Bay Area UASI Approval Authority Urban Shield 2017 Overview
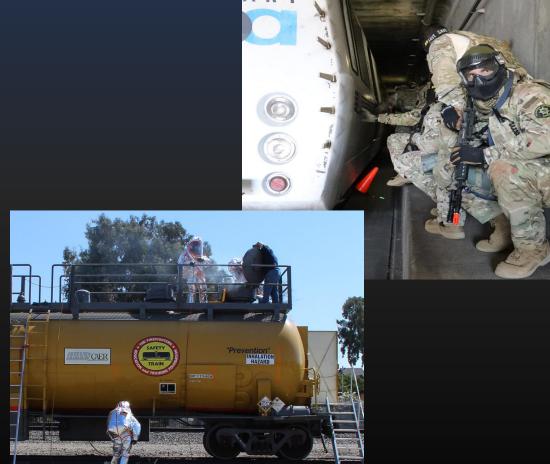
Pace Stokes, Captain - ACSO
Corinne Bartshire, Project Manager - Bay Area UASI

URBAN SHIELD 2017 SUMMARY

- Largest disaster preparedness/tactical training exercise in the nation for law enforcement, fire, EMS, EOD and emergency management personnel
- 61 realistic, full-scale exercises that included 15 critical infrastructure locations throughout five Bay Area counties
- 1 regional emergency management exercise
- 1 community preparedness fair
- Evaluated capabilities and equipment in an After Action Report and Improvement Plan

URBAN SHIELD 2017 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Golden Gate Bridge
- Sandia National Laboratory
- Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District
- Amtrak
- Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)
- San Francisco International Airport
- San Leandro Reservoir
- Los Vaqueros Reservoir
- San Antonio Reservoir
- Richmond Chevron Refinery
- UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital
- Washington Hospital
- Port of Alameda
- Port of Redwood City
- Union Pacific Railroad

AREA COMMANDS

Gray Command	Red Command	Green Command	White Command	Yellow Command	Teal Command
Alameda County Sheriff's Office	Alameda County Fire Department	Palo Alto OES	Alameda County Sheriff's Office	Bay Area UASI	Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Black Command	Silver Command	Blue Command	Tan Command	Gold Command
Alameda County Sheriff's Office	San Mateo County Sheriff's Office	Alameda County Sheriff's Office	San Francisco Police Department	Alameda County Sheriff's Office

AREA COMMANDS

Strength:
The Incident Commander was highly skilled and understood how to manage an EOC by developing an organizational structure and maintaining interoperability through situational awareness and common operating picture principles .

Recommendation:
Additional training and understanding of the Intelligence/Investigation Section Chief's role within the exercise

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

Strength:
Emergency medical teams worked under law enforcement protection in casualty management and movement after threats were neutralized.

Recommendation:
Officers with no cover should not place a tourniquet on a victim if RTF members are standing and watching in close proximity. Specific course recommendations include: Medical Preparedness and Response to Bombing Incidents (PER-233) (New Mexico Tech).

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD)

Strength:
Teams recognized threats, deployed rapidly, understood the category 1 situation, and reacted quickly. There was a good line of questioning by EOD operators in attempting to gain as much knowledge as possible regarding devices.

Recommendation:
Teams should incorporate into their training more planning and deployment of equipment during their initial size-up.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE (HAZMAT)

Strength:
Teams characterized the site, reported the available information, such as processes and products involved, and then shut down the processes (fermenters, separators, heaters, bubblers, nitrogen bath, etc.).

Recommendation:
Specific course recommendations include: Public Safety WMD Response Sampling Techniques and Guidelines (PER-222)(NCBRT).

MARITIME – WATER RESCUE

Strength:
Teams displayed good leadership, knowledge, and familiarity with tactics being tested. All crew members stepped forward to help complete the mission.

Recommendation:
The results of this exercise demonstrate that operators have too little time training on tillers and wheels. All operators need more time on the water, conducting tight and slow maneuvers, and using structures on the waterway to master handling. A school can teach them, but using the skill is the only way to master it.

URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE (US&R)

Strength:
Teams demonstrated technical management and coordination of all aspects for the given scenario and met all anticipated tactical challenges presented.

Recommendation:
Teams should become familiar with the local assets and resources available to them. When presented with an unusual circumstance requiring a heavy lift, it would be important to know who has tow trucks and cranes available.

LAW ENFORCEMENT TACTICAL

Strength:
Once the teams realized a person was a potential suspect, the team appropriately engaged. If de-escalation was possible, the suspect was detained without any use of force, and was subsequently removed from the area. Teams operated in a calm and professional manner while communicating with each other and the suspects.

Recommendation:
Specific course recommendations include: Exterior Response to Active Shooter Events (ALERRT), Active Threat Integrated Response Course (PER-340), Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings (PER-230) (New Mexico Tech)

COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS

Strength:
The numbers of participates and attendees exceeded expectations for this first-time event, with community members, exhibitors and partners reaching over 1000. This event gave residents the opportunity to receive whole-community training and preparedness information from sources they may not have been able to access otherwise.

Recommendation:
Increase the time of the fair and training classes. Improve advertisement for the overall event, especially to targeted audiences for the training classes.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Strength:
The overall readiness and skill levels of local CERT members were tested. Most were not used to working an eight-hour day, with members from other jurisdictions, revealing varying skill levels and training gaps.

Recommendation:
Specific course recommendations include: Introduction to Community Emergency Response Teams (IS-317) (FEMA), Community Emergency Response Team Program Manager (E0427) (FEMA).

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Strength:
The Bay Area has established a regional Care & Shelter Subcommittee, fostering relationships across jurisdictions. This allows for understanding capabilities and effectively working together in a disaster.

Recommendation:
Pre-scripted resource requests and mission tasks would facilitate a more expedient response.