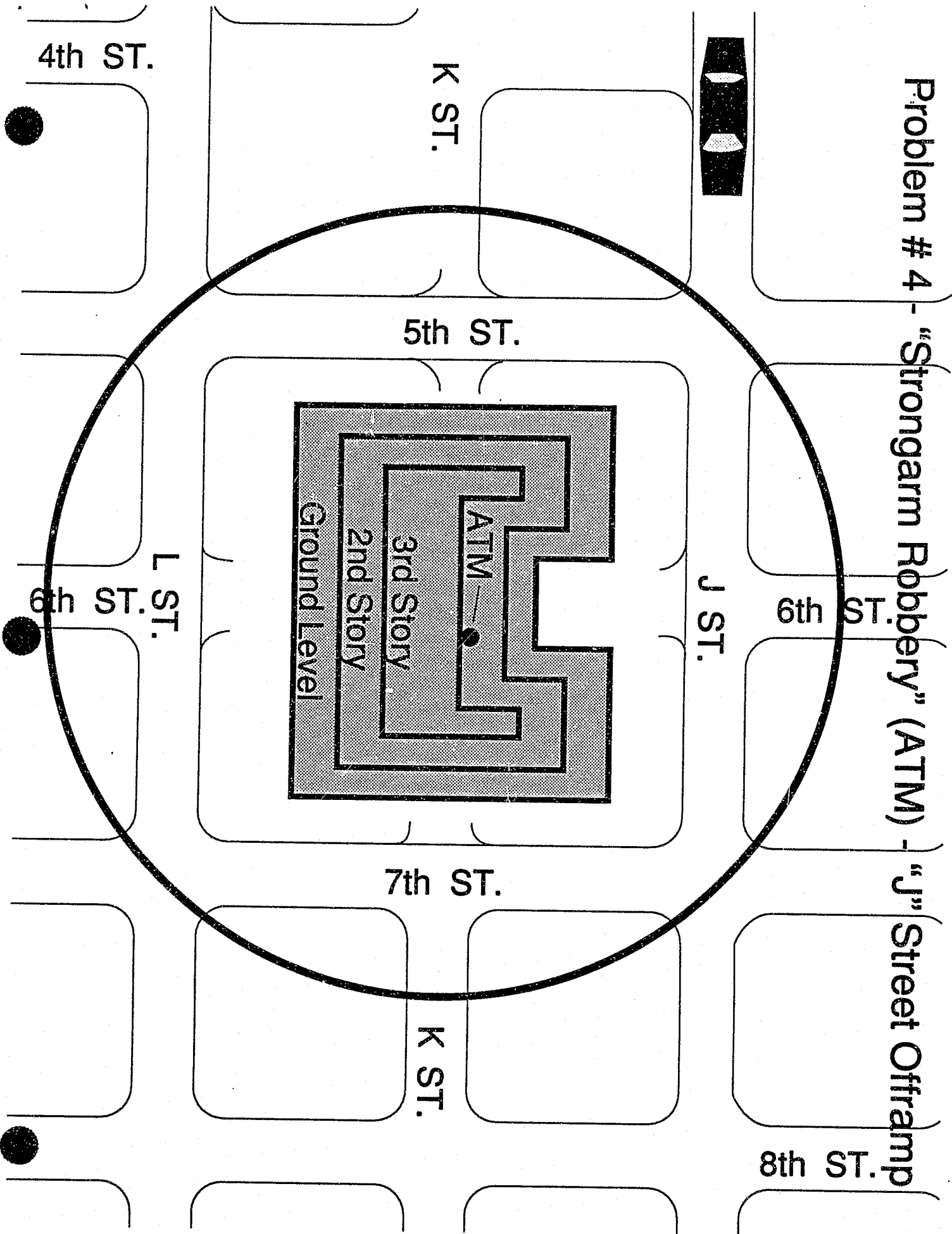
## Problem # 4 - "Strongarm Robbery" (ATM) - "J" Street Offramp



Officer northbound on Interstate Highway  
approaching "J" Street Exit Ramp



Problem # 4 - "Strongarm Robbery" (ATM) - "J" Street Offramp



# **TACTICAL RESPONSE #5a**

## **Person with a Gun**

### **I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION**

At 2300 hours on a Saturday, the officer had just completed a meal break at 3rd and "O" Streets when dispatched to a disturbance call involving a "woman-with-a-gun" at the city park. The park is bordered by 10th and 15th Streets, and "L" and "N" Streets. The western portion of the park is heavily wooded and the eastern portion is open grass with wooden picnic tables located throughout. There is unrestricted access to the park in all directions. The woman is sitting at a picnic table near the corner of 13th and "N" Streets.

### **II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS**

- A. Generally speaking, the most effective response to a person with a gun call involves a "stealth" (invisible) approach. This maximizes the chances of suspect apprehension and reduces the potential of the responding officers being assaulted.
- B. Regardless of the type of incident, the officer should consider selecting a response route which is as direct as possible without compromising the officer's tactical advantage on arrival or which exposes the officer or public to undue hazards.
- C. Vehicular Approach Considerations
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., elimination of tire noise, motor noise, radio noise, slamming car doors, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., turning off brake lights, dome lights, avoiding driving in front of the target address)
- D. Foot Approach Considerations
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., turn portable radio down -but not off, avoid rattling keys or loose objects, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., avoid silhouetting, improper use of flashlight, etc.)
  - 3. Effective use of available cover and concealment

### **III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS**

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security
  - 1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter.

**NOTE:** In this situation the nature of the location (a public park) suggests a concern for the safety of bystanders. However, the time of day (11:00 p.m.) may indicate that little foot or vehicular traffic would be present

2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene

C. Officer Safety

1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. In this situation, the location of the armed person is known and there is no information to suggest that any additional suspects are involved. If the suspect has fled or changed location prior to the arrival of the responding officers or if there is supplemental information to suggest the involvement of other persons, then an area search may be necessary.
- B. If an area search is deemed necessary, the following considerations would apply:
  1. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
  2. Applying a systematic search pattern
  3. Avoiding a cross fire situation

V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Availability of resources and equipment
- E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #5b

