

*PREPARATION &
EXECUTION*

**SURVIVING YOUR
WARRANT SERVICE**

IMPROVING YOUR ODDS FOR SUCCESS

WARRANT SERVICE SURVIVAL

Marshal Rob DeGroot, Rowlett City Marshal

Rowlett Marshal's Office and Detention Services



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What I'm NOT here to do today;

- ✘ To try to impress you with my resume or experience.
- ✘ Bolster my fragile male ego by trying to convince you I'm some kind of expert or better than you at anything.
- ✘ Tell you how to do your job or live your personal or professional life.
- ✘ To sell you anything...so RELAX!

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- × 10+ Years of SWAT Experience

- + Team Leader

- × Tactical Commander

- × Chairman, SWAT Oversight Committee

Undercover Narcotics / Vice - Detective - Team Commander

Pro-Active Street Crimes Team

Targeted Offender Apprehension Team

Major Crimes Detective - Crimes Against Persons

Just to convince you I'm not some yahoo off the street.

Well, not exactly.





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DISCLAIMER

The instructor is not an attorney, and does not offer or provide legal advice. Legal advice, when necessary, should be sought from a competent and licensed Attorney at Law. This instruction is meant to provide background and guidelines as a training aid.

Personnel in attendance should be familiar with their agency policy and procedures, laws pertaining to their jurisdiction, and applicable Local, State, and Federal / Appeals Court rulings.

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WHAT WE'RE GOING TO COVER TODAY

- ✘ Equipment Considerations
- ✘ Pre-Service Planning and Preparation
- ✘ At the Scene of the Warrant Service
- ✘ Making the Arrest
- ✘ Post Service – Arrest
- ✘ Q –A and Closing thoughts

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Rob's RULES

- ✘ Hard to believe, but I'm not the dainty, delicate flower so many believe me to be. I'm pretty darn stubborn & opinionated.
- ✘ When you See RULE This is something that I feel very strongly about, so much so that It's a RULE not only to live by, but to STAY ALIVE BY

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***EQUIPMENT
CONSIDERATIONS***



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EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

BODY ARMOR

✘ Concealable body armor

+ RULE – Wear a vest on Warrant Service, if not always –or– when in uniform.

✘ External / Outer cover body armor

+ Good alternative to concealable vest

+ Becoming more popular

+ ONLY WORKS IF YOU WEAR IT

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BODY ARMOR

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COMMUNICATIONS

- ✘ **RULE** – Do not go out on Warrant Service without a **FRESH** fully **CHARGED** battery.

