

Oath Keepers of Vermont,

National has sent a call to action for all chapters to take part in Operation Protect the Protectors, which is an operation to provide security for recruitment centers and other “soft targets” (full details of op can be found below). In Vermont, we are currently working hard to coordinate this operation here. Our meeting coming up this Sunday in Barton will now be focused on this op. A very high priority to this will be establishing regional POC’s who can coordinate the security ops within their regions and county’s.

So, here’s what’s happening, many of us are currently working out the logistics of what will be needed to coordinate security ops at recruiting stations around the state. Obviously we won’t be able to have a full SOP or OPOD in place until after the meeting on Sunday. If you think you can organize an op in your area between now and then, please contact me before doing so. The reason for this is so I can ensure that your team will abide by national’s guidelines for the operation (posted below), and so that we can incorporate your team’s actions into the operation at the state level.

Next meeting information:

Sunday, July 26th at 1:00 pm
Barton Ambulance Squad
54 Municipal Lane Barton, VT 05822

If you can’t make it to the meeting on Sunday, but still want to participate in the Op, please contact us at vt@oathkeeper.org so we can get you on a roster. Include your name, contact info, skills and training (military MOS, police, EMT, etc.), physical capabilities/disabilities, and time availability.

If you don’t have combat skills or equipment for a security Op, don’t assume that you can’t help. Logistics are extremely important as well, and we will need people to help in ways other than standing guard. Every little bit helps. And we also will need everyone to start actively finding those friends and family who can help as well.

If you know someone who has been thinking about getting involved in OK’s, now is the time! At least get them to check out and “like” our FB page (www.facebook.com/oathkeepersVT), give them our email address (vt@oathkeepers.org) and have them request to be added to the newsletter list. Or, even direct them to our new member application form (https://vegaswebsites.formstack.com/forms/new_members) so they can become card-carrying members! In any case, we need to reach out to the true Patriots in Vermont and get them involved.

I have already arranged it so that we will be able to contact all of the law enforcement offices in VT to inform them of our intentions. However, as per the guidelines below, it will still be each team’s responsibility to make contact with local LEO’s, and the offices that will be guarded, and inform them of the security op before hand. DO NOT just go to any location armed without making proper arrangements first!

Also remember OPSEC. Specific details of time, location, and personnel should not be advertised to the public.

The following is OK's national guidelines for Operation Protecting the Protectors Again, if you wish to start up a local security op, coordinate with me before doing so.

The full details of the op can be found here: <http://oathkeepers.org/oktester/oath-keepers-national-call-to-action-help-us-protect-the-protectors-by-guarding-recruiting-and-reserve-centers/>

We need you to do the following:

A. Reach out to local military recruiters (and Reserve/National Guard), schools, malls, and police

1. Send an outreach team to your local Recruitment and Reserve Centers, and visit High School Principals and Mall Security offices to:
2. Let them know what we are doing and that we are Oath Keepers
3. Tell them they need to add security for malls and schools; that OK can help, if they wish.
4. Tell them that we will be coordinating with local police stations for added support at or near recruitment centers, and that we hope to work with the police on assisting with protection malls and schools as well. They are at serious risk of being overwhelmed by a coordinated attack by terrorist teams on multiple soft targets. We can help.
5. To recruitment centers: that we are there to deter attacks on their site and their persons.
6. Also reach out to National Guard in your area to offer assistance and coordination in case they are attacked (their personnel are under similar idiotic restrictions on being armed).

B. Form teams:

1. Volunteers (minimum 2 per recruitment center) on duty at each designated site with its own duty roster. Best to have additional covert team to back them up.
2. Need state leaders to draft email to all members in their state asking for volunteers and then organizing and coordinating them while maintaining OPSEC. This can also be done via Facebook but again, think OPSEC.
3. Uniform: OK cap or shirt (or other way to ID team, such as arm-band), body armor suggested, and weapon(s). See below for guidelines on weapons.
4. Duty: preferably 4 hour shifts per day; 8 hours if insufficient volunteers.
5. Coordinating instructions: sufficient ammo (min of 4 mags per AR, for example) to suppress an attack, Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK), phone, camera, camel back, cooler with drinks/snacks/lunch (stay hydrated!).
6. A courteous and professional disposition to all except Islamic jihadists.

