I. POLICY

In hostage/barricaded subject situations it shall be the policy of the Charlottesville Police Department to consider the lives of the hostages, civilians and officers involved to be of the utmost importance; whenever possible, to enhance the prospects of peacefully resolving the incident through communication with the suspect; whenever possible, to develop and maintain the ability to use alternative approaches to resolve the incident should communications fail (Tactical Options); and in hostage situations, to make every reasonable effort to effect the safe release of the hostages.

II. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this policy to provide general guidelines for handling hostage/barricaded subject situations, both stationary and mobile.

A limited number of the enclosed City of Charlottesville Police Department General Orders have been redacted. The redactions ensure that that Police Department’s operational and tactical responses are withheld for community and Officer Safety (e.g., bank alarm response, response to an active threat, and Tactical Operations).