



MEMORANDUM POLICE DEPARTMENT

DATE: August 18, 2020
TO: All Personnel
FROM: Andrew Mills, Chief of Police
SUBJECT: Service of Search Warrants

The service of a search warrant is authorized by law and policy and is a necessary part of policing. The warrants' service is a dangerous event for police officers and citizens, and efforts will be made in each case to reduce the opportunity for confusion, misidentification, and the use of force. The following rules shall apply to reduce the potential for conflict and possibly violence occurring during the warrant's service:

No knock search warrants are strictly prohibited. The Chief can approve a modification to this order for a hostage rescue. No notice emergency entries can be used as a tactical consideration when a protracted and highly visible police operation is currently underway.

Dynamic entries on search warrants can only be considered once approved by a deputy chief of police or an emergency tactic where life or serious bodily injury is in jeopardy. There must be a sound tactical reason not to use other less intrusive tactics that are more likely to de-escalate the conflict.

A uniformed police officer and marked patrol vehicle shall be present and visible at all search warrants' service. If necessary, to use the BearCat to protect officers, a patrol vehicle shall still be present but does not have to be the lead vehicle.