



# CRISIS NEGOTIATION UNIT

Grand Rapids Police Department  
2023 overview for the Public Safety  
Committee

# WHAT IS CRISIS NEGOTIATION?

The unique and specialized form of communication to defuse dangerous and life-threatening situations.

NYPD - 1972



Waco, TX - FBI CIRG - 1993



# THE FOUNDATION OF HOSTAGE NEGOTIATIONS

- 1979
- Ret. Captain Pam Carrier (1980-2011)
- Following the then FBI Hostage Rescue Team Guidelines
- Additional responsibility

# HOW GRPD GOT OUR START...





# WHEN AND WHY DO WE DEPLOY?

GRAND RAPIDS CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY WEEK 5

## SRT & CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS

WEST MICHIGAN'S  
MOST WANTED

## GROWTH OVER THE YEARS





A photograph of a police scene. In the foreground, a large, dark-colored armored police vehicle is parked. Several police officers in blue uniforms are visible. Some are standing near the vehicle, while others are in the background. A young person in a police uniform is running towards the right side of the frame. The scene appears to be outdoors on a street or parking lot.

RODRICK DANTZLER  
7/7/2011

Duchess



Inside View



MODERNIZED TECHNOLOGY



# Training:

- 40-hour certification with the FBI
- Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) led by Network 180
- Annual state conference with Michigan Association of Hostage Negotiators
- Quarterly in-house trainings at PD

# Additional Responsibilities:

- Presentations to Youth Police Academy and recruit classes
- High school winter programs
- President of Michigan Association of Hostage Negotiators (MAHN)
- Board member for National Council of Negotiation Associations (NCNA)

# Questions?

Captain Cathy Williams  
South Service Area