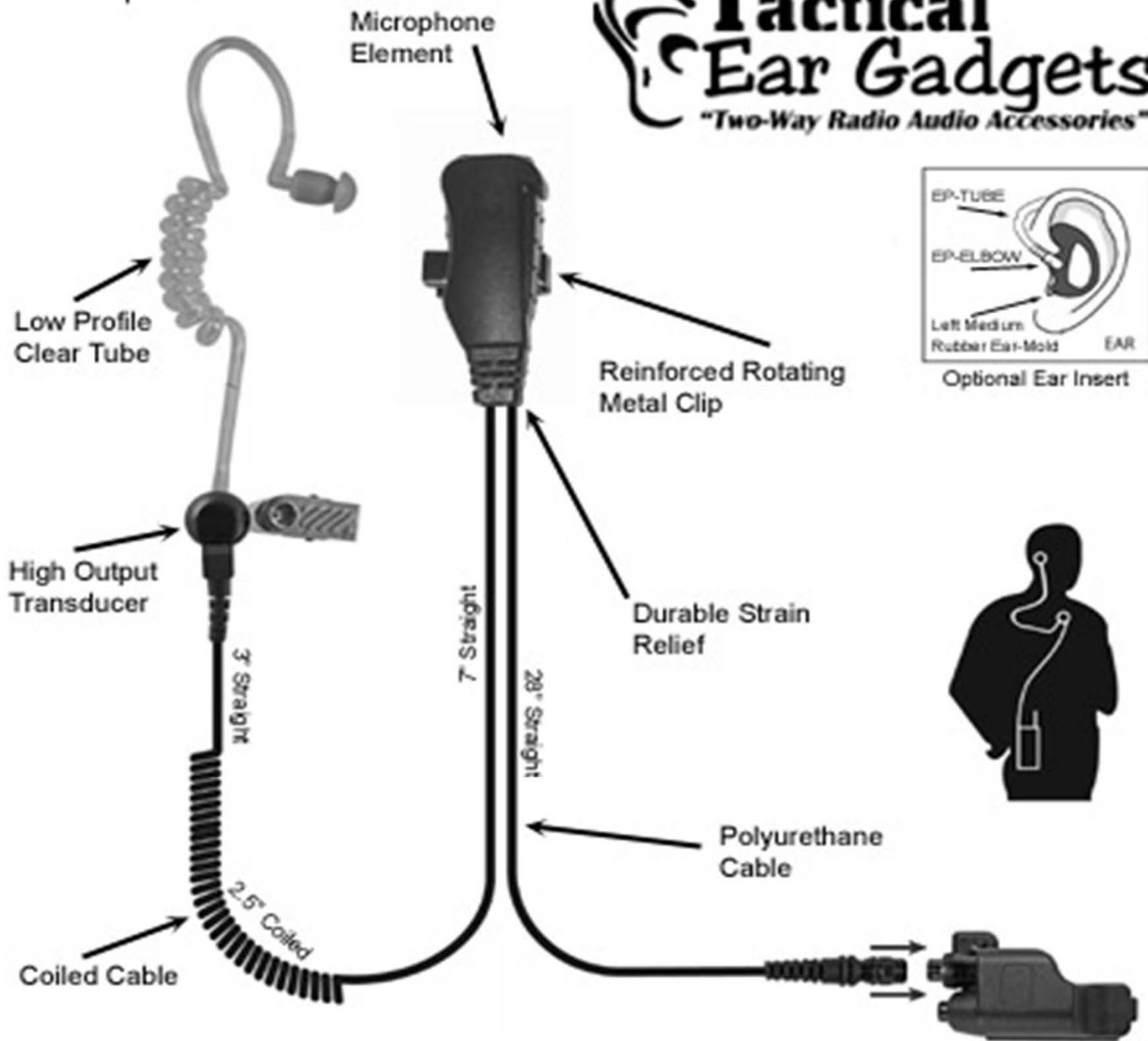
HINT - Radios work best with charged batteries. Do a 'commo check' before you go out on your warrant service.

- ✘ Do you have the ability to listen and transmit discreetly, even covertly? – **YOU SHOULD!**

Hawk Spec Sheet

Tactical Ear Gadgets

"Two-Way Radio Audio Accessories"



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Temporary Mechanical Restraints

- × NIJ Certified Handcuffs

Peerless, Smith & Wesson, Hiatts, some other manufacturers.

- × RULE - No less than 2 sets on your person on a Warrant Service

- + More in your vehicle
- + Have access to leg irons
- + CHAIN vs. HINGE CUFFS



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Eye Protection

- ✘ Easily the most overlooked item of equipment that you **SHOULD** be using.
- ✘ It's hard to fight when you can't see.
- ✘ Quality eye protection isn't cheap, but what are your eyes worth?

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- ✘ EYE PROTECTION; Continued
- ✘ You'll want eye wear that provides a ballistic level of protection.
- ✘ Not your old 'Science Class' glasses. Now they are very stylish.
- ✘ Brands to consider include;
 - + Wiley X
 - + Oakley
 - + UVEX
 - + Revision



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LIGHTS

- × RULE - 2 Light rule – *NEVER* have less than two lights on your person (not counting the one on your gun).



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WEAPONS

I'm not going to tell you what make, model, style type or *GOD FORBID*, caliber to carry (hint – no caliber that doesn't start with a '4').

It should be utterly reliable and familiar to you

RULE – 2 Gun rule - Always carry TWO GUNS on all Warrant Service operations. Back up guns should also be utterly reliable, secure yet accessible.



