



Special Unit Tactical Unit
(Special Response Team)

NOTE: This job analysis was prepared as a supplement to the general Port of Seattle Police Officer job analysis, and highlights and reflects changes/differences from the information contained in the general Port of Seattle Police Officer job analysis.

Job Description, Essential Functions, Tasks and Skills:

The Tactical Unit Team handles lower risk situations independently, and works as part of a combined regional special response team (commonly known as “Valley SWAT”) in high-risk situations.

Valley SWAT operates under an agreement among the police agencies of Auburn, Federal Way, Kent, Renton, Tukwila, Des Moines and the Port of Seattle. This regional team was established to effectively counter occurrences of violent confrontations between police and criminals. It is the largest tactical response team in Washington.

The team's large number of highly trained, well-equipped tactical officers can respond safely and effectively to many potentially volatile situations including barricaded subjects, hostage situations, and high-risk warrant service. Members may also be tasked with dignitary protection details.



Tactical Unit Officers will perform the following typical tasks:

- Respond to high risk situations involving suspected or known hijackings, barricaded suspects/ hostage situations (20-30 per year), snipers, high-risk warrant servicing (40-50 per year), etc.
- Conduct downed officer/victim rescue.
- Conduct hostage rescue.
- Work as a team member with other agencies as part of a regional response to emergencies.
- Provide systematic searches for hidden suspects.
- Provide team-based dignitary protection (15-20 per year).
- Assist in the development of operational plans for deployment at an emergency event or other special events.
- Conduct site assessment, security analysis, and technical/tactical survey.
- Provide tactical breaching and technical entry.
- Train with allied agencies.





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Tactical Unit Officer Specific Machinery, Tools, Equipment, Personal Protective Equipment:

Officers that are part of the Tactical Unit maintain special weapons proficiencies, and may use a variety of specialized weapons, including chemical agents.

- Rifle (AR-15 – approx. 10 lbs.), with magazines, flashlights, and optics.
- Pistol (.45 ACP) with magazines.
- Flash-bang hand grenades (1.5 lbs. each).
- Chemical agents such as pepper spray and CS gas.
- Tazer.
- Gas mask.
- First aid kit.
- Ballistic vest. Level III ceramic plates/body armor. (35 lbs.)
- Ballistic Helmet (3 lbs.).
- Elbow and knee pads.
- Eye/ear protection.
- Boots.
- Ballistic shield (21 lbs.).
- Ballistic blanket.
- Door rams (up to 35 lbs.).
- Team vehicle/van.
- Armored Rescue Vehicles.



Tactical Unit Officer Specific Education/Training:

- Tactical Unit Officers go through a selection process that includes a physical fitness test, and firearms qualifications. These standards must be maintained by the Officers as long as they are members of the Tactical Unit team.
- Team member must qualify with all firearms quarterly.
- Tactical Unit members participate in on-going/frequent tactical unit training courses (10 hours per month with firearms, and 20 hours of tactical training), plus training with Valley SWAT.



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PHYSICAL DEMANDS

NOTE: The physical demands of a Police Officer position vary greatly and are hard to predict due to the need to respond to unique situations and circumstances.

Frequency Definitions:

N/A: Not Applicable

S: Seldom (1-10% of the time)

O: Occasional (10-30% of the time)

F: Frequent (30%-70% of the time)

C: Constant (Over 70% of the time)

WNL: Within Normal Limits (talking, hearing, etc.)

	Frequency	Comments
Running	S	Increased due to the nature of the work.
Lifting (25 to 50 pounds)	O	Increased due to lifting and use of specialized equipment.
Carrying (25 to 50 pounds)	O	Increased due to carrying and use of specialized equipment.
Bending at Waist	F	Entering and exiting vehicles, picking up or laying down objects.
Bending Neck	C	
Crouching/Kneeling/ Squatting	O	Increased due to the nature of the work.
Laying Prone on Ground	S-O	Increased due to the nature of the work.
Climbing Stairs/Ladders/Walls	S-O	Increased due to the nature of the work.
Driving	S	Reduced as driving is a limited aspect of the Tactical Unit duties.
Foot Controls	S	Reduced due to reduced driving.
Writing	S	Reduced due to the nature of the work.
Normal Job Site Hazards	C	The nature of the tasks and responsibilities assigned to Officers on the Tactical Unit team means that while performing these duties, team members will consistently be facing high-risk/potentially life-threatening scenarios. Exposure to firearms, knives, explosives, chemical agents, hostile and combative individuals, and driving/riding in vehicles at potentially high rates of speed.