

PARTICIPANT COMMENTS:

“I had never considered a fire-as-a-weapon event. In your class, I learned how to make entry when there is an armed perpetrator and an active fire. Less than one week after your class, I was dispatched to a domestic situation with a hostage where the perpetrator had set his house on fire. I was the only responding special agent with the training needed to mitigate the armed perpetrator and a well involved house fire.”

- Special Agent Christopher Cestare
South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

“Less than 24 hours after we finished your course in Detroit, our department responded to an apartment fire. The perpetrator shot two people, lit the apartment building on fire, and was throwing Molotov cocktails at responders when they arrived. We had never responded to an event like this before. Your course was fundamental in teaching us exactly what to do in this situation.”

- Firefighter/Paramedic Warren Happell
Shelby Township (MI) Fire Department

“Two weeks after this course, we had a 14-hour standoff with a murder suspect. At the end, we saw smoke and fire coming from the attic. The fire department would not get any closer than two blocks. No one knew what to do except me. I immediately used the Bearcat with the hose load technique you all taught to put water on the fire. Everyone was incredibly impressed.”

- Sergeant Larry Davis
Detroit Police Department Special Response Team

“Two months after your course, we had a subject barricaded in a high-rise luxury resort. The subject set the room on fire before law enforcement made entry. We had never trained for something like this before, but we knew exactly what to do from the course.”

- Captain Eric Di Lorenzo
Myrtle Beach Police Department SWAT

“This course presented critical information that we had never considered with our team. The training was realistic, fact-based, and provided simple solutions to complex problems. The instructors were absolutely top notch.”

- Deputy Ernesto Hernandez
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Special Enforcement Bureau



THREAT SUPPRESSION® INCORPORATED

Corporate Headquarters: 525 North Tryon Street, Suite 1600 | Charlotte, NC 28202 | USA

Corporate Mailing Address: Post Office Box 57 | Fort Mill, SC 29715 | USA

Phone: 800.231.9106 **Fax:** 901.339.9413 **Web:** www.ThreatSuppression.com **E-Mail:** info@ThreatSuppression.com

Presentation Title: *“Tactical Fire Company Train-the-Trainer”*

Presentation Description:

In 2013, the Charlotte Fire Department and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department conducted a needs assessment and found that specially trained fire companies could assist SWAT teams during tactical operations. A workgroup was formed to determine if any other fire departments had a similar program. After a nationwide search, it was determined that one small fire department in Colorado had a similar program. However, this program was very limited in the role that they performed with SWAT.

The needs assessment found that SWAT was often tasked with activities that the fire department was much better trained and equipped to do. This included heavy breaching, setting up rope system for tactical rappel operations, integration with police on the skirmish line at civil unrest, responding to fire-as-a-weapon events in which a hostile perpetrator was still conducting homicidal actions, responding to hostage/barricade events, and responding to suicidal jumper calls. Similar to the tactical medic concept, the Tactical Fire Company concept was created.

Eight fire companies were selected in the city based on geographical location to high-risk occupancies. A 40-hour initial course was created and all members at the selected stations were required to attend the training. In addition, a quarterly continuing education program was established that would ensure recurrent training and knowledge for the program.

Since the creation of the program in 2013, the Charlotte Fire Department Tactical Fire Company units have responded to multiple large-scale riots, active shooter events, hostage/barricade events, and much more. The program is highly successful, and the Tactical Fire Companies have been requested to respond across throughout the region. In addition, numerous agencies have sent personnel to attend the course. These agencies include FBI-HRT, LACoSO SEB, NYPD ESU, Detroit Police SWAT, and the U.S. State Department. The program has become a national model for law enforcement and fire departments throughout the United States. To date, more than 500 handpicked law enforcement officers and firefighters from 50 agencies have received this highly specialized training.

Several departments have already created similar programs, directly modeled after this program. The three lead creators of this program will teach this class. They will present the 40-hour initial training class which includes 16 hours of lecture and 24 hours of practical training. In addition, they will discuss hurdles to implementation encountered along the way. Upon completion of this program, agencies may elect to purchase the presentation material (1,000 PowerPoint slides, videos, training outlines, skill sheets, and more) if they would like to adopt the program at their department.

This class is capped at 50 students. This course requires a blended mix of fire and law enforcement students. All students should be recognized instructors with their respective agencies. This course utilizes a total of five instructors to provide the training throughout the week. The practical portion of this course is very strenuous and requires participants to be in excellent shape. Participants can expect to experience elevated heights, situations that may induce claustrophobic feelings, exposure to live smoke and heat, and exposure to riot control agents. Participants can expect to train outside most of the course, even in inclement weather.