## Person with a Gun STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 1:00 p.m. an officer is driving northbound on 3rd Street approaching "O" Street. The officer is dispatched to a report of a possible "person who is mentally disordered" who is armed with a shotgun. According to the broadcast a female letter carrier who was delivering mail to apartments at 954 12th Street, was threatened by an adult male who was brandishing a shotgun and making incoherent remarks. The suspect was last seen walking into the apartment courtyard.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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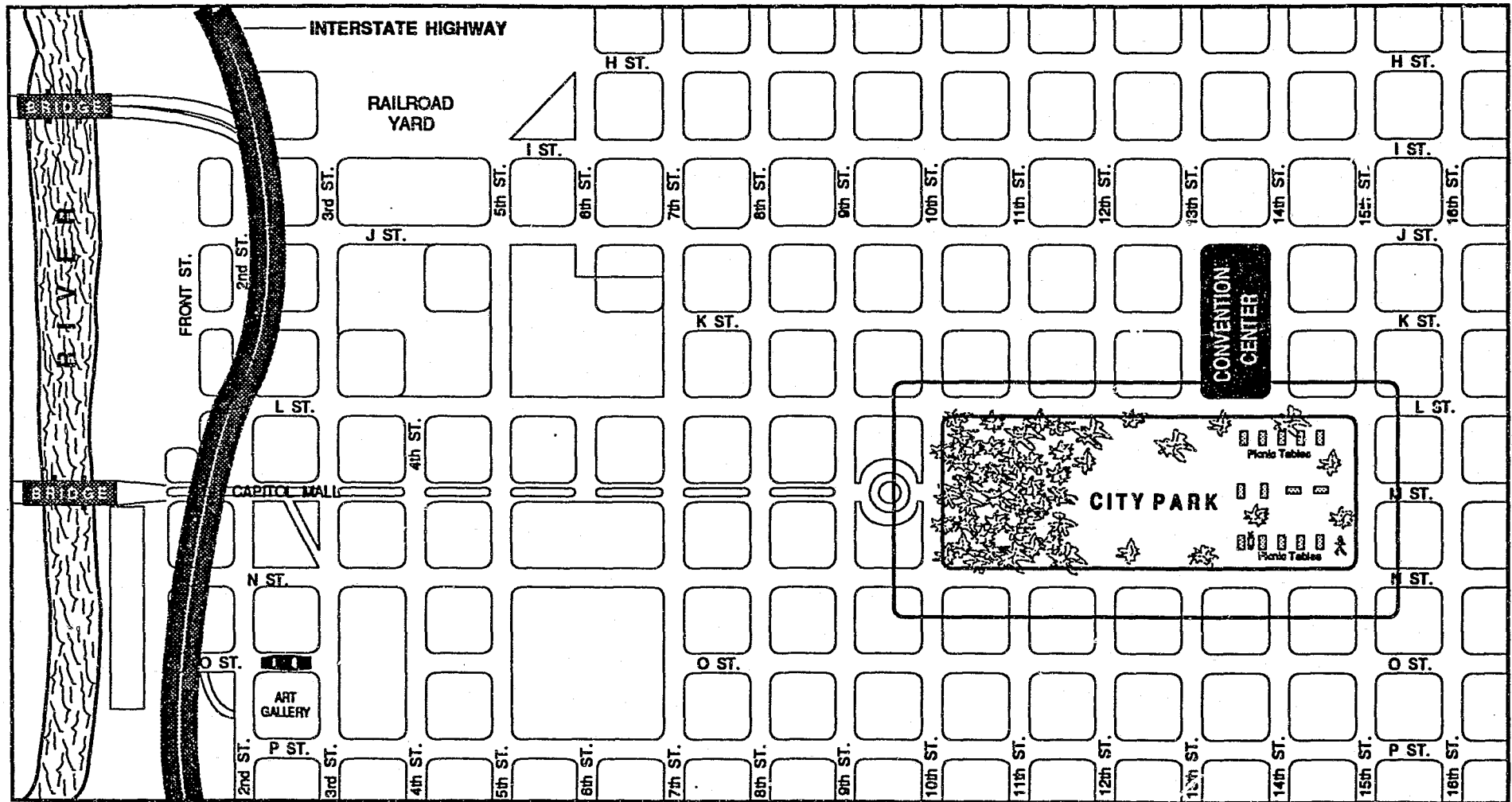
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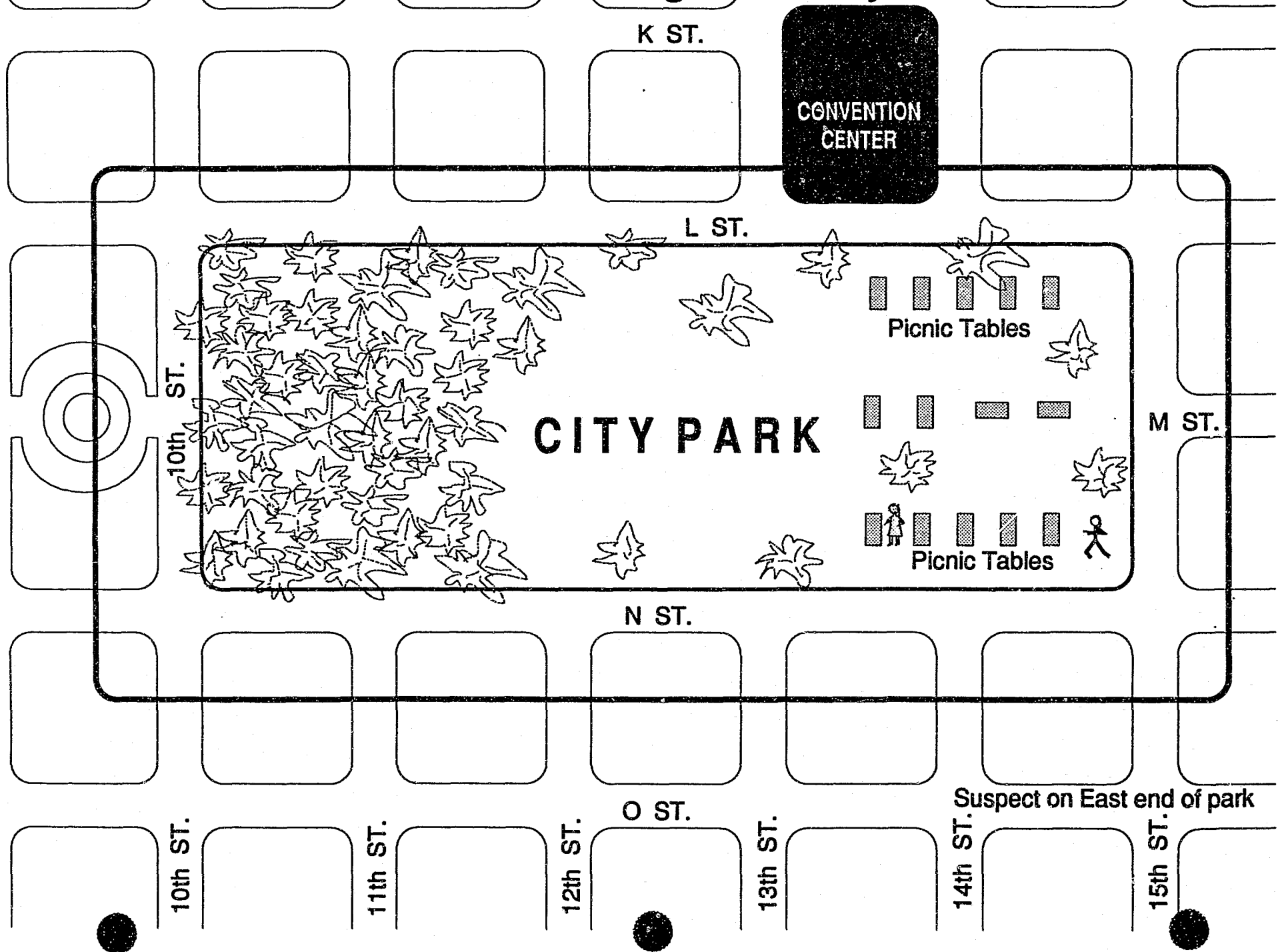
## Problem # 5a - Person with a gun at City Park



Officer(s) responding from 3rd & "O" Streets

Suspect on East end of park

# Problem #5a - Person with a gun at City Park



# TACTICAL RESPONSE #5b

## Person with a Gun

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 1:00 p.m. an officer is driving northbound on 3rd Street approaching "O" Street. The officer is dispatched to a report of a possible "person who is mentally disordered" who is armed with a shotgun. According to the broadcast a female letter carrier who was delivering mail to apartments at 954 12th Street, was threatened by an adult male who was brandishing a shotgun and making incoherent remarks. The suspect was last seen walking into the apartment courtyard.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Generally speaking, the most effective response to a person with a gun call involves a "stealth" (invisible) approach. This maximizes the chances of suspect apprehension and reduces the potential of the responding officers being assaulted.
- B. Regardless of the type of incident, the officer should consider selecting a response route which is as direct as possible without compromising the officer's tactical advantage on arrival or which exposes the officer or public to undue hazards.
- C. Vehicular Approach Considerations (dependent on the time of day)
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., elimination of tire noise, motor noise, radio noise, slamming car doors, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., turning off brake lights, dome lights, avoiding driving in front of the target address)
- D. Foot Approach Considerations (dependent on the time of day)
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., turn portable radio down -but not off, avoid rattling keys or loose objects, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., avoid silhouetting, improper use of flashlight, etc.)
  - 3. Effective use of available cover and concealment

### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security
  - 1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter

NOTE: In this situation the nature of the location (an apartment complex) and the time of day (1:00 p.m.) suggests a particular concern for the safety of bystanders.

2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene
- C. Officer Safety
  1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
  2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

#### IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
- B. Applying a systematic search pattern
- C. Avoiding a cross fire situation

#### V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Availability of resources and equipment
- E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #5b

