1.0  **Policy**

The University of Pittsburgh Police Department recognizes the value of specialized units in law enforcement. In addition to traditional motor vehicle patrol and walking posts this department maintains motorcycle, bicycle, K-9, SERT, and negotiation units. Each of these assignments requires significant training above and beyond that provided for patrol. As a result the department shall mandate minimum standards for both basic entry level training and annual in-service training for all personnel assigned to these units.

2.0  **Entry Level Specialized Training**

Prior to active status in the assigned units, (SERT, Negotiators, K-9, Bicycles, and Motorcycles), officers must successfully complete the following prescribed entry-level training courses prior to assuming their duties.

(PLEAC 1.10.6a)

**SERT**

SERT members will complete an 80 hour minimum training program consisting of an approved Basic SWAT course and an Advanced SWAT / Hostage Rescue Tactics course.

**Negotiators**

Negotiators will successfully complete a 40 hour established state or federal basic crisis negotiation course.

**K-9**

K-9 units will complete an initial K-9 handler training program approved through a county, state, or federal training organization prior to assuming duties as a handler.

**Bicycles**

Bicycle Officers will complete a 40 hour International Police Mountain Bike Association approved Police Cyclist course.

**Motorcycles**

Motorcycle Officers will complete an 80 hour Basic Police Motorcycle Operator Course approved through a certified program.
3.0 In Service Training

Once certified and assigned to a specialized unit, members will conduct in-service training on a regular basis. The specific schedule of training will consist of a minimum of quarterly training per year for the SERT, Negotiators, K-9 units, and RDT. A minimum of yearly training for the Bicycle and Motorcycles. Additional training standards may be required for any of these specialized units and will be assigned upon determination by this department.

Although scheduling conflicts may occur prohibiting officers assigned to these units to attend all training sessions, excessive absenteeism from training will result in the officer being placed on inactive status until adequate training can be attended.

(PLEAC 1.10.6b, 1.10.6c)

A. SERT

1. The Specialized Emergency Response Team will conduct an average of 16 hours of tactical training a month when possible and a minimum of quarterly training per year. SERT members assigned to a further specialized area of operation such as Marksmen / Observers will conduct additional specialized training each month when possible and a minimum of quarterly training per year.

B. Negotiators

1. Negotiators will participate in monthly training session when possible and a minimum of quarterly training per year.

C. K-9

1. Officers assigned to the K-9 unit will train an average of 8 hours a week when possible and a minimum of quarterly training per year. Officers will also maintain certification through the North American Police Working Dog Association and the International Police Working Dog Association.

(PLEAC 1.10.6b)

D. Bicycles

1. Bicycle Officers will be required to conduct yearly training by a certified bicycle instructor.

E. Motorcycles

1. Motorcycle Officers will be required to conduct yearly training. In addition, Motorcycle Officers will be required to attend a yearly recertification course held by the City of Pittsburgh Police Department’s Motorcycle Unit.

(PLEAC 1.10.6c)

F. Rapid Deployment Team (RDT)

1. RDT officers will conduct a minimum of 8 hours of quarterly training per year, 16 hours when possible.
4.0 Joint Training

When possible, SERT, Negotiators, K-9 Officers, and RDT should complete a joint training exercise; the exercise will be developed to incorporate all three units. SERT will also participate, at a minimum annually, in interagency training with one of the following agencies: the City of Pittsburgh’s SWAT Team, PSP SERT, or the Allegheny County SWAT.

5.0 Documentation

All training will be documented and the records will be maintained by the Training Coordinator.