



Australian Government

POLSAR023 Coordinate search and rescue media requirements

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Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit of competency was first released in POL Police Training Package Release 11.0.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to assess media requirements in line with the nature of the search and rescue (SAR) incident and SAR operation, and to facilitate media involvement.

This unit applies to police staff involved in police SAR operations.

The skills and knowledge described in this unit must be applied within the legislative, regulatory and policy environment in which they are carried out. Organisational policies and procedures must be consulted and adhered to, particularly those related to information security and media engagement.

Those undertaking this unit would work autonomously and within teams while remaining responsible for reporting to senior staff. They would perform a range of complex tasks and demonstrate adaptability across a broad range of contexts, either in the field or within police station/office environments.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite unit(s)

No pre-requisite units

Competency field(s)

Search and Rescue

Unit sector(s)

N/A

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance criteria
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<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Assess and inform SAR incident media requirements.	1.1 Consider implications of media involvement on SAR operation to inform media strategy. 1.2 Identify opportunities for media to support SAR operations. 1.3 Define restricted and/or special access areas for media personnel to safeguard the operation. 1.4 Coordinate media involvement through the appointment of a media liaison. 1.5 Balance operational responsibilities with the provision of information to media, in line with jurisdictional policies and procedures. 1.6 Liaise with stakeholders to manage accuracy and timeliness of information, negotiate consistent key messaging and to communicate media strategy.
2. Facilitate and manage media presence at SAR incident.	2.1 Identify logistical arrangements to support the safety of media when attending SAR incident. 2.2 Manage information flow to media representatives in support of SAR operation. 2.3 Identify and allocate spokesperson to provide current and accurate information to public. 2.4 Determine information for release to media to suit operational demands and/or level of incident. 2.5 Inform and employ media strategy. 2.6 Record media enquiries and interviews for accountability purposes.

Range of conditions

N/A

Assessment Requirements for POLSAR023 Coordinate search and rescue media requirements

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and include:

- applying work, health and safety (WHS) and wellbeing requirements
- assessing media requirements
- contributing to media strategies in accordance with operational demands and/or level of incident
- determining media areas in accordance with SAR operation requirements
- facilitating and managing media access and safety
- communicating with stakeholders
- maintaining records.

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and include knowledge of:

- jurisdictional policies, procedures and arrangements for media management, including media liaison
- roles and responsibilities of police media units and/or media liaison officers
- jurisdictional legislation, policies and procedures relating to work, health and safety (WHS) and wellbeing requirements
- jurisdictional legislation, policies and procedures relating to:
 - information security
 - confidentiality and privacy requirements
 - restrictions to release information
- requirements of different media platforms
- suitability of information to target audiences
- role of media in disseminating information
- risk and safety management principles
- jurisdictional information management systems.

Assessment Conditions

Mandatory Workplace Requirements

Assessment of performance evidence may be in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents a real workplace.

Unit Mapping Information

Previous Code and Title	Equivalence	Comments
POLSAR015 Manage search and rescue media requirements	Not equivalent	Update to Application, Unit Title, Elements, Performance Criteria, Performance Evidence and Knowledge Evidence.

Links

Companion volumes, including implementation guides, are found on the national training register - <https://training.gov.au/training/details/POL>.