



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

MEDIA RELEASE

June 21, 2023

Today, the Burlington Police Department released the newest informational video featuring our Emergency Response Unit (ERU).

Responding to emergency situations that are considered high-risk operations (barricaded subjects, high-risk apprehensions, search warrants, etc.), the Emergency Response Unit is a voluntary special assignment within the BPD comprised of specially trained sworn officers. Team members of the ERU are trained in a variety of rescue based functions, the main practice centered on slowing situations down when possible to allow for de-escalation using advanced tactics, communication, and equipment.

“The Emergency Response Unit or ERU is a team of officers that consistently trains together above the normal department patrol standard. They train in various disciplines ranging from de-escalation, negotiations, teams tactics, and various tools and equipment to better prepare themselves for responding to high-risk incidents.”

— *Lieutenant Mike Beliveau, Emergency Response Unit Supervisor*

As a voluntary unit, these officers volunteer to be on call at a moment’s notice — on and off-duty. Their dedication to the mission is paired with their commitment to each other. Teamwork is the essence of this unit, as is the design for their regularly scheduled trainings. From strengthening communication skills to navigating the complex tools and technologies at their disposal, the ERU prioritizes safe tactics for an effective outcome.

“And that is the ultimate goal of the ERU, is to be able to resolve these situations where everybody is safe and able to go home.”

— *Corporal Joseph Corrow, Emergency Response Unit Team Leader*

The Emergency Response Unit episode, along with other episodes from our informational video series, can be viewed on the [BPD’s YouTube channel](#).

Information is preliminary and subject to change.

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