## Person with a Gun STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 1:00 p.m. an officer is driving northbound on 3rd Street approaching "O" Street. The officer is dispatched to a report of a possible "person who is mentally disordered" who is armed with a shotgun. According to the broadcast a female letter carrier who was delivering mail to apartments at 954 12th Street, was threatened by an adult male who was brandishing a shotgun and making incoherent remarks. The suspect was last seen walking into the apartment courtyard.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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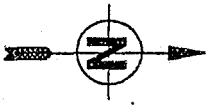
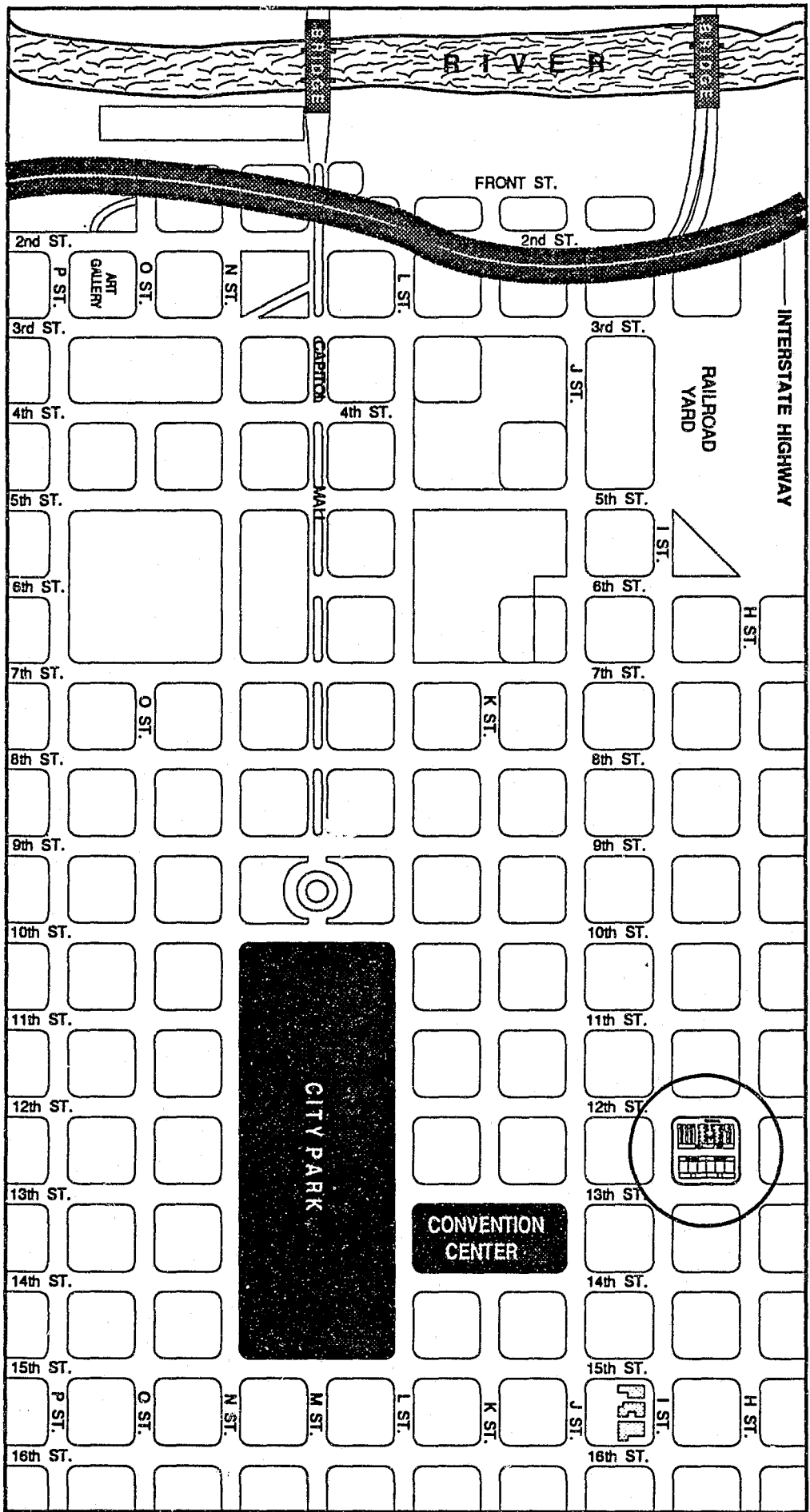
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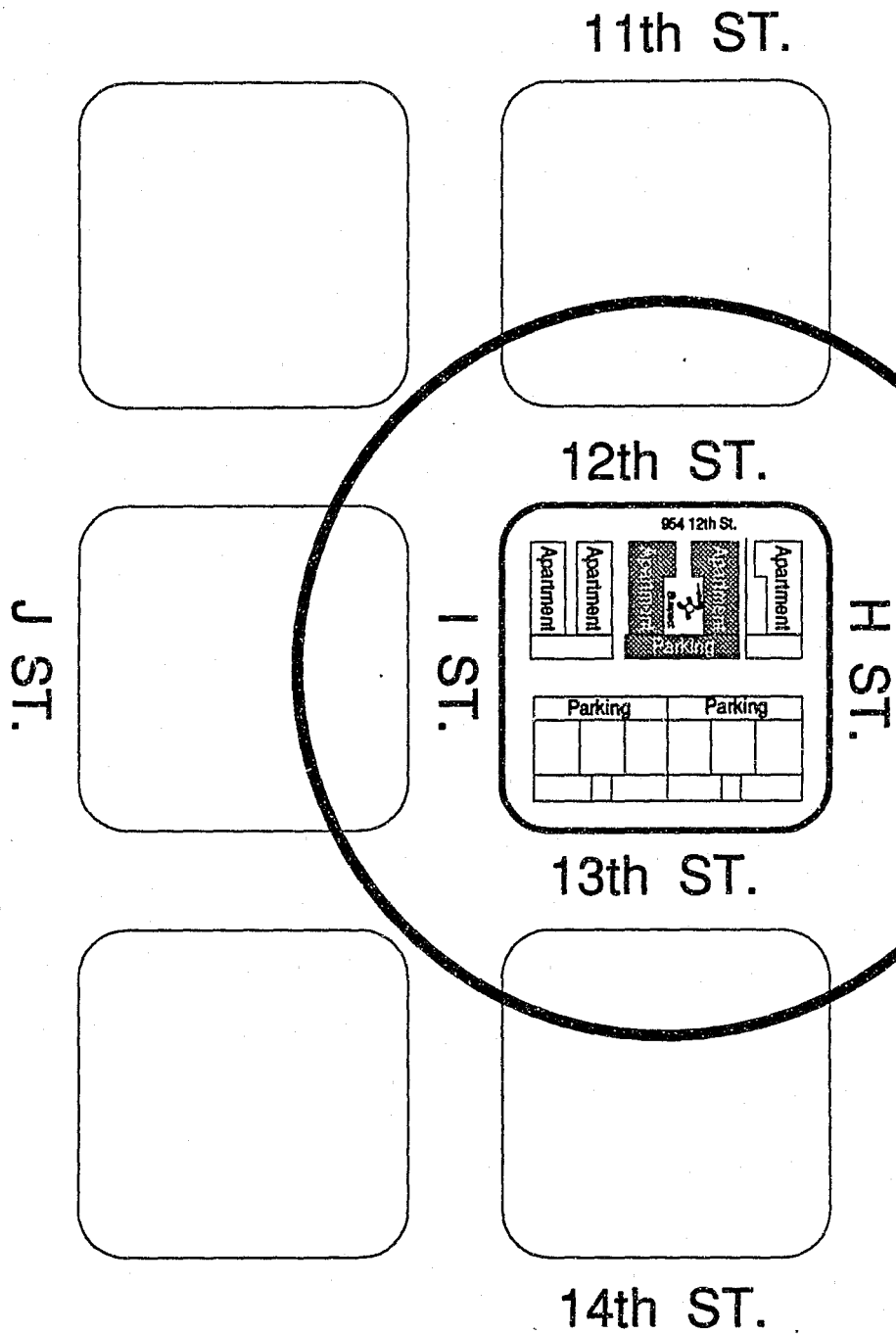
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Problem # 5b - Person with a gun at 954 12th Street





Problem # 5b - Person with a gun at 954 12th Street



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# **TACTICAL RESPONSE #6**

## **In-Progress Residential Burglary**

### **I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION**

At approximately 1500 hours a person residing at 2230 Rockbridge Drive reports a possible residential burglary in-progress. She reports seeing a white male adult climbing through the front window of the house directly across the street (2233 Rockbridge Drive). The informant reports that her neighbors are on vacation.

### **II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS**

- A. Generally speaking, the most effective response to an in-progress residential burglary involves a "stealth" (invisible) approach. This maximizes the chances of suspect apprehension.
- B. Regardless of the type of incident, the officer should consider selecting a response route which is as direct as possible without compromising the officer's tactical advantage on arrival or which exposes the officer or public to undue hazards.
- C. Vehicular Approach Considerations (may be dependent on time of day)
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., elimination of tire noise, motor noise, radio noise, slamming car doors, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., turning off brake lights, dome lights, avoiding driving in front of the target address)
- D. Foot Approach Considerations (may be dependent on time of day)
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., turn portable radio down -but not off, avoid rattling keys or loose objects, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., avoid silhouetting, improper use of flashlight, etc.)
  - 3. Effective use of available cover and concealment

### **III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS**

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security
  - 1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter
  - 2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene
- C. Officer Safety
  - 1. Avoiding a cross fire situation

2 Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
- B. Applying a systematic search pattern
- C. Avoiding a cross fire situation

V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Availability of resources and equipment
- E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

## TACTICAL RESPONSE #6

### In-Progress Residential Burglary STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

#### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 1500 hours a person residing at 2230 Rockbridge Drive reports a possible residential burglary in-progress. She reports seeing a white male adult climbing through the front window of the house directly across the street (2233 Rockbridge Drive). The informant reports that her neighbors are on vacation.

#### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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#### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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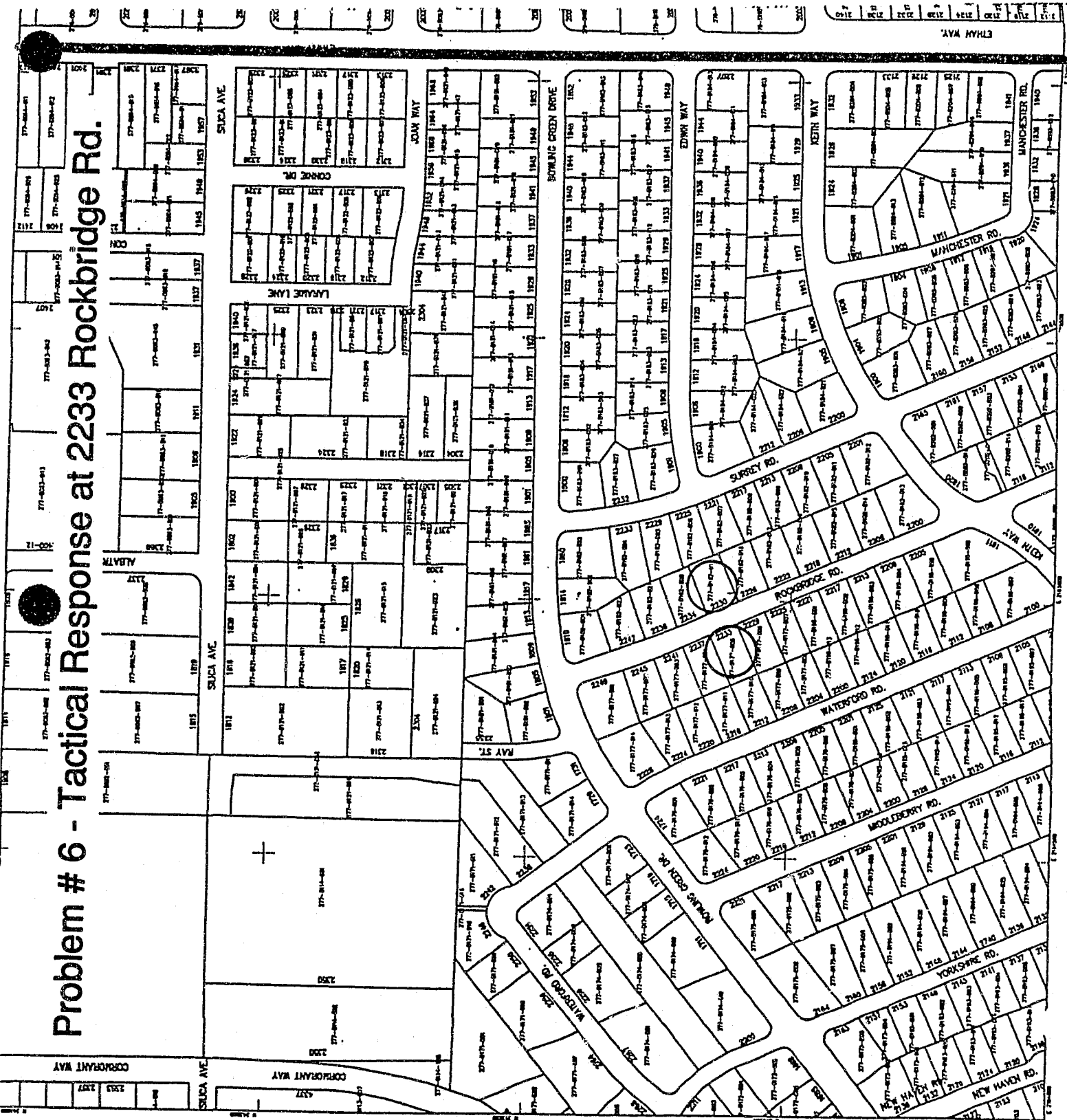
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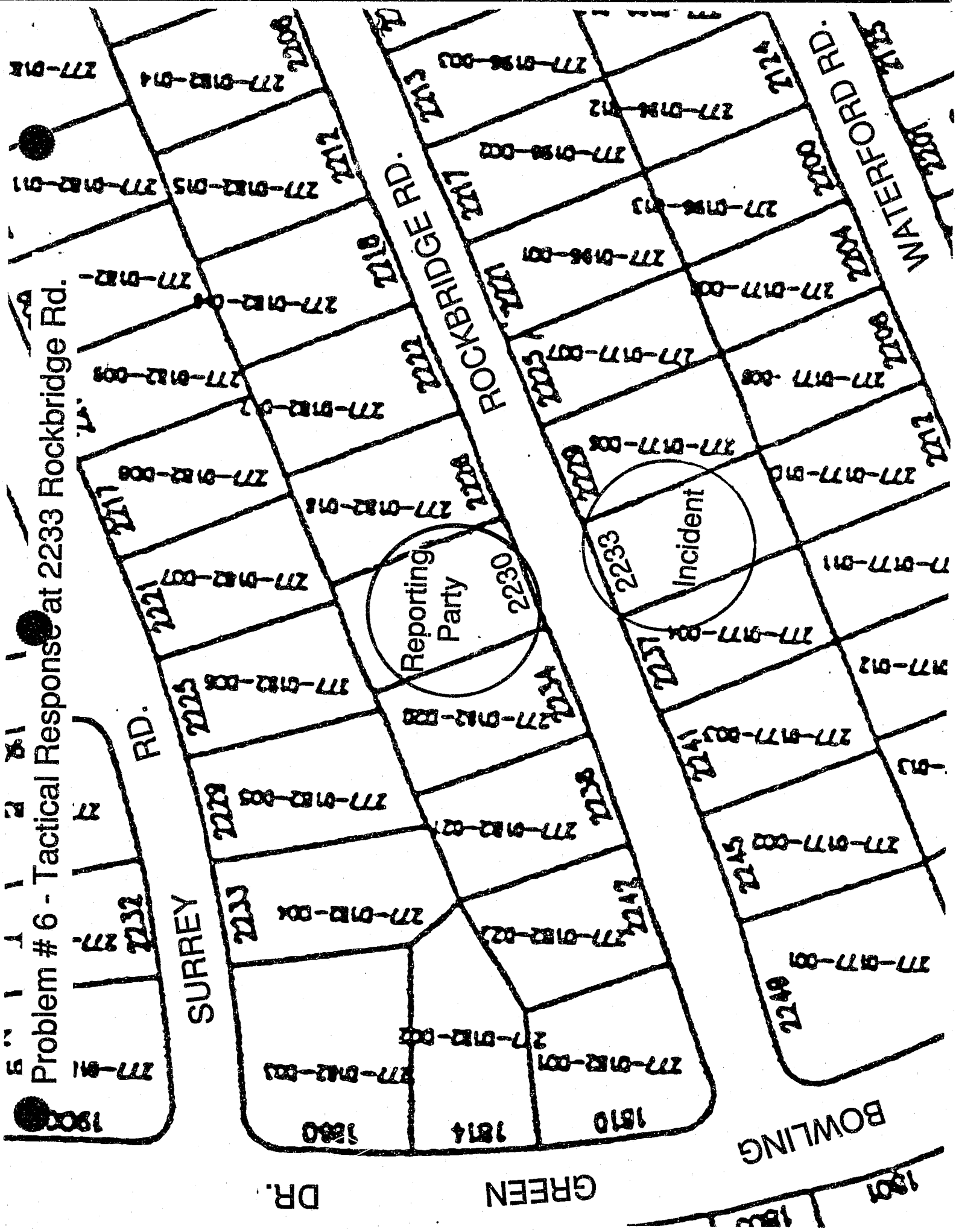
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# Problem # 6 - Tactical Response at 2233 Rockbridge Rd.



Problem # 6 - Tactical Response at 2233 Rockbridge Rd.



# **TACTICAL RESPONSE #7**

## **In-Progress Commercial Robbery**

### **I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION**

At approximately 10:00 p.m. an officer has just cleared a traffic enforcement vehicle pullover at the intersection of 16th and "O" Streets. The officer is dispatched as the primary unit to a robbery-in-progress at the fast food restaurant located at 1002 9th Street (the corner of 9th and "I" Street). The fast food restaurant is a typical independent one-story structure surrounded by a parking lot and drive-way access to both 9th Street and "I" Street.

### **II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS**

- A. Generally speaking, the most effective response to an in-progress commercial robbery involves a "stealth" (invisible) approach. This maximizes the chances of suspect apprehension.
- B. Regardless of the type of incident, the officer should consider selecting a response route which is as direct as possible without compromising the officer's tactical advantage on arrival or which exposes the officer or public to undue hazards.
- C. Vehicular Approach Considerations
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., elimination of tire noise, motor noise, radio noise, slamming car doors, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., turning off brake lights, dome lights, avoiding driving in front of the target address)
  - 3. Be observant for look-outs, get-away drivers and other accomplices
- D. Foot Approach Considerations
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., turn portable radio down -but not off, avoid rattling keys or loose objects, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., avoid silhouetting, use of flashlight, etc.)
  - 3. Effective use of available cover and concealment
  - 4. Take a position to best observe and control the scene

### **III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS**

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security
  - 1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter



NOTE: The nature of the location (a fast food establishment which is open for business) suggests the possibility that customers will be present at the scene. Particular consideration should be given to public safety and to avoiding actions which could potentially contribute to a hostage situation (e.g., premature entry, noisy/visible response, etc.)

2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene

C. Officer Safety

1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

A. Prior to initiating any search:

1. Determine if a robbery is in progress (e.g., wait and observe)
2. If appropriate, telephone the location and try to determine if a crime is occurring
3. If a robbery is in progress:
  - a. Maintain perimeter deployment
  - b. Communicate actions observed
  - c. Avoid entry
  - d. Wait for suspects to exit
  - e. Consider everyone that exits the restaurant a suspect until it is determined otherwise

B. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., search as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)

