



**Baltimore County Sheriff's Office  
Towson, Maryland**

**Sheriff  
R. Jay Fisher**

**General Order**

<b>Subject:</b> Response to Hostage & Barricade Incidents	<b>Effective Date</b> 07/03/13	<b>Number</b> B-26
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**Purpose:**

This directive establishes procedures for Deputies responding to, or is involved in a course of duty that becomes a hostage, barricade or sniper incident. This order *does not* apply to active shooter incidents.

**I. Policy**

In resolving barricade/hostage incidents the ranking Baltimore County Sheriff's Office official at the scene of an incident is in command of all non-tactical deployment and shall direct all related operations, fully utilizing the following basic principles: (a) effective utilization of time, (b) preservation of life, (c) negotiation, (d) firearms discipline, (e) communications discipline, and (f) professional appearance. Relinquish control of the scene to the primary law enforcement as soon as practical.

**Distribution**

All Members

By Authority of:

R. Jay Fisher  
Sheriff