

As the saying goes, S.W.A.T. is who the police call when they need help. When a situation involves extreme risks to first responders, whether it's a barricaded gunman, hostage crisis, or high-risk warrant service, the Tactical Team possesses the training, equipment, and experience to resolve these situations with minimum risks to law enforcement or the public.

S.W.A.T. teams were first formed in response to increasingly violent crimes in the '60s that overwhelmed normal police responses. Criminals armed with high-powered weapons and militaristic tactics proved difficult and dangerous to deal with using normal police equipment and tactics. The LAPD is generally credited with forming the first tactical team in the nation, using officers with military training and special equipment. Since that time, the techniques and equipment have evolved with each new crisis and continues to evolve to this day.

The Barrow County Sheriff's Office S.W.A.T. team consists of 20 members split into two teams. These deputies serve part time on the unit, in addition to their normal duties. This speaks volumes about their dedication, as tactical training and call-outs often means they will serve well past their normal shift hours. The Team trains 12 hours a month on various topics including hostage rescue, barricaded gunmen, high-risk warrant service, active shooter scenarios, and dignitary protection; and stands ready to fulfill their stated goal: To save lives and reduce the potential for violence.

[S.W.A.T. Team Training Slideshow](#)

If you know of any criminal activity taking place and would like to submit confidential information, please click on the crime tips link below.

CRIME TIPS

Note: any information submitted is completely confidential.