

Special Operations

The Special Operations Division of Dorchester County EMS was established Nov 15, 2005. With the increase of Clandestine drug labs and associated Hazardous Materials being discovered in Dorchester County and the commitment of a front line EMS unit for long periods of time, it was determined that a Specialized Division was needed. This in turn established the Dorchester County EMS Special Operations Division. All members are Hazmat Operations level trained with some members being certified to the Hazmat Technician Level. It is the responsibility of the special operations team to conduct entry and exit physicals on all personnel who enter the hot zone, along with overseeing the decontamination process, making sure that patients for transport are completely decontaminated before being placed in an ambulance and transported to the hospital. With limited resources in the upper part of Dorchester County, the Dorchester County EMS Special Operations Team is currently expanding its capabilities with the implementation of a Water Rescue / Dive support team and Technical Rescue Rope team. With 2 water ways, The Ashley and Edisto River, the need for these types of services are increasing with the fast growth in population within the county.



TEMS (Tactical Emergency Medical Support)



Law enforcement agencies that respond to high risk situations utilize specialized emergency medical teams, frequently known as special weapons and tactics (SWAT) teams. Due to the high risk of personal injury to these officers, as well as bystanders, the Tactical Emergency Medical Service Team was developed to provide a specialized group of paramedics who respond with these law enforcement SWAT teams to provide safe and effective emergency medical care in these situations.