NEVER PRESUME COMPLIANCE



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WEAPONS *A few more thoughts on weapons...*

- ✘ Have a long gun available to you. Be good with it.
- ✘ TRAIN & PRACTICE – You can't miss fast enough
- ✘ Anything worth shooting is worth shooting twice...or even three times. Ammo is cheap, life is expensive. *“fast is fine, accuracy is final”*
- ✘ Move, shoot or reload - Don't just stand there.
- ✘ Someday, someone may kill you with your own gun, but they should have to beat you to death with it, empty and smoking. Use a security holster.

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✘ Additional lights for:

+ NAVIGATION

+ SEARCHES

+ WRITING - or - MINOR TASKS

May be RED or GREEN

to preserve night vision



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HANDGUN MOUNTED LIGHTS

Not that I have a strong opinion on this one – but - if you aren't carrying a light on your gun...

WHY THE HECK NOT?!

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Sub lethal options

- ✘ **Taser – The Taser is your friend. Tase early, Tase often.**
- ✘ **Impact Munitions – Can't use 'em if you don't have 'em.**
- ✘ **OC Spray – Choose the right spray pattern – often overlooked.**



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OTHER EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- ✘ Outer wear – Stealth vs. Readily identifiable.
- ✘ Gloves – Turtle skin or puncture resistant are best. **RULE** – Always carry one at least one pair of ‘blue’ gloves on your person.
- ✘ Boots – Steel safety toe are best.
- ✘ Knee pads – some pants now have them built in.
- ✘ ‘Hard’ vs. ‘Soft’ – up to your agency. Comfort can be important, focus and control are critical.
Traditional vs. Non Traditional.

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**Now for the last item
of equipment that
we all want ...**



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PRE-SERVICE PREPARATION

Hey, its just Class 'C' Warrant Service, what's worth getting all worked up about?



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More important than any equipment you may utilize is your

MINDSET

And your commitment to

PREPARATION

Physically and mentally.

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I'm not here to preach to you about your health, or your lifestyle, or your workout habits.

At this stage of your career, you either take these things seriously, or you don't.

That being stated....**SHAME ON YOU** if you get yourself into a situation that, based on your lack of physical ability & preparation, requires our Brothers and Sisters go in Harms Way to save your out-of-shape carcass.



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Harry Callahan said it best....

“A man’s got to know his limitations”

-Magnum Force, 1973



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- ✘ Are you exercising your own personal Safety
DUE DILIGENCE ?

**RULE – Always run your Warrant Subjects for OSA
Warrants before attempting Service**

- ✘ Criminal History Check
- ✘ Computer Database searches
- ✘ Agency Files / Flags / Warnings
 - ✘ Utility Records

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AT THE SCENE OF THE WARRANT SERVICE

- ✘ What does the neighborhood tell you?
 - + Is it a Hostile Environment?
 - ✘ Will neighbors be FRIEND -or- FOE ?
- ✘ Canine threats – How do you respond?
 - + Shooting an option, but not always the best one
 - + OC can work, need right pattern
 - + Specialty Munitions
 - ✘ Bore Thunder
 - ✘ Kinetic Energy rounds
 - ✘ Door Breaching Rounds - DRT
 - ✘ TASER



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× AT THE SCENE OF THE WARRANT SERVICE

What other risks might you encounter?

Visitors – Family Members

Roommates

Other Criminal Activity In Progress

(Constable finds guns, drugs & money)

Be aware of active COUNTER SURVEILLANCE,
CCTVs and ‘web cams’ are cheap, easy to install

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Is your Bad Guy still there?

- ✘ Check the Power Meter
- ✘ Look for door hangers, fliers, newspapers or other items stacking up.
 - ✘ Yard / Weed growth / cobwebs
 - ✘ Fluids in the driveway
 - ✘ Pets around the location
- ✘ Talk to the Postal Carrier for the location

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AT THE SCENE OF THE WARRANT SERVICE

Develop your Verbal Skills

- ✘ **Smooth talk and a silver tongue can get you in to a house, and it can get you out, too**
- ✘ **Be willing to verbally 'de-escalate' a situation.**



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MAKING THE ARREST

DO NOT PRESUME COMPLIANCE

- ✘ **RULE - CUFF FIRST – SEARCH SECOND**
- ✘ If you go HANDS ON – go HARD enough FAST enough to gain compliance
 - ✘ The faster you finish the fight, the less hurt you get
- ✘ Remove from location and transport with delay

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POST SERVICE AND ARREST

- + Now what? You mean there's more! YES.
- + Keep your video on and recording during transport.

