

## Route 48 - Expert Responses ONLY

### Decision #1

**What is your initial assessment of the situation?** Rank the following options from 1 (most likely) to 4 (least likely).

4	a. Two suspects are fleeing the scene of a crime.
1	b. The gunman in the back seat has taken the driver hostage.
2	c. The gunman in the back seat intends to initiate a deadly shootout with police.
3	d. I don't know.

**Rationale.** Please provide a brief rationale for your decision.

The experts feel that the most likely situation is that the driver is a hostage (b) given that the car was initially speeding, the driver is nervous, and he seems to be trying to point your attention toward the passenger. A close second was that the driver is trying to warn you about the passenger's deadly intentions (c). The two options are not mutually exclusive, but go hand-in-hand. You have enough information to conclude the passenger has deadly intentions that need to be mitigated. Experts feel that this situation requires immediate actions that include tactics, anticipation, situational awareness, and prioritizing. Contrary to many of the situations in this course, this is an example of a straightforward situation requiring a warrior mindset--not much requirement for a guardian approach here.

### Decision #2

**What are your objectives?** Rank the following options from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important).

3	a. Protect the Uber driver.
2	b. Survival.
5	c. Isolate the scene to protect passing motorists.
4	d. Get reinforcements.
1	e. Incapacitate the shooter.

**Rationale.** Please provide a brief rationale for your decision.

The experts feel that the officer in this incident must initially attempt to incapacitate the shooter (e) for the best chance ultimately to protect the driver (a) and survive the encounter (b). The objectives of incapacitating the shooter, protecting the driver, and surviving all go hand in hand. If you incapacitate the shooter, the other objectives, including (d) and (c), take care of themselves. As long as the shooter remains a threat,

your immediate goal is to address that current active threat. As for protecting citizens, your priorities include not only protecting life that is immediately threatened, but also protecting passing motorists (c).

**Decision #3**

**What do you tell Newsome (responding from the west) to do?**

Choose the option below that you feel is most appropriate.

X	a. Join you at the scene.
	b. Set up a roadblock about a mile west to isolate the scene.

**Rationale.** Please provide a brief rationale for your decision.

The experts believe the shooter remains a significant threat to you, the driver and passing motorists, and the odds of a lone officer mitigating the incident are poor. It's obvious the focus of the shooter is on the officer and the need for additional backup is essential to address the threat. Experts feel you should direct Officer Newsome to join you at the scene (a).

**Decision #4**

**What do you tell Davis (responding from the east) to do?** Rank the following options from 1 (best) to 3 (worst).

1	a. Approach the scene from the east in order to engage the gunman in a crossfire with his long rifle.
3	b. Set up a roadblock at the Exit 26 offramp to isolate the scene.
2	c. Take up a position on the Exit 26 overpass to see if he can get a shot with his long rifle.

**Rationale.** Please provide a brief rationale for your decision.

The experts believe you need to neutralize the incident as quickly as possible. Three officers positioned properly and working together tactically can more rapidly incapacitate the shooter. Roadblocks are a secondary priority until the shooter is dealt with and you do not have sufficient resources to isolate the freeway (b). Additional responding resources can be dedicated to incident containment.

**Decision #5**

**What do you do about the Uber driver?** Rank the following options from 1 (best) to 6 (worst).

6	a. Work your way to the driver's position.
2	b. Tell him to be quiet and stay hidden in the tall grass.
1	c. Tell him to stay hidden and work his way east to get away from the scene.
5	d. Tell him to work his way toward you.
3	e. Tell him to get to the woods for concealment.
4	f. Nothing.

**Rationale.** Please provide a brief rationale for your decision.

The shooter has already demonstrated his desire to shoot the driver. The driver should remain hidden and attempt to distance himself from the shooter. Hopefully, survival instinct will kick in and he will do this without having to be told, but you can never be sure how people will respond to stress. Options (c), (b), and (e) all work, but options that get him away from the scene work best. You definitely do not want the driver to come to your position (d) as long as the shooter is focusing on you. The same goes for you going to the driver (a), which increases your own risk. Being separated from the driver splits the gunman's attention or forces him to make a decision. Collocating with the driver simplifies things for the gunman by putting both targets in one place. Given the shooter has not moved towards the driver, your focus should remain on incapacitating him. Some experts feel that calling out to the driver may re-divert the shooters attention towards him, putting him at additional risk, so saying nothing is a reasonable option (f).

### Decision Point #6

**What do you do?** Rank the following options from 1 (best) to 6 (worst).

3	a. Get back in your vehicle, ready to pursue.
4	b. Report that the gunman is back in the Toyota, driving east and alone in the car.
6	c. Sprint to the Toyota on the driver side with the intent of shooting the gunman.
5	d. Sprint to the Toyota on the passenger side with the intent of shooting the gunman.
1	e. Engage from your current position.
2	f. Once the gunman departs, go check on the driver.

**Rationale.** Please provide a brief rationale for your decision.

Experts feel that option (c) and (d) are your least desirable given the suspect still remains a threat and this tactic would require you to leave cover. You should attempt to stop the fleeing suspect from a covered position so as not to expose yourself (e). Considering that there are officers ahead (east) and additional officers responding, the experts feel that after your survival your immediate concern should be for the safety of the driver (f). You can report the situation to the other officers (b) while checking on the safety of the driver. Once you confirm the welfare of the driver you may consider other options, like pursuit (a).