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SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

October 30, 2026

The Honorable
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle Training

Honorable Members:

Attached, please find a proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum authorizing the Erie County Sheriff's Office to engage Xray Alpha, LLC for the purpose of conducting Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle training for the SWAT Team.

Representatives of my Office will be made available upon request to answer any questions you may have.

Very Truly Yours,

John C. Garcia
Sheriff of Erie County

Attachments

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Erie County Sheriff's Office
Re: Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle Training
Date: October 30, 2026

Summary of Recommended Action

The Erie County Sheriff's Office recommends that the Legislature authorize the Purchasing Director to create the necessary documents for the County to engage Xray Alpha, LLC for the purpose of conducting Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle training for the SWAT Team. Thirteen members of the SWAT Team will participate in this 4-day course, which will be instructed locally at a cost to the County of $22,550.00.

Fiscal Implications of Proposal

Approval of this item will have no impact on the 2026 budget, as the funds have been previously allocated within the Erie County Sheriff's Office operating budget (Fund 110, Funds Center 115).

Reasons for Recommendation

The different units of the Erie County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Division – to include the SWAT Team – require regular training to stay up to date on the best operational practices and maintain physical readiness. Xray Alpha, LLC has been identified as a qualified vendor to offer deputies Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle training.

The lead instructor possesses qualifications that justify engagement with this vendor, including over 20 years of service within an elite Tier 1 Special Operations Unit. He comes highly recommended by other training vendors our Special Operations Division have previously engaged. Specifically, he has operational experience across major combat environments, holds a Grandmaster rating – the highest classification – from the United States Practical Shooting Association, and maintains operational exposure.

The instruction utilizes advanced tactics, techniques, and procedures developed by the vendor that directly align with the operational standards and requirements of the Erie County Sheriff's Office SWAT Team. The SWAT Team has been actively pursuing this training for quite some time, however due to the instructors real world operational tempo, he has been unavailable to accommodate. His current availability to train our team is due to a cancellation that we eagerly hope to capitalize on.

Consequences of Negative Action

The Erie County Sheriff's Office SWAT Team would be unable to engage Xray Alpha, LLC for instruction in Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle.

Steps Following Approval of Measure

Certified copies of the approved resolution shall be sent to the County Executive, County Attorney, Purchasing Director, Budget Director, Comptroller, and Erie County Sheriff's Office.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
ERIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Re: Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle Training

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Erie County Sheriff's Office to provide quality public safety services to our community by promoting a safe environment through police and citizen interaction with an emphasis on integrity, fairness and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, the SWAT/QRF Team within the Erie County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Division is a highly trained tactical unit responsible for handling dangerous and high-risk calls throughout Erie County; and

WHEREAS, the team is the only FEMA Type 1 tactical team in Western New York; and

WHEREAS, members of the team train extensively year-round to be prepared to respond to calls for service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Sheriff's Office has identified Xray Alpha, LLC as an appropriate vendor to offer tactical training to the SWAT/QRF Team; and

WHEREAS, the training focuses on advanced hostage rescue techniques and close quarter battle techniques; and

WHEREAS, Xray Alpha, LLC had developed tactics, techniques, and procedures that align with those of the Erie County Sheriff's Office SWAT Team; and

WHEREAS, 13 members of the SWAT/QRF Team will participate in this training at a cost not to exceed $22,550.00;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Sheriff's Office is authorized to engage Xray Alpha, LLC, 429 Rollingwood Circle, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305 to provide Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle training at a cost not to exceed $22,550.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature waives the procedures, as impractical, provided for in Section 26.08 of the Erie County Administrative Code for the purposes of engaging Xray Alpha, LLC for Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle training; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Purchasing Director is authorized to create the documents necessary for the Erie County Sheriff's Office to engage Xray Alpha, LLC for Advanced Hostage Rescue/Close Quarter Battle training; and be it further

RESOLVED, certified copies of the approved resolution shall be sent to the County Executive, County Attorney, Purchasing Director, Budget Director, Comptroller, and Erie County Sheriff's Office.

FISCAL IMPACT: As Indicated