This is not an RTF course. This course teaches integration far beyond the RTF concept. This course teaches fire personnel how to integrate in with law enforcement to operate in the hot zone at numerous high-risk, high-consequence events, including:

- Active shooter events
- Fire-as-a-weapon events
- Large-scale civil unrest events
- Explosive events
- Vehicle-as-a-weapon events
- Suicidal jumpers and hostage/barricade events

Day 1:

0800-0900: Lecture, *"Introduction to the Tactical Fire Company Program"*

0900-1000: Lecture, *"The Tactical Mindset"*

1000-1100: Lecture, *"Exploiting Building Systems for Tactical Advantages"*

1100-1200: Lecture, *"Understanding Hostage/Barricade Events"*

1200-1300: Lunch on your own

1300-1700: Lecture, *"Current Trends in Active Shooter and Hostile Events"*

Day 2:

0800-1200: Lecture, *"Joint Public Safety Response to Fire-as-a-Weapon"*

1200-1300: Lunch on your own

1300-1700: Lecture, *"Joint Public Safety Response to Large-Scale Civil Unrest"*

Day 3:

0800-1200: Practical skills, *"Fire department movement and communication with SWAT"*

1200-1300: Lunch on your own

1300-1600: Practical skills, *"Integrated Response to Large-Scale Civil Unrest"*

1600-1700: Practical skills, *"Integrated Large-Scale Civil Unrest Scenarios (four)"*

Day 4:

0800-1500: Practical skills rotations (each rotation is one hour and 45 minutes)

(Group 1), *"RTF Movement Considerations Outdoors"*

(Group 2), *"RTF Movement Considerations Inside"*

(Group 3), *"High Threat Casualty Extractions"*

1200-1300: Lunch on your own

Group rotation continues

1500-1700: *"Large-Scale Hostile MCI Scene Management"* (all students)

Day 5:

0800-1100: *Practical skills, "Fire-as-a-Weapon- Residential Hostage Response"*

1100-1200: *Hoseline deployment from armored vehicles*

1200-1300: *Lunch on your own*

1300-1700: *Practical skills, "Fire-as-a-Weapon- Commercial and High-Rise Response"*

Course Objectives:

1. At the conclusion of this program, attendees will learn and discuss fundamental concepts of the tactical fire company program, including equipment, costs, policies and procedures, role creep, labor union concerns, community involvement and more.
2. At the conclusion of this program, attendees will learn and discuss the tactical mindset and how to view incidents from a law enforcement perspective.
3. At the conclusion of this program, attendees will learn and discuss the four types of hostage events, include suicidal individual (self-hostage), barricade, hostage-barricade, and doomed captive.
4. At the conclusion of this program, participants will learn and discuss current trends in active shooter and hostile events, including weapons, injury patterns, tactics, and more.
5. At the conclusion of this program, attendees will learn, discuss, and practice integrated response to fire-as-a-weapon events, including live smoke/fire response.
6. At the conclusion of this program, attendees will learn, discuss, and practice integrated response to large-scale civil unrest, including fire on the skirmish line.
7. At the conclusion of this program, attendees will learn, discuss, and practice high-threat extractions utilizing simple rope rescue systems to expedite extractions.
8. At the conclusion of this program, attendees will learn, discuss, and practice response to vehicle-as-a-weapon attack on the skirmish line.
9. At the conclusion of this program, attendees will learn, discuss, and practice hostile MCI scene management with multiple casualties and multiple threats.
10. At the conclusion of this program, attendees will learn, discuss, and practice fire integrated movement with SWAT.

Training Material Provided by Threat Suppression:

At the conclusion of this course, the Client will have an educational site license for more than 1,000 PowerPoint slides uniquely created by Threat Suppression. These slides provide enough material for the students to teach almost 40 hours of lecture material. The presentations include:

- Tactical Fire Company Creation
- Creating the Tactical Mindset
- Exploiting Building Systems for Tactical Advantage
- Understanding Hostage-Barricade Events
- Integrated Response to Active Shooter/Active Assailant Events
- Integrated Response to Fire-as-a-Weapon Events
- Integrated Response to Large-Scale Civil Unrest

In addition, the Client will be provided with teaching outlines, course objectives, training videos, and much more. The total material provided to the Client is in excess of 5 GB.

Resources Provided by the Host:

- Marketing and advertising of the course.
- Registration of all attendees.
- Obtaining local or state continuing educational credit for law enforcement, fire, and EMS attendees.
- Obtain NFPA 1403 exemption from the State Fire Marshal's Office for law enforcement training in live smoke and fire conditions.
- Suitable location for the lecture training.
- Audiovisual equipment, including screen, projector, and lavalier microphone.
- Suitable location for classroom training.
- Fully equipped engine company.
- Fully equipped straight stick ladder company.
- Fully equipped tower ladder.
- Hydrant with a capacity to flow at least 1,500 GPM.
- Forcible breaching door with wood props.
- Breaching equipment, primarily hydraulic if available.
- APRs with training CBRN filters for CS gas exposure.
- Armored vehicle if available in the jurisdiction (BearCat, MRAP, etc.).
- 20 blue/red guns (training guns).
- Issued tactical evacuation equipment.
- Issued ballistic protective equipment.
- Gloves, helmet, and eye protection for all students.
- Law enforcement grenadier's kit for demonstration.
- Riot control agents, including a minimum of 10 flashbangs, 4 SafeSmoke grenades, 8 CS gas cannisters, any other riot control agents commonly used by the participating departments.
- Minimum of four weighted mannequins.
- A very large building to practice movement with SWAT in the building (a school or office building is ideal).
- A fire training facility with the ability to conduct live burns
- Two smoke machines and one gallon of smoke concentrate.
- Class A burn building.
- Class A burn materials (straw and pallets).
- Three live burn instructors.
- Two smoke machines and smoke concentrate.
- Two four-door junked cars.
- Six police cars (can be training police cars).
- Two Gators, mules, or other similar ATVs.

Time Needed:

40-hour week