

15 October 2009

Dear Sol and Team,

I just wanted to take an opportunity to thank you again both from myself and my team for taking time out of your lives and away from your families to come and provide us with new skills, techniques and the wealth of knowledge you imparted. Your obvious command of this subject and the effectiveness of your ability to convey that knowledge to us was amazing.

We had a team meeting immediately after you left to discuss how this will change our policies and procedures. The changes will be made. We are to begin incorporating explosives and tripwires into our regular training plans. We will brief our command on what we learned and modify our internal policies.

We will begin research on local, national and international case law and use that in conjunction with our current procedures and case law to define our ROE for all SWAT ops to include terrorists and subjects with explosives (terrorists or not). This will be presented to our command and the prosecutors so we are all on the same page and are sure we are doing the right thing for the right reason.

Another result of this training is that we are coordinating our training schedules for next year with nearby Police Departments to allow "unofficial" cross training of operators for potential future major criminal and CT ops. I also started coordinating with our bomb techs to have our SWAT guys present at one of their upcoming explosives disposal operations so we can get a feeling for the shockwave and how cover can mitigate that.

I know, because everyone has made multiple comments to me, that we are all looking forward to training with you again in 2010. I believe there will be a waiting line for students and role players alike. We will be discussing potential topics for the advanced class in the coming weeks.

Can't wait to see you guys in the spring,

Deputy Steve Haley

Snohomish County Sheriff's Office