

## Tear Gas Counter Measures

### IN A PERFECT WORLD YOU WILL HAVE:

- 3 personnel who have read this document and have practiced this procedure with a smoke grenade or other suitable substitute.
- One battery powered leaf blower with removable/rechargeable battery. Example model: EGO 530 CFM CORDLESS BLOWER. (DO NOT BRING GASOLINE POWERED, YOU DON'T WANT TO BE CARRYING ACCELERANT FOR NUMEROUS REASONS)
- One road cone/bucket with hole cut in top. You will be placing this over the tear gas canister, consider that a wider mouth (bottom) will be easier to place over a canister. Some canisters have been known to spin and may be difficult to contain in a smaller opening. Also consider that the canister will be emitting heat, do not use an item easily combustible or potentially covered in accelerant. Road cones are generally easily procured on site, but a bucket with a whole cut in the top can be disguised as a drum.
- One shield. You can buy a LE style shield or construct one on your own. Consider that the shield will be used for not only yourself but to protect your entire team (FROM RUBBER BULLETS IF NECESSARY, CONSTRUCT SOLIDLY). Larger shields are preferable, but you must consider what you are physically capable of carrying for long periods. Also consider that carrying a shield openly can be interpreted as an escalation by LE and counter protestors. Consider disguising your shield as a sign. Also also also consider leveraging whatever privileges you may have in the form of messaging on your sign (example: CAUTION DISABLED VETERAN). Think about what may make LE less likely to shoot you, but not go as far as to give away information that may put you in further danger. Shields can be assembled out of things purchased at a hardware store, lmk if you need instructions but it's pretty easy.
- One fire extinguisher. This is the most critical piece of equipment and its operator's safety is the priority of the rest of the team. Fire extinguishers should be of the ABC variety, meaning they will extinguish solids, liquids and electrical fires. A larger, heavier extinguisher will provide more usage, but you must again consider what you will be physically able to carry. THE NOZZLE SHOULD NOT BE FLARED, THE EXTINGUISHER NOZZLE MUST FIT INSIDE THE TOP OF YOUR ROAD CONE OR THE WHOLE YOU HAVE CUT IN YOUR BUCKET. It does not matter if the extinguisher is rechargeable or not.
- ALL THE OTHER SHIT YOU NEED, BUT NOT SO MUCH SHIT THAT YOU ARE WEIGHED DOWN. Be light, be fast, be enduring. Have maximum ear, eye and respiratory protection available to you. A full run down of PPE is beyond the scope of this document. Also consider bringing extra batteries for the leaf blower, a bull horn, radios, helmets, knee/elbow/shin pads, padded jacket, extra extinguisher, cups and other ppe to protect your genitalia. A full packing list is not a part of this document. Tailor what you bring to your event.

### **ACTION ROLES**

- **SHIELD PERSON/TEAM CAPTAIN:** The shield person has the most opportunity to maintain situational awareness (as you will see in the implementation section) and thus is in charge. Their primary duty is to place themselves between police and the rest of the team long

enough for the canister to be extinguished. Give this person the bull horn and the radio if you brought it.

- **LEAF BLOWER BUDDY:** This person's role is to blow the tear gas away from the team and gathered people long enough for the canister to be contained underneath your cone or bucket. They may also have a shield if able, but the shield should be smaller than the shield person's. The blower is your main concern.
- **THE EXTINGUISHER:** It's all about you, the whole team is here to protect you because you're so god damn important. You're gonna put a cone or bucket over a canister then shoot it with the extinguisher, sounds easy but you must be efficient to conserve your canister. More to follow.

**\*consider using cool code names when addressing each other while employing the following tactics, you're ideally not going to be arrested because you are so smooth and efficient. Do not give up any identifying information if you can help it. Your only tactical concern is to extinguish the canister and either move on to the next or retreat. Your captain will make this call based on the situation. Your captain should always make calls with the safety of the entire team in mind. Consider that retreating is sometimes the best call.\***

#### **IMPLEMENTATION/TACTICS**

- The team should be gathered behind the shield as they approach the area containing the canister. Try to always keep the shield between LE and the rest of your team. Approach the grenade concealed behind the shield man with the blower buddy next, followed by the extinguisher.
- Leaf blower buddy should begin blowing the smoke away from the team and crowd as soon as possible. Do this as your formation approaches. Continue to approach canister until it is behind the shield.
- Once blower buddy sees that the canister is behind the shield call "STOP" or something similar. Your captain will be looking forward. Verbally adjust them if necessary. Blower buddy should continue dispersing gas away until the canister is contained by the following extinguisher. At this point the blower buddy should move past the canister, allowing the extinguisher room to do their job, and may disperse gas from other canisters or simply provide extra cover and situational awareness for the extinguisher. The captain should be monitoring the activities of LE and other dangers. **THE CAPTAIN SHOULD CONSTANTLY BE ASSESSING THE THREATS TO THE TEAM, RESIST THE URGE TO LOOK BACKWARDS.** The captain should communicate relevant info to the rest of the team as the situation evolves.
- The Extinguisher should contain the canister of tear gas ASAP but should never move from behind the shield person if possible. Once canister is contained the fire extinguisher should be employed by spraying the retardant into the open top of whichever container you chose to bring. Consider that your fire extinguisher has limited uses and must be conserved. **GET GOOD AT USING THE MINIMUM AMOUNT. NEVER LOOSE YOUR EXTINGUISHER SAFTEY PIN.** Your extinguisher will have a safety pin that prevents its handle from collapsing and discharging the retardant. Tie it down to the

extinguisher, replace it in its whole once the canister is extinguished. PREVENT ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE AND WASTE.

- Once the tear gas canister is extinguished AND THE EXTINGUISHER HAS REPLACED THEIR PIN AND GATHERED ALL OF THEIR EQUIPMENT AND IS PREPARED TO MOVE. They will loudly state "Done" or something similarly appropriate THIS IS FUCKING SERIOUS DO NOT ANOUNCE YOU ARE DONE UNTIL YOU ARE COMPLETELY PREPARED TO MOVE. Once the extinguisher announces done, the blower buddy will announce "Ready" ONLY ONCE THE BLOWER BUDDY HAS GATHERD ALL OF THEIR EQUIPMENT AND IS READY TO MOVE. ONCE AGAIN VERY SERIOUS.
- Once the extinguisher has announced done and the blower buddy has announced ready, it will be time for the captain to determine where to move the team. Either retreat or move on to another canister, do not remain in danger if it is not necessary. Move as you came in by walking backwards from LE until it is safe to turn and walk normally (after you have turned a corner or found other cover) THE EXTINGUISHER SHOULD PLACE THEIR HAND ON THE TEAM CAPTAINS BACK AND GUIDE THEM AS THE TEAM CAPTAIN MUST WALK BACKWARDS. The rest of the team (blower and extinguisher) is free to walk however is comfortable as long as they remain behind the shield. If you are moving on to another canister rather than retreating, use the same procedure as you did to approach the first while moving laterally or in whichever direction is necessary. DO NOT RUN IF YOU CAN HELP IT.

This is a very rough draft that I wanted to give to you quickly as you could be in a situation with tear gas before I have this polished. Ideally, I'd like to add diagrams. Feel free to adjust these tactics to suite your needs and available resources. Consider that small changes, such as moving the responsibility of placing the cone or bucket to your blower buddy, can be made if it feels more comfortable to your team. If you only have two personnel, consider that the leaf blower can be done away with all together as it is less versatile/critical than the fire extinguisher and cone. Attempting this with less than two folx is not recommended. ALWAYS BRING A BUDDY.