UW-Madison Police Department

Policy: 41.11
SUBJECT: ROBBERY IN PROGRESS CALLS AND ALARMS
EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/31/11
REVISED DATE: 09/01/12; 09/18/19; 11/11/20; 06/16/21
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POLICY:
The UW-Madison Police Department shall establish procedures to provide for a safe and efficient response to robbery in progress calls and alarms. All robbery in progress reports or robbery alarms shall be treated as robberies in progress until such time as it is able to positively determine otherwise. Procedures are intended to reduce risks to officers, employees, and bystanders, and to enhance the probability of suspect apprehension while minimizing the potential for development of a hostage situation.

DEFINITIONS:
“Robbery in progress” calls and alarms are those initiated by an alarm or by a phone call from a victim or witness indicating a robbery has occurred and suspects are either on or off of the premises.

PROCEDURE:
41.11.1 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES

A. For robbery in progress calls and alarms, the law enforcement dispatcher (LED) shall broadcast information regarding an armed robbery on all Department radio channels.

41.11.2 SUPERVISOR/OFFICER IN CHARGE (OIC) RESPONSIBILITIES

A. In the event of a confirmed actual incident, the shift supervisor or OIC is responsible for:
   1. Responding to the scene and assuming command.
   2. Initiating Incident Command protocols, if necessary.
3. Coordinating investigative activities and having the appropriate investigative and management personnel notified including the Manager on Call (MOC) and the Detective on Call (DOC).

41.11.3 RESPONDING POLICE OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

C. Immediately after it has been determined that a robbery has occurred and the scene is secure, the responding Officer(s) shall complete an investigation in accordance with department directive 42.1.

D. Plainclothes personnel may respond to robbery alarms and reports of robberies in progress after informing the dispatcher of their response and that they are in plain clothes.