

## VIPS Response to Bomb Threats

Responding units shall **NOT** use hand held radios or cell phones for communication within a 2 block area of the location in question. (Some explosive devices may be detonated by stronger radio signal.)

As a VIPS patrol member, notify dispatch of your availability to assist with perimeter control, evacuation, etc.

Once on scene report to the Incident Commander following the standard NIMS ICS protocol.

As required by the Incident Commander assist in evacuation, crowd control or other duties as assigned.

Under **NO** circumstances shall VIPS personnel declare or in any way make the representation that the building/location is safe to occupy, no matter how thorough the search unless so directed by the Incident Commander or designee.

(NOTE: Remind all individuals that cell phones or other communications devices should be turned off within 300 feet per Topeka EOD protocols.)

While assisting with evacuation, crowd control, or perimeter security be alert to the possibility of secondary devices.

If found or suspected, **DO NOT TOUCH** !!!!!!! Attempt to secure area around device and send, via the best means available, the location and description of the suspicious device to the Incident Commander. If a land line is available and you cannot leave the device or notify the Incident Commander by other means, contact Dispatch with the information and they will take care of contacting appropriate personnel.

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If, while on patrol or on duty at any event or assignment, and a citizen reports finding or hearing of a bomb threat **DO NOT USE YOUR RADIO OF CELL PHONE** to contact Dispatch or other officers unless the threat is for another area. Attempt to use a land line or have another VIPS or responsible person contact authorities using a land line.

Attempt to obtain information from the reporting party of location of the bomb, type of device, when it might be detonated, type of explosive, what it looks like, what will make it detonate (e.g., radio signal, time delay fuse, pressure, motion).

If the report is given in person, always make note of the description of the individual reporting the bomb and, if possible, an address and phone number of the reporting party. Take note of clothing, vehicles and/or other individuals in the area.

If the person is reporting another person's bomb threat toward themselves or a third party follow the instructions above.

When a critical infrastructure facility is targeted with a bomb, or similar threat, be observant for suspicious persons who may be observing police/fire/EMS responding units.

Complete information on the Topeka Police Department procedures on bomb threats can be found in the TPD Standard Operating Procedure DE09.