



**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF POLICE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM
POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL**



Subject		Policy Number	
Emergency Rescue Armored Personnel Vehicles (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected/MRAP) - Mission and Use		736	
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September 22, 2014	May 8, 2019	Annually	5
Reference Standards		Rescinds or Amends Policy Number	
TPCA: CALEA: 41.1.3 IACLEA: 9.2.1			

I. Purpose, Philosophy and Guiding Principles

The purpose of this policy is to guide the use of Emergency Rescue Armored Personnel Vehicles (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected/MRAP) acquired through the Department of Defense/Defense Logistics Agency’s Military Assistance 1033 Program and assigned to the Office of Director of Police (ODOP), University of Texas System Police (UTSP).

The acquisition and operational use of these vehicles is as an element of the larger Calendar Year 2013 Armed Intruder Mitigation (AIM) Program established by the Office of the Director of Police. The AIM program relies on substantial research regarding the historical and current threat posed by active shooters and armed intruders on educational campuses and the associated risk management and threat mitigation measures that should be considered. The AIM program in general, and this resource, in particular, have a single guiding principle and intention: that the UTSP do everything possible to fulfill our responsibility to protect and keep safe the students attending the campuses of the University of Texas System and honor the obligation we assume from the parents who have entrusted us with their care.

This policy shall be read, consulted and relied upon in conjunction with ODOP/UTSP Policy 735, Discreet Armored Vehicles and ODOP/UTSP Policy 742, System Rapid Response Team.

For the purposes of this policy and radio call sign/recognition, these vehicles shall be referred to as Rescue 170 and Rescue 8, respectively.

These vehicles shall prominently display the appropriate graphics of the University of Texas System Police in words and symbols to eliminate any perception that the vehicle is under the operational control of US armed forces. The vehicle shall prominently display the words “Emergency Rescue” so that its intended and sole purpose is unequivocally clear to the community. These vehicles shall not be equipped with or armed with any weapon systems whatsoever, other than the issued weapons that the police officers assigned to Rescue 170 and Rescue 8 shall have individually under their control.

It is understood that its military origin and former use notwithstanding, Rescue 170 and Rescue 8 shall have as their exclusive operational purpose the enhanced physical protection of its occupants, whether those occupants are police officers, medical professionals, other authorized first responders or wounded/potential victims. The operational deployment of Rescue 170 and Rescue 8 shall be undertaken only as a lifesaving measure.

II. Policy

- A. It is the position of the Office of the Director of Police that all geographical areas within the jurisdiction of the University of Texas System Police can be supported by Rescue 170 and Rescue 8.
- B. Rescue 170 and Rescue 8 remain a permanent asset of the Department of Defense/Defense Logistics Agency and the Office of Director of Police is a temporary custodian and user to which care and control has been transferred by the Texas Department of Public Safety, consistent with the requirements of the 1033 Program.
- C. Rescue 170 and Rescue 8 are considered an option to be used only in the following circumstances and with the express authorization of the Director of Police: in response to armed intruder or active shooter situations in which first responder or other tiered defensive measures have failed, been defeated or overwhelmed or the nature of the violence is so substantial or protracted that the use of Rescue 170 or Rescue 8 is required immediately; this includes inserting officers into live fire zones to conclude an active shooter threat; extracting wounded victims or those exposed to active shooter fire or related dangers; inserting tactical medical assets (UTSP officers trained in advanced medical response, UTSP trauma surgeons or other medical professionals) in an effort to reduce casualties and provide emergency tactical casualty care to those already wounded; use as a defensive position or barricade; response to similar high risk tactical events/operations (e.g. a terrorist attack) where the risk of serious bodily injury or death to others as posed by a criminal offender has been demonstrated and other response measures are insufficient.
- D. Under no circumstances will these vehicles be utilized as part of a response to public assemblies, protests, demonstrations, exercises of the First Amendment right to free speech, or for the control of civil disorder unless the circumstances cited above in Paragraph II.C. exist concurrently.
- E. These vehicles will not be part of any public demonstration or display of police resources or equipment and shall not be staged on any institution campus unless such staging or deployment is in immediate preparation for its operational use as cited above in Paragraph II.C.
- F. The only authorized alternative use for Rescue 170 and Rescue 8 shall be as assigned and operationally required in anticipation of or response to a natural disaster or catastrophic event without a criminal nexus (e.g. hurricane, tornado, flood, earthquake, wildfire) where lifesaving access to areas that cannot otherwise be achieved is critical.
- G. At the direction of the Director of Police, SRRT commander, ODOP/UTSP Medical Director/Deputy Medical Director, institution Chief of Police or incident commander, these vehicles may be used to transport injured police officers or civilian victims to a hospital or trauma center if necessary for urgent medical purposes; any such decision would be made in coordination with other Emergency Medical Services providers on the scene of the incident as necessary.

