

Geneva Police Department GENERAL ORDERS		CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM (CIT)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> new: <input type="checkbox"/> rescinds: <input type="checkbox"/> amends:		cross-reference Accreditation/Recognition standards: C.A.L.E.A.: NYS L.E.A.P.:	
effective date: 1.23.2019	issue/amend date: 9.30.20		

I. PURPOSE	The purpose of the Crisis Intervention Team is to assist the Patrol Division in providing and effective response to situations involving subjects that are suspected and/or verifiably mentally ill, suicidal, or experiencing severe crisis.
II. DEFINITIONS	<p>A. <u>Crisis Intervention Team (CIT):</u> A group of specially trained Police Officers, on a voluntary basis, to assist with emotionally distressed individuals in a variety of situations in the community. These situations may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suicidal Persons; 2. Persons exhibiting irrational behavior; 3. Handling psychiatric patients; 4. The homeless; 5. Persons with various mental health concerns and/or referrals; 6. Any other situations that deal with specifically with the needs of the mental health community and emotionally distressed persons. <p>B. <u>Emotionally Distressed Person (EDP):</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An individual that has a disorder or disruption of their “normal” emotional state. 2. The individual can be suffering from the following factors: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Mental Illness; b. Substance Abuse; c. Situational Stress; d. Medical Conditions or, e. Any combination thereof.
III. POLICY	<p>A. The purpose of the Crisis Intervention Team is to assist the patrol division in providing an effective response to persons that are suspected and/or verifiably mentally ill, suicidal, or experiencing severe crisis.</p> <p>B. It is essential that the CIT will preserve the dignity of individuals that are emotionally distressed. To accomplish this, the CIT shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take all reasonable measures to ensure the safety of CIT members, the community, and the emotionally distressed person. 2. Ensure that each emotionally distressed person’s physical and mental health is cared for with understanding and compassion. 3. Be utilized in situations where the emotional state of an individual may be beyond the capabilities of a regular Patrol Officer and/or may be of serious mental health concern.

<p>III. POLICY (CONT.)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Facilitate the diversion of persons suffering from emotional disorders or mental disorders to a mental health facility or other appropriate agency pursuant to the New York State Mental Hygiene Law and department policies. 5. Will not be used for long term hostage or crisis negotiations. 6. Will not be used to replace more qualified professionals or services (psychologists, counselors, therapists and/or C.P.E.P). 7. Will not be used for the purpose of avoiding arresting an EDP for an offense.
<p>IV. PROCEDURE</p>	<p>A. <u>Staffing</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Crisis Intervention Team will have a Supervisor. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Supervisor shall be the rank of Sergeant or higher and will be certified in Crisis Intervention Team Training. b. The Supervisor will be chosen by the Chief of Police and/or his designee. c. The Supervisor will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Review all completed and approved incident reports for mental health incidents and overdose incidents. ii. Complete and provide a monthly and annual data report on mental health incidents and overdoses to the Chief of Police. iii. Be the liaisons with outside agencies. iv. Maintain a current roster of CIT members. v. Monitor the effectiveness of the CIT for training needs, deficiencies and overall performance. vi. Maintain reasonable availability of CIT Officers. vii. Debrief CIT members after serious or complex mental health incidents. d. The Chief of Police or an assigned designee shall determine the number of Officers assigned to CIT. e. The Supervisor will work with the LT/UF to arrange training for CIT members. 2. Officers assigned to CIT shall: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Consist of Officers that are active Patrol Officers/Patrol Supervisors; b. Have a minimum of two years of service; c. Have demonstrated outstanding communication skills, an ability to diffuse volatile situations, sound judgement and strong officer safety skills. <p>B. <u>Deployment of CIT Officers</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The E911 Center and Geneva Police Department Personnel will be issued an up to date roster of CIT Officers. 2. When a CIT Officer is on-duty, the E911 Center and/or the on-duty Police Supervisor / Officer-In-Charge will dispatch a CIT Officer to respond to assist other patrol units with Mental Hygiene type calls as defined in §II(B) above. 3. A CIT Officer may also respond at the request of an on-scene Supervisor. 4. The Supervisor of the CIT can be contacted at any time to assist in an incident with prior approval of the Chief of Police or his designee.

5. If there are no CIT Officers on-duty and one is needed, it shall be the discretion of the Police Supervisor to have one called out to respond.
6. CIT Officers are not to be used in incidents in which there is more specialized units such as ERT or hostage/crisis negotiators.

Approved By

MICHAEL J. PASSALACQUA
CHIEF OF POLICE