- + **RULE** - WRITE GOOD REPORTS – ALWAYS

We are in the documentation business. We should be experts at report writing and documentation of any incident that we are involved in. Your report may represent you and your agency for years to come, in various legal environments.

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Why do things go WRONG?

In considering Warrant Service, things generally go wrong because well meaning Officers are involved in complex and/or dynamic situations that develop, evolve or change rapidly, and they have failed to plan for foreseeable circumstances, resulting in injuries, damages, or both.

They encounter situations for which they did not plan or prepare for, and have had little - or no - training for, and have not developed experiential learning to assist them in responding and coping to critical incidents and decision making.

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Why do things go RIGHT?

Officers have learned how to address Warrant service situations through their training –AND– from past experiences - an expression of *experiential learning*.

In addressing Warrant Service, the Officer has dealt with a similar situation previously and/or received training to provide information & preparation. In any stressful situation, a solid, well trained officer who is experienced in handling a similar incident is an outstanding combination for a successful outcome.

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When things go **WRONG** in a Warrant Service, you can generally look to the Pre-Incident preparation of the Agency and the Officers that are responsible.

The same can be said when things go **RIGHT**, but who notices?

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When things go really BAD....

- ✘ You probably have a 'GO' bag in your car, a long gun, and additional munitions or gear.
- ✘ Tactical withdrawal (retreat) to a point of greater strength or defensibility is not a failure. Only getting killed or seriously injured is failure.
- ✘ Don't be shy about requesting additional units

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QUICK REVIEW

- ✘ What is the '2-2-2' Rule?
- ✘ Should your Handcuffs be NIJ Certified?
- ✘ Are Mindset & Preparation vital to your survival and success at Warrant Service?
- ✘ Should you bother to put on Body Armor prior to all of your Warrant Service attempts, or just the 'High Risk' Service attempts?
- ✘ After making the arrest, should you cuff first or search first?

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Based on what you know now, what's wrong with the Dorky guy in this picture?

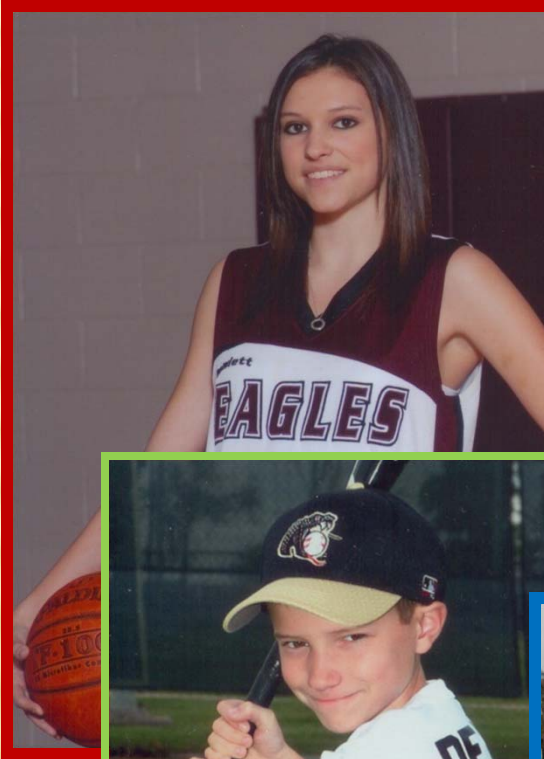


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If you knew that tomorrow
you'd be fighting for your
life or the life of another...

What would you do today?

TOTALLY GRATUITOUS & UNNECESSARY KID PICTURES.





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Thank you for your time, attention,
patience, consideration and
for what you do every day.

BE WELL, BE SAFE

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