III. Procedures and Protocols

- A. These vehicles are equipped with emergency equipment, but are not intended for high speed response or operation; therefore the vehicles should be driven within posted speed limits and not to exceed 60 mph. Except in the most exigent of emergency circumstances, both a driver and observer shall be deployed to operate the vehicles and ensure their safe operation; as a matter of standard operating procedure, Rescue 170 and Rescue 8 shall be escorted while on public roadways by appropriately marked law enforcement vehicles.
- B. Rescue 170 and Rescue 8 have an empty approximate weight and size of 48,500 lbs. (no occupants and a 50% fuel load), a height of 10'6" (with fully inflated tires), is 11'7" wide (mirror to mirror) and 26' in length and should be operated accordingly.
- C. Rescue 170 and Rescue 8 are appropriately titled and registered both with UT Austin Fleet Operations (which is where all ODOP vehicles are recorded) and the state's exempt license plate program. The vehicles shall also be made available for any applicable state inspection program.
- D. ODOP is responsible and accountable for the operation of the vehicles, maintenance of the vehicles, the appropriateness of their use for actual operations as well as training and deployment. Monthly vehicle mileage and maintenance logs for vehicle usage will be in the custody of ODOP.
- E. An ODOP Inspector shall be designated as the program coordinator for these vehicles.
- F. Proprietary security measures shall be taken as required.
- G. Other than in emergency or exigent circumstances, only drivers who have been selected, possess a current and appropriate class Texas Driver's license and have had proper training and familiarization on the characteristics of operating these vehicles, will be authorized to drive these vehicles. ODOP and the participating institution will maintain a log of authorized drivers to ensure compliance.
- H. The specific ballistic level of vehicle armoring, ballistic protection afforded and associated vehicle specifications/configurations is Law Enforcement Sensitive information and shall not be disclosed other than to those with a demonstrated need and right to know. At the end of the life of the vehicle it shall be returned to the 1033 program.
- I. The maintenance schedule unique to these vehicles will be adhered to by the ODOP program manager.
- J. The vehicle will be staged at a confidential secure location (not on an institution campus) under the control of ODOP and will be appropriately protected from the elements. Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight will cause accelerated deterioration of the laminate glass that is used for ballistic protection. Ballistic glass, while hard on the outside, is composed of a softer surface on the interior side of the vehicle that can be easily scratched; therefore interior cleaning of the glass should only be conducted by trained operators of the vehicle utilizing a clean soft cloth and foam window cleaner. This function should not be performed by untrained personnel. The exterior glass of the vehicle can be cleaned by pressure washing and wiped down in a conventional manner without damage.

- K. ODOP will be responsible for providing fuel and routine maintenance of these vehicles. These vehicles will be insured through UT System Risk Management with the applicable deductible. Negligence on the part of a vehicle driver or the assigned responsible officer shall be addressed through standard ODOP/UTSP complaint procedures. Under no circumstances shall the physical appearance of the vehicle be altered or any modifications made of any kind without the express authorization of the Director of Police.
- L. The vehicles should be started weekly and tires inflated to the recommended pressure.
- M. The vehicles should be maintained with approximately one half a tank of diesel fuel at all times.
- N. The vehicles will be equipped with the appropriate medical/trauma care equipment to include, but not be limited to, an emergency medical kit, rescue platforms, portable stretchers/litter assemblies and an AED, as approved by the ODOP/UTSP Medical Director.
- O. Institutions should ensure their officers receive training in emergency medical evacuation supported by similarly equipped vehicles as part of the UTSP Tactical Combat Casualty Care Course provided by the UTSP Academy.
- P. Only in an extreme emergency or under the most extraordinary of conditions should officers be transported outside the passenger compartment of these vehicles. Ingress and egress from these vehicles will be primarily through (and trained via) the rear doors as the seating has been specifically modified to allow quick unobstructed access at this entry point.
- Q. These vehicles are equipped with 3 fire extinguishers, 2 in the fore and aft passenger area and 1 behind the passenger seat. These F- 36 liquid fire extinguishers are multi-purpose in nature.
- R. These vehicles' tires are outfitted with run flat tire inserts which have the capability to allow the vehicle to travel some distance at low speeds.
- S. ODOP will oversee and approve any movement of these vehicles.
- T. The SRRT Commander will develop and incorporate the appropriate team tactics utilizing these vehicles in support of the SRRT mission as outlined in ODOP Policy 742 or as otherwise required. The UTSP Academy, in coordination with the SRRT Squads, will develop and implement training protocols for officers that are most likely to utilize these vehicles. This training will include, at a minimum, engagement and deployment with these vehicles as well as use of the vehicle to successfully and safely rescue those requiring evacuation.
- U. These vehicles shall be deployed only in support of the operations and responses outlined in Paragraphs II.C. and II.F. as cited above or for related training. The decision to deploy these vehicles may be based upon the request of an institution Chief of Police and with the concurrence of the Director of Police, or at the direction solely of the Director of Police.

- V. Deployment of these vehicles for mutual aid or at the request of an outside law enforcement agency is permissible only with the authorization of the Director of Police and if the operation or response meets the requirements for these vehicles to be otherwise deployed within the UTSP. Only UTSP trained drivers shall operate these vehicles for mutual aid or at the request of another law enforcement agency. Under no circumstances shall these vehicles be operated by a member of another law enforcement agency. ODOP may decline a request to use the vehicle if the use is not consistent with the vehicle mission and use criteria and may terminate the use of the vehicle if the circumstances are not being managed appropriately, public safety is being threatened or jeopardized, or continued use of the vehicle would serve no demonstrable law enforcement purpose any longer.
- W. All security devices on these vehicles will be activated when the vehicle is left unattended. In any instance in which these vehicles are left temporarily in a public location, the vehicle will be parked such that it can be viewed by the vehicle operators and responded to immediately or an officer will be assigned to provide security on the vehicles.
- X. Inspection of these vehicles by ODOP shall occur as both a part of the regular ODOP vehicle inspection and on other occasions as determined by the program manager.
- Y. All references to "Rescue 170", "Rescue 8", or "MRAP" in other ODOP/UTSP Policy shall be assumed to reference the vehicles addressed in this policy.



Michael J. Heidingsfield
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Changes/Amendments since last publication

Revision of language throughout and addition of Paragraph III. Y. to include addition of additional vehicle, Rescue 8; November 9, 2018.