C. If a search of the building or of the immediate area is deemed necessary, apply a systematic search pattern

D. Avoiding a cross fire situation

E. Use of available resources and equipment

V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain

D. Availability of resources and equipment

E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #7

## In-Progress Commercial Robbery STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 10:00 p.m. an officer has just cleared a traffic enforcement vehicle pullover at the intersection of 16th and "O" Streets. The officer is dispatched as the primary unit to a robbery-in-progress at the fast food restaurant located at 1002 9th Street (the corner of 9th and "I" Street). The fast food restaurant is a typical independent one-story structure surrounded by a parking lot and drive-way access to both 9th Street and "I" Street.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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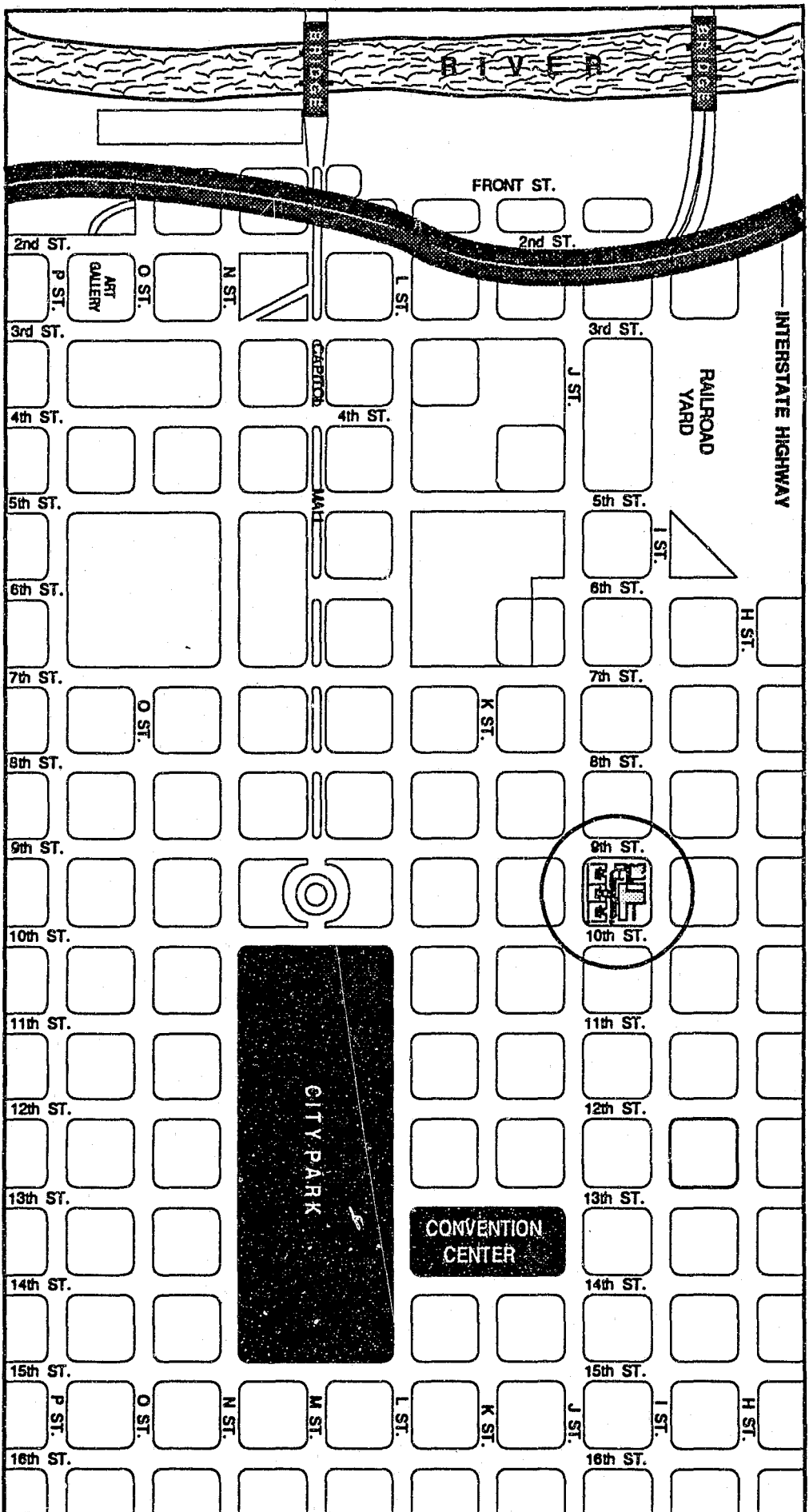
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Problem # 7 - Robbery-in-Progress at Mc Donald's, 1002 9th Street



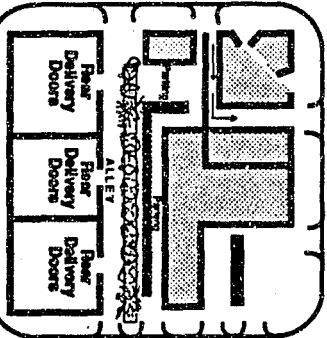
H ST.

Problem # 7 - Robbery-in-Progress at Mc Donald's, 1002 9th Street

I ST.

8th ST.

9th ST.



10th ST.

11th ST.

J ST.

K ST.

# **TACTICAL RESPONSE #8**

## **Suicidal Person (Armed with a Firearm)**

### **I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION**

At approximately 2:15 p.m. on a Thursday, an officer is parked in front of 1504 "H" Street completing a residential burglary report. The officer is dispatched as the primary unit to a report of a "person armed with a handgun" who is standing in the middle of the intersection at 7th and "L" Streets holding the gun to his head and threatening to shoot himself.

### **II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS**

- A. Generally speaking, the most effective response to a suicidal person with a gun call involves a "stealth" (invisible) approach. This maximizes the chances of suspect apprehension and reduces the potential of the responding officers being assaulted.
- B. Regardless of the type of incident, the officer should consider selecting a response route which is as direct as possible without compromising the officer's tactical advantage on arrival or which exposes the officer or public to undue hazards.
- C. Vehicular Approach Considerations
  - 1. The nature of this event (an armed person in an intersection) is likely to create a major traffic and public safety problem. This may substantially inhibit the ability of an officer to make a "stealthy" approach
  - 2. To the extent possible, however, the responding officer should still attempt to affect an undetected approach and maintain effective cover and concealment
- D. Foot Approach Considerations, if applicable
  - 1. Sound discipline (e.g., turn portable radio down -but not off, avoid rattling keys or loose objects, etc.)
  - 2. Visual discipline (e.g., avoid silhouetting, improper use of flashlight, etc.)
  - 3. Effective use of available cover and concealment

### **III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS**

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security
  - 1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter
  - 2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene
- C. Officer Safety

1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

#### IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. In this situation, the location of the armed person is known and there is no information to suggest that any additional suspects are involved. If the suspect has fled or changed location prior to the arrival of the responding officers or if there is supplemental information to suggest the involvement of other persons, then an area search may be necessary.
- B. If an area search is deemed necessary, the following considerations would apply:
  1. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
  2. Applying a systematic search pattern
  3. Avoiding a cross fire situation

#### V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Availability of resources and equipment
- E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties



## TACTICAL RESPONSE #8

### Suicidal Person (Armed with a Firearm) STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

#### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 2:15 p.m. on a Thursday, an officer is parked in front of 1504 "H" Street completing a residential burglary report. The officer is dispatched as the primary unit to a report of a "person armed with a handgun" who is standing in the middle of the intersection at 7th and "L" Streets holding the gun to his head and threatening to shoot himself.

#### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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#### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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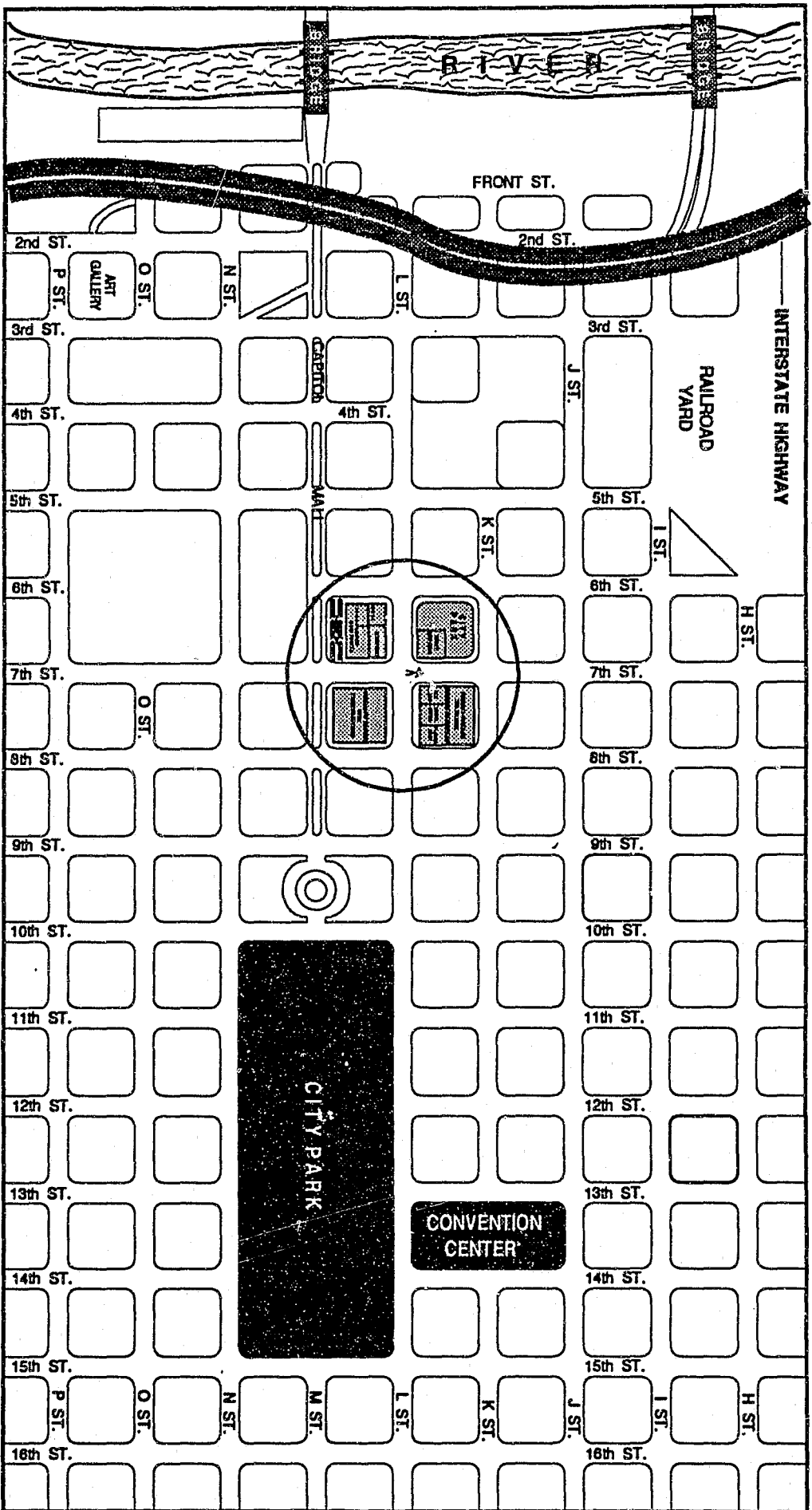
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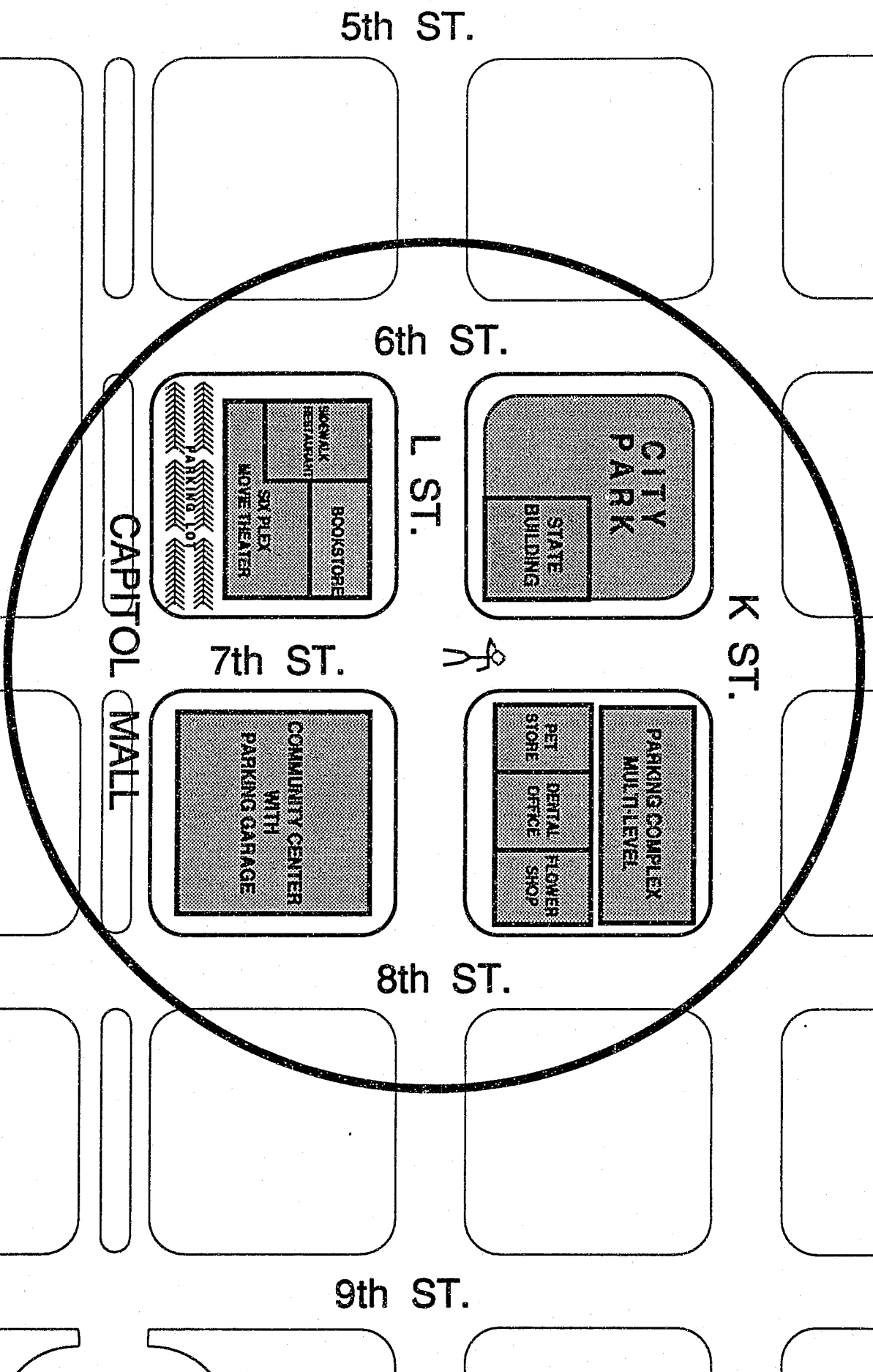
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Problem # 8 - Suicidal person with firearm at corner of 7th & "L" Streets



Problem # 8 - Suicidal person with firearm at corner of 7th & "L" Streets



# TACTICAL RESPONSE #9

## Ambush Situation

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

Shortly after midnight, an officer is driving southbound in the 1000 block of 10th Street when the vehicle windshield is struck by sniper fire. The 1000 block of 10th Street is a commercial area containing a variety of strip shopping centers and parking lots.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. This situation is inherently different from the types of crimes-in-progress previously illustrated. In this case, the officer's first responsibility is to escape from the "kill zone" to an area of available cover.
  - 1. To the extent possible, the officer should attempt to determine the location of the sniper
  - 2. The officer should notify dispatch and attempt to safely deploy responding units
- B. It may be necessary for the officer to abandon the patrol vehicle in the course of seeking cover and concealment
- C. In an ambush situation it will generally be necessary to establish an effective perimeter before any type of approach to the suspect's position is attempted.

### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security
  - 1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter
  - 2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene
- C. Officer Safety
  - 1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
  - 2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

### IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
- B. Applying a systematic search pattern
- C. Avoiding a cross fire situation

D. Use of available resources and equipment

V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

A. Number of available cover units

B. Time of day

C. Type of area/terrain

D. Availability of resources and equipment

E. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #9

## Ambush Situation STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

Shortly after midnight, an officer is driving southbound in the 1000 block of 10th Street when the vehicle windshield is struck by sniper fire. The 1000 block of 10th Street is a commercial area containing a variety of strip shopping centers and parking lots.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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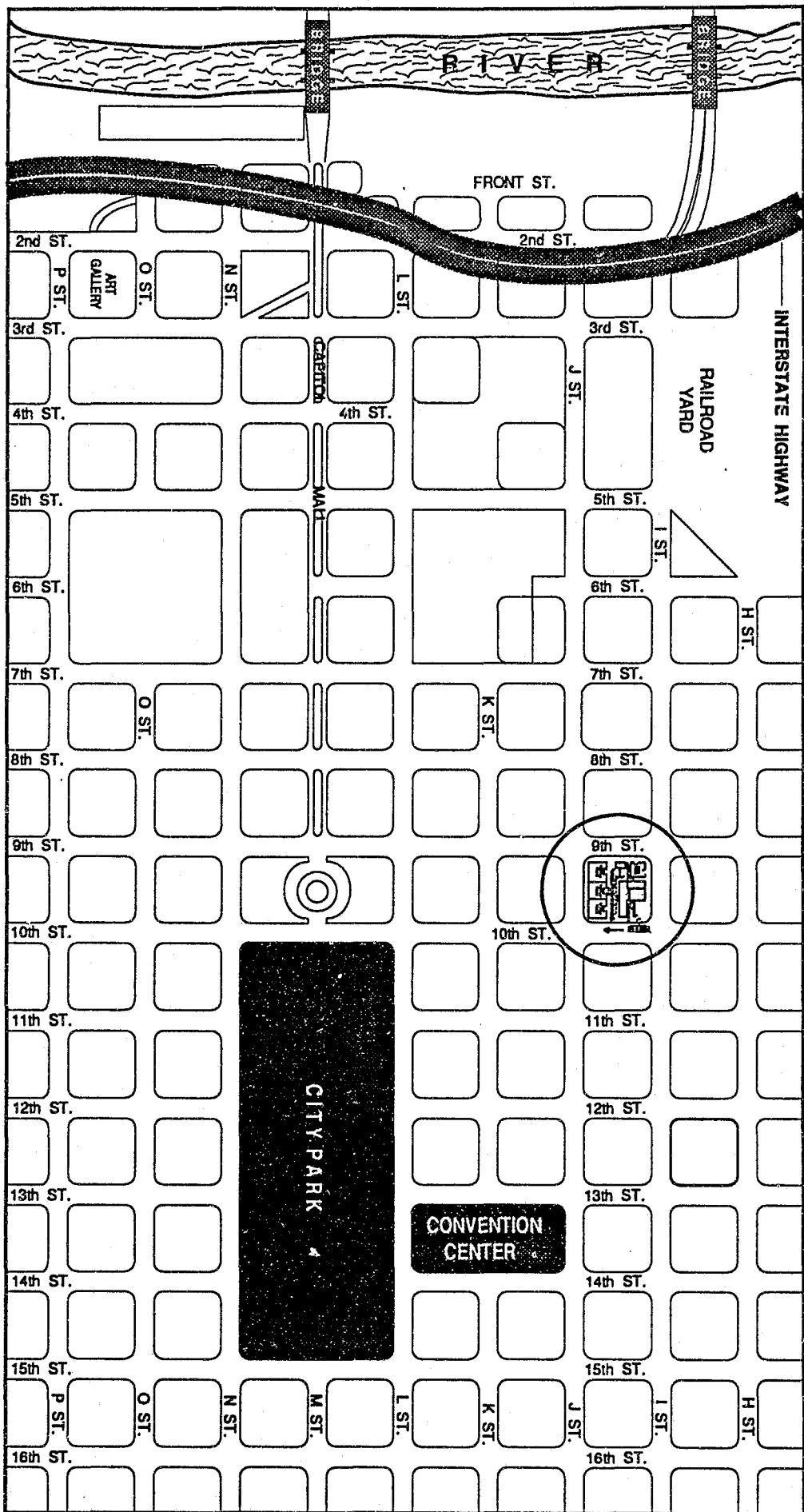
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# Problem # 9 - Ambush on Tenth Street



H ST.

