PURPOSE: To provide for an expeditious Divisional response across chains of command when immediate action is required in response to certain serious crimes. The action is of a nature that is immediate, substantive and intensive. It is an action that makes optimal use of the Division’s resources to stabilize and conclude a serious situation, maximizes investigative potential for prosecution, and reduces the probability of continuing serious criminal activity.

POLICY: The Cleveland Division of Police shall establish procedures that expedite and mobilize all of the Division’s resources when an immediate response is necessary to bring a situation under control, to maximize investigative assets or reduce continuing criminal activity and disorder. The Chief or designee may order the deployment of any support staff to assist any district or specialized unit as needed.

PROCEDURES:

I. Requests for Cooperative Response

   A. The Chief or designee shall notify the Deputy Chief of Special Operations when a request for a cooperative response is received. The Deputy Chief of Special Operations will direct selected Division personnel, regardless of Division assignment, to respond as needed. In addition, the Deputy Chief of Special Operations shall contact other law enforcement agencies as necessary.

   B. The Deputy Chief of Special Operations shall establish a support staff that will include a command officer or designee from the district or unit requesting a cooperative response. The command officer shall have authority over all involved Division officers and supervisors.
C. General Police Orders relating to perimeter authority of the SWAT Unit and the Bomb Squad shall be in force.

D. The command officer may assign supervisory authority over select officers/detectives to other supervisors that are outside the officers/detectives normal chain of command.

II. Deployment of Cooperative Response Assets

A. The command officer will review the incident and determine an initial response and any additional response as required.

B. Assets include but are not limited to:

1. Bureau of Special Services detectives and supervisors;
2. Bureau of Special Investigations detectives and supervisors;
3. SWAT Unit, suspect and evidence search;
4. Homeland Security personnel to include Aviation Unit, Canine Unit and Intelligence Unit;
5. District personnel from the district of occurrence: other districts as needed to supplement officers and supervisors; on and off duty sworn personnel as needed.
6. Individual sworn members, regardless of assignment, who have demonstrated special skills or knowledge;
7. Other outside law enforcement agencies including county, state and federal law enforcement assets.

III. Cooperative Response Responsibilities

A. Cooperative Response personnel shall not be deployed as relief for the unit normally responsible for an incident response, but rather to provide assistance by accessing resources to support the normally assigned unit and expedite the capture of suspects and retrieval of evidence in a timely manner.
B. The unit originally assigned to handle the incident shall retain responsibility for completing the investigation unless assigned otherwise by the Deputy Chief of Special Operations.

C. The Chief may assign investigative responsibility to another Division unit or to another law enforcement agency.

IV. Backlog Notification

A. When a critical incident causes a backlog of radio assignments and/or a shortage of responsive personnel, the Communication Control Section shall immediately inform the affected district’s ranking patrol supervisor and seek advisement for remedy of the situation.

B. The ranking patrol supervisor of the affected district may request deployment of additional patrol personnel from other districts through established protocol and/or request via the chain of command a Cooperative Response.