I. DEFINITIONS

GEOTrax - A real-time asset robbery detection and tracking system

Device - An integrated cellular phone with a high-sensitivity Electronic Satellite Pursuit (ESP) receiver and beacon transmitter.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to enhance citizen and Police Officer safety during the robbery of a financial institution, and assist in the apprehension of robbery suspects and stolen property.

III. POLICY

No mention will be made of the ESP tracking technology on the radio. In all cases, refer to the device as the “subject”.

IV. INFORMATION

A. The Electronic Satellite Pursuit System is a satellite-supported global positioning system used to track money stolen from banks or other financial institutions. The 3SI Tracking System provides web-based global positioning information about the location of a tracking pack generally included with money stolen from banks.

The effectiveness of the system is based in large part on the secrecy of the system. Personnel are responsible for maintaining confidentiality regarding the existence and use of this system. Personnel will not divulge knowledge of any aspect of this system’s operation or use with non-essential personnel.

V. FIELD OPERATIONS RESPONSE PROCEDURES

A. Moving Pack

1. Immediately upon receipt of an ESP Alert Activation of a GPS bank robbery tracking device, the Telecommunications Center will initiate a call-for-service using the type code “933211” and broadcast the call on all six radio channels. The call will be broadcast as a “933211 Bank-T”.

2. Assigned responding units shall give their location upon receiving the call and will answer the radio as dispatched.

   a. Units will respond to the bank “Code 3” and may discontinue the use of red lights and siren when close to arrival and respond the remainder of the distance in accordance with traffic laws. The exact time to discontinue “Code 3” response is...
to be decided by each individual member assigned to respond, taking into consideration the fact a hostage situation could be initiated by police response being recognized by the robbers. Any units closer to the alarm location than the dispatched unit will advise the Telecommunications Center of their location.

b. Units responding to track the “subject” device may respond “Code 3” to the area of the device, but should discontinue once nearby. CTC will continue to broadcast the direction and speed of the moving device. The tracking device will only be referred to as the “subject” during all broadcasts.

(1) A felony vehicle stop may be attempted once both units are in position and are behind the suspect vehicle.

(2) If the “subject” device has gone dormant for some reason, it is possible the suspect(s) has stopped, gone into a building, or the device has been “dumped.”

(a) In the event the device has gone dormant / static, a handheld homing device may be utilized to further isolate the exact location of the GPS device. Such a handheld device is retained in the Watch Commander’s Office and may be obtained by a sergeant or officer responding to the particular incident.

3. It is possible that more than one tracking device was taken by the suspect(s) from the financial institution. Multiple tracking devices may move in the same direction. However, one or more devices may divide from the rest or possibly become stationary while the others remain mobile.

B. Stationary Pack

1. Personnel will respond to activations where a GPS tracking device has been activated but has not become mobile from the financial institution, pursuant to Bank Alarm Response as noted in General Order N-1. Such stationary pack activation will be treated as a silent bank robbery alarm.

a. Responding officers will be cognizant of the fact that this may not be simply a false alarm call. Rather, this may be an actual robbery where the suspect(s) are still inside the business. There may also be lookouts or additional suspects outside the business.

VI. TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES

A. GPS Computer Inspection:

1. At the beginning of each shift, the Telecommunications Supervisor will log the ESP program off and then log the ESP program back on to insure the program is connected and running properly. The supervisor will check to ensure the volume is set high enough to be clearly audible during an activation. This procedure will be documented on the Daily Shift Report.

B. ESP Computer Alert Activation:

a. Telecommunications personnel are responsible for the following:

b. Observe the computer display and determine which financial institution is involved.

c. Use the “REFRESH” icon to ensure the most recent alarm is being viewed.

d. Initiate a call for service (933211). Initial text of the incident will state “Bank-T”.

e. Verbally alert the appropriate dispatcher of the incoming call.

f. Contact the financial institution and follow the bank robbery procedures as
g. Monitor the GPS tracking information and update the call accordingly.

h. Determine if the tracking device (subject) is stationary or moving.

i. Ensure that 3SI, the company that operates the system, has received and is aware of the activation by contacting their Criminal Investigation Section (CIS) Desk Officer.

2. The dispatcher on the channel involved will:

a. Immediately broadcast the call on all six radio channels.

b. Follow the dispatching procedure for bank robberies pursuant to N-1.

c. Relay GPS tracking updates as needed, while referring to the device only as the “subject.”