# Problem # 9 - Ambush on Tenth Street

I ST.

8th ST.

9th ST.

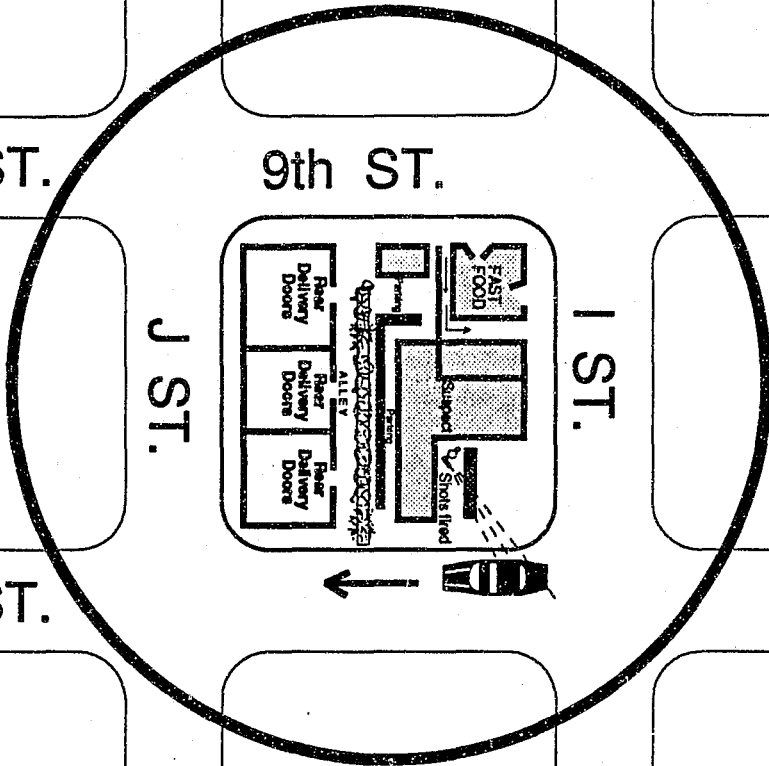
J ST.

9th ST.

10th ST.

11th ST.

K ST.



# TACTICAL RESPONSE #10a

## Officer "Down" Incident

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 1:00 p.m. two officers were dispatched to a report of a person who is mentally disordered who is armed with a shotgun. According to the initial report, an apparently incoherent male adult brandished a shotgun and threatened a female letter carrier who was delivering mail to the apartment complex at 954 12th Street. One officer entered the courtyard of the apartment complex while a back-up officer took a position near the main entrance of the complex which fronts on 12th Street. The suspect, who was inside a front apartment, discharged his shotgun through a window screen hitting the back-up officer in the face. The other officer is pinned down inside the courtyard and is unable to retreat without having to pass in front of the suspect's location. The officer initiates an "officer needs help" broadcast. You are the closest unit and will be responding from 13th and "O" Street.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. The nature of this event is one of the most emotional for a responding officer.
  - 1. It is imperative that officers not abandon sound tactics and safe practices in their zeal to effect a rescue of a fellow officer.
  - 2. Inappropriate actions could unnecessarily jeopardize the safety of other officers or members of the public

B. A silent approach to this type of event would almost always be impractical

C. The management of this type of event will be complicated by the response of additional public safety and nonpublic safety personnel (e.g., paramedics, fire department, news media, etc.)

D. A primary responsibility will be to provide sufficient cover for the downed officer to be removed to safety

NOTE: Depending upon the location of the suspect, the types of weapon(s) involved and other factors particular to the incident, specialized equipment and/or additional resources may be necessary before a rescue attempt can be initiated

E. Officers at the scene must make maximum use of available cover and concealment

F. The magnitude of the response (e.g. overall number of responding officers and presence of nonlaw enforcement personnel) will significantly increase the potential of a cross-fire situation

G. In an "officer down" situation it will generally be necessary to establish an effective perimeter before any type of approach to the suspect's position is attempted.

### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

- A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).
- B. Scene Security
  - 1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter
  - 2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene
- C. Officer Safety
  - 1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
  - 2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

### IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
- B. Applying a systematic search pattern
- C. Avoiding a cross fire situation
- D. Use of available resources and equipment

### V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Type of weapon(s) used by suspect
- E. Availability of resources and equipment
- F. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #10a

## Officer "Down" Incident STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 1:00 p.m. two officers were dispatched to a report of a person who is mentally disordered who is armed with a shotgun. According to the initial report, an apparently incoherent male adult brandished a shotgun and threatened a female letter carrier who was delivering mail to the apartment complex at 954 12th Street. One officer entered the courtyard of the apartment complex while a back-up officer took a position near the main entrance of the complex which fronts on 12th Street. The suspect, who was inside a front apartment, discharged his shotgun through a window screen hitting the back-up officer in the face. The other officer is pinned down inside the courtyard and is unable to retreat without having to pass in front of the suspect's location. The officer initiates an "officer needs help" broadcast. You are the closest unit and will be responding from 13th and "O" Street.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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**IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS**

**Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)**

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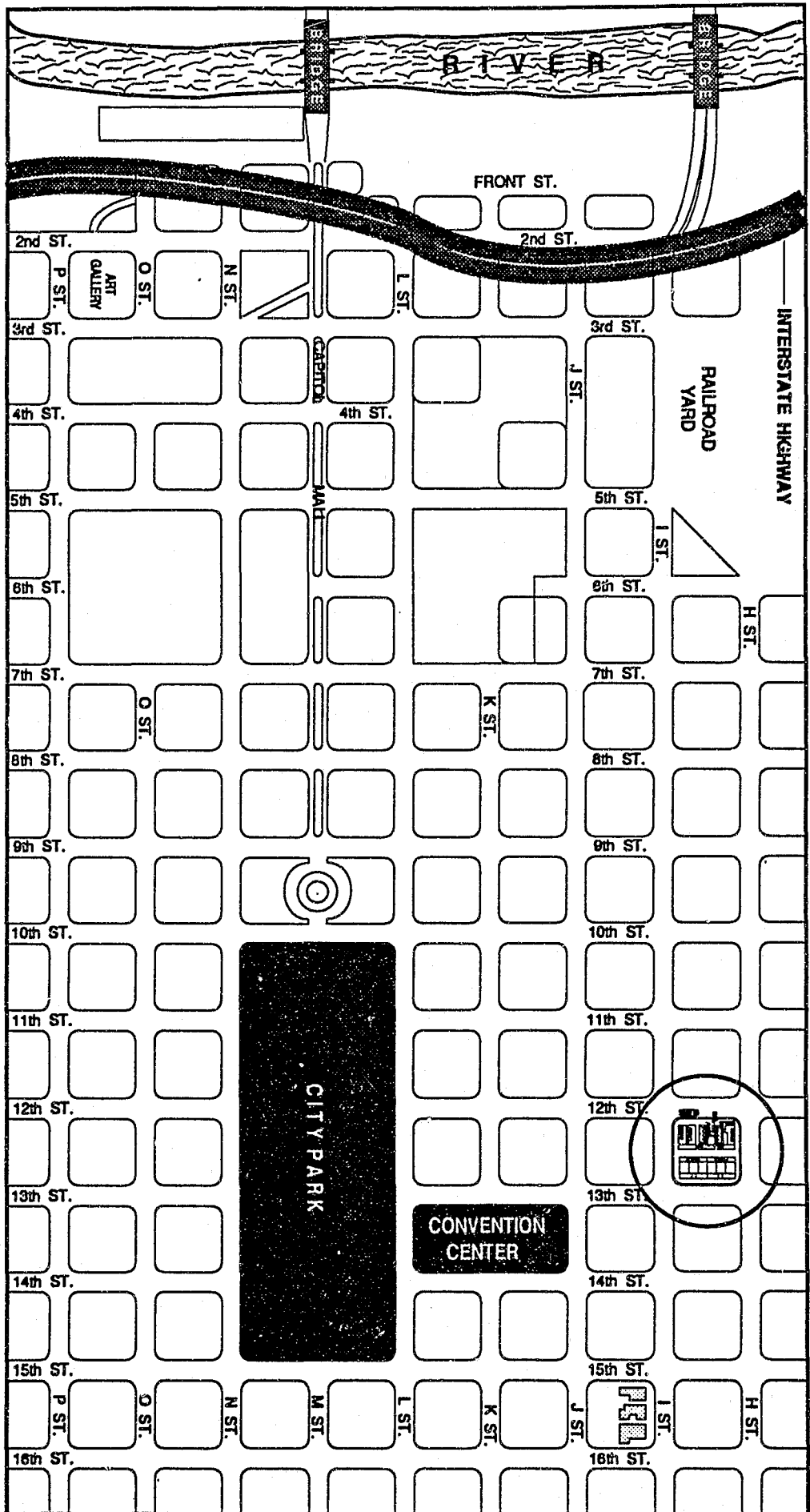
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Problem # 10a - Officer down at 954 12th Street



Problem # 10a - Officer down at 954 12th Street

11th ST.

12th ST.

