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## **ESSEX POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

Date: April 9, 2019

On Saturday, April 13, 2019, from 8AM to 5PM, the Essex Police Department and Essex Rescue will be conducting a joint training at Thomas Fleming School at 21 Prospect Street in Essex Junction. The training will focus on forming 'Rescue Task Forces' in the event of a mass casualty incident where law enforcement will escort medical personnel into semi-safe (warm zone) areas to bring treatment to victims faster. This training is in contrast to what was done in the past where a scene had to be 'fully secure' before medical personnel would enter. In several recent incidents, this type of policy was shown to unnecessarily delay treatment of victims. The training will consist of communication procedures, how to operate in a warm zone, tactical basic life support, and incident command. Both agencies have done a great deal of planning and preparation for this training that we believe will better prepare us for a critical incident in our community. It will be part of an on-going partnership between the two agencies and an example of the standard of cooperation between all public safety agencies in Essex.

Residents in the area of Fleming School should expect increased presence of public safety vehicles and personnel at the school during these times. The training will be confined inside the building, but it's possible that residents may hear sounds of simulated gunfire or people in distress.

Issued by: Cpt. Ron Hoague  
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