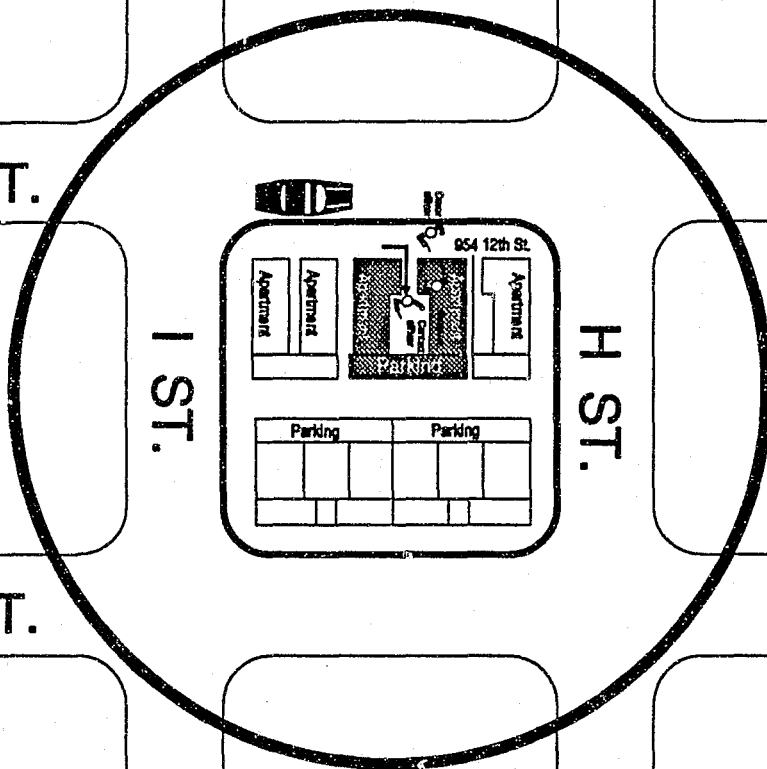
13th ST.

14th ST.

J ST.

I ST.

H ST.





# TACTICAL RESPONSE #10b

## Officer "Down" Incident

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 11:30 a.m., a foot patrol officer enters the National Savings Bank at 1151 8th Street in the course of routine patrol duties. The officer inadvertently interrupts a robbery-in-progress and is shot. The officer attempts to retreat but falls just outside the rear door of the bank in the parking lot. The dispatcher broadcasts a silent robbery alarm at the bank and almost immediately the fallen officer initiates an "officer down, officer needs help" broadcast. You are the closest unit and are responding from 16th and "N" Streets.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

A. The nature of this event is one of the most emotional for a responding officer.

1. It is imperative that officers not abandon sound tactics and safe practices in their zeal to effect a rescue of a fellow officer.
2. Inappropriate actions could unnecessarily jeopardize the safety of other officers or members of the public

B. A silent approach to this type of event would almost always be impractical

C. The management of this type of event will be complicated by the response of additional public safety and nonpublic safety personnel (e.g., paramedics, fire department, news media, etc.)

D. A primary responsibility will be to provide sufficient cover for the downed officer to be removed to safety

NOTE: Depending upon the location of the suspect, the types of weapon(s) involved and other factors particular to the incident, specialized equipment and/or additional resources may be necessary before a rescue attempt can be initiated

E. Officers at the scene must make maximum use of available cover and concealment

F. The magnitude of the response (e.g. overall number of responding officers and presence of nonlaw enforcement personnel) will significantly increase the potential of a cross-fire situation

G. In an "officer down" situation it will generally be necessary to establish an effective perimeter before any type of approach to the suspect's position is attempted.

### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

A. Scene Containment (securing the location so that a suspect cannot flee the scene without being observed by a perimeter officer).

B. Scene Security

1. Closing off the location so that uninvolved parties cannot enter
2. Securing prisoners taken into custody from the scene

C. Officer Safety

1. Avoiding a cross fire situation
2. Maintaining effective communication among perimeter units

IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Providing for adequate cover (e.g., searching as a team while other officers maintain perimeter integrity)
- B. Applying a systematic search pattern
- C. Avoiding a cross fire situation
- D. Use of available resources and equipment

V. SITUATIONAL VARIABLES

Instructors may further manipulate response conditions by altering the following:

- A. Number of available cover units
- B. Time of day
- C. Type of area/terrain
- D. Type of weapon(s) used by suspect
- E. Availability of resources and equipment
- F. Presence of bystanders or other uninvolved parties

# TACTICAL RESPONSE #10b

## Officer "Down" Incident STUDENT RESPONSE SHEET

### I. EVENT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION

At approximately 11:30 a.m., a foot patrol officer enters the National Savings Bank at 1151 8th Street in the course of routine patrol duties. The officer inadvertently interrupts a robbery-in-progress and is shot. The officer attempts to retreat but falls just outside the rear door of the bank in the parking lot. The dispatcher broadcasts a silent robbery alarm at the bank and almost immediately the fallen officer initiates an "officer down, officer needs help" broadcast. You are the closest unit and are responding from 16th and "N" Streets.

### II. APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

Using the attached orientation and detail maps, describe the route you would choose to scene. Also describe how you would approach the incident location by vehicle and/or on foot)

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### III. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLACING PERIMETER UNITS

Assuming you are the first unit on the scene, describe how you would direct assisting units to approach. Also, describe where you would place perimeter units. Use the number of responding units identified by your instructor.

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IV. AREA SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

Describe the process you would follow to search the incident location (e.g., for additional suspects, evidence, etc.)

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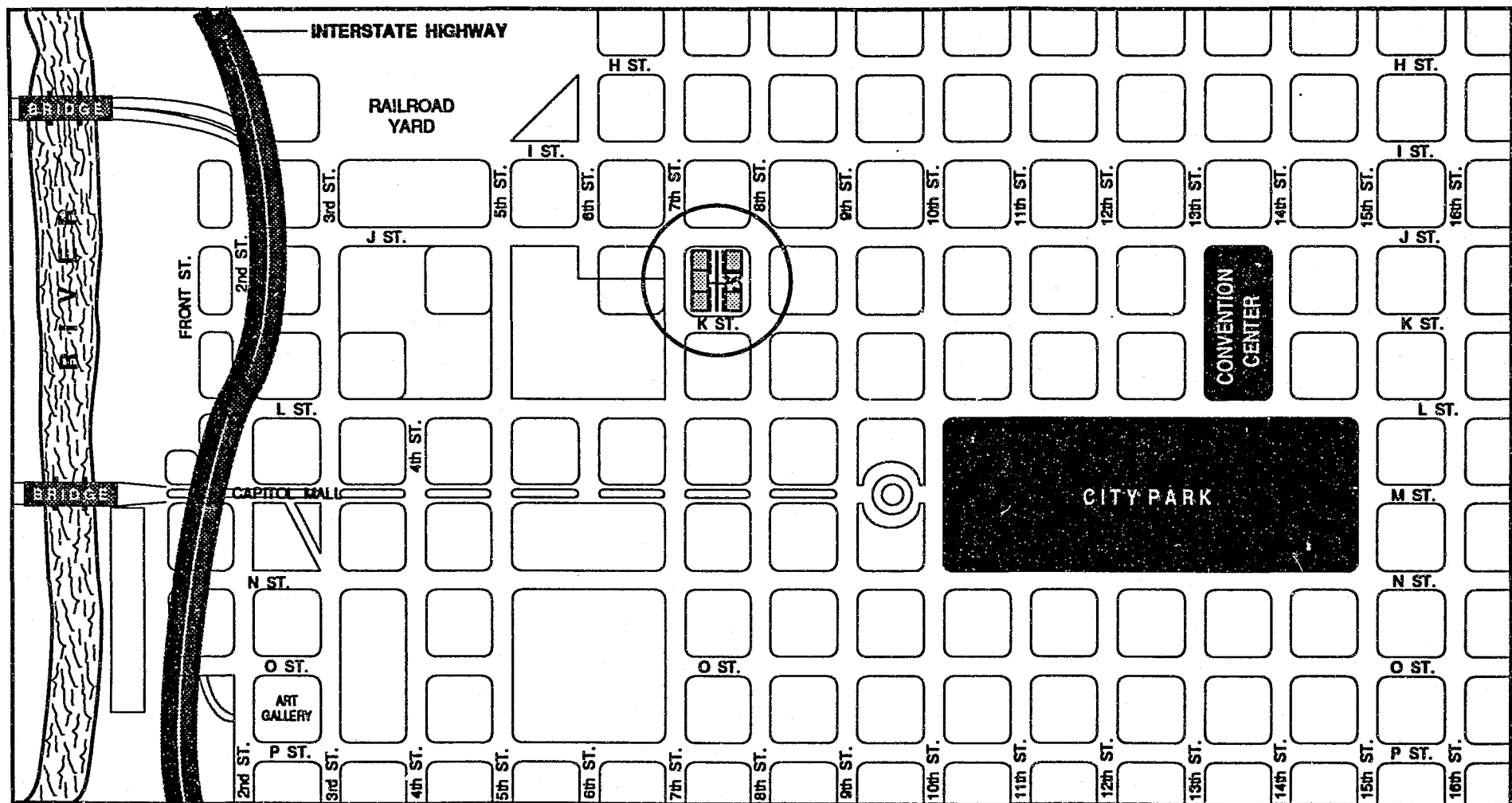
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**Problem # 10b - Officer down - Shot exiting American Savings Bank  
1151 8th Street**



I ST.

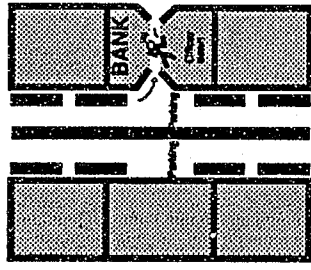
Problem # 10b - Officer down - Shot exiting American Savings Bank

1151 8th Street

6th ST.

7th ST.

J ST.



8th ST.

9th ST.

K ST.

L ST.