Additional Preliminary Guidelines:

- Work in at least teams of two. If at all possible, avoid having a single Oath Keeper standing guard. The more the better.
- All those actually standing guard should be armed. That is the whole point - to be armed to defend the recruiters who are under threat of UCMJ prosecution and discipline if they dare to go armed. An unarmed guard is just a bullet catcher and another victim.

- Be sure that those on the armed teams belong there. Are they cool, collected, trained, experienced, competent and safe with their firearms? Do they have the right training and/or experience to be on an armed team that may end up in a close range fire-fight with a suicidal terrorist with an AK? If not, then they don't belong there. Remember, there may well be a parking lot full of innocent bystanders there when an attack is launched, and your team needs to be competent and calm enough under pressure to minimize the risk to those bystanders while stopping the threat. We are looking for the quiet professionals.
- If someone is not suitably trained or willing to serve on the armed detail, they can still serve in some support capacity. Work that out among your chapters and CPTs. Support is critical, as you will find out. That is the whole point of the "B" or support team on a CPT. This is a good time to get that organized.
- The security teams can be openly armed, or covertly armed, at your discretion, and depending on your local situation. You know your own AO best so you need to assess and make that decision. An overt presence, where possible, does help to deter attack (though don't count on it). If you have good enough relations with your community and local police that you choose to make an overt presence, we strongly recommend that you also have a covert element on scene as well, to back up that overt team. If attackers decide to move on a recruiting station guarded by an overt team, they will target that team first, so having a covert team to back them up will be essential to spoiling the attack.
- Teams need to be close enough, and ready enough, to respond instantly and stop an attack at the very outset. The longer it takes a team to respond, the more victims there will be. Use your discretion on how to make that happen.
- Use your own best judgment on whether to use hand-guns or long guns, or both. As for me, I would bring a rifle to what is likely to be a rifle fight if a terrorist attacks, along with my pistol. Again, depending on your environment, you can choose to have long guns visible, or not, and, likewise for handguns. But always have a covert reserve of some kind, regardless. Consider the utility of shotguns or frangible pistol and rifle rounds to minimize danger to bystanders. But have the ability to also shoot through obstacles, if needed.
- Body armor is highly recommended, and since you are likely to face a terrorist armed with a rifle, rifle plates (steel or ceramic level III or above) are highly recommended if at all possible (Come And Take It! Armor has graciously offered all Oath Keepers who are serving on these security teams a 25% discount. We will give the discount code to our leadership teams).
- Be sure you notify the recruiters of your presence, so they know they are being protected, and so they don't inadvertently mistake your security team for a threat. Also, if for any reason you are unable to provide protection for any period of time during their business hours, be sure to notify them so they can make other arrangements and so they at least understand their exposure.
- It is best that you also notify the local police and coordinate with them, if possible. That will depend on whether you have friendly local police or not. Some of our chapters that have already been standing guard have excellent relationships with local police and have coordinated directly, including letting the

police know exactly who will be on guard, when, where, and what they are wearing. Other chapters are in locales where the local police are not supportive and they are unfortunately not able to coordinate like that. The more coordination you can do, the better, to avoid being mistaken for a threat, and to avoid a blue-on-blue tragedy. But protecting the recruiters comes first. So, if the local police are not supportive, or even hostile, deal with it and work around it to be sure the recruiters are protected (but be sure to at least notify the recruiters that you are out there).

- Teams should notify the police if they spot suspicious activity that is not an immediate attack, such as is consistent with someone casing out a recruiting station or other actions consistent with preparation for a future attack. Let the police handle such situations, and just spot and report.
- However, if an attack occurs, of course you must stop it immediately yourself, while minimizing the risk to bystanders as you do so. Once an attack is launched, every second is critical and the longer the threat is up and running, the more casualties possible.
- We will provide some more guidance and some ROEs on our members forum, or your team leaders will do so when you form up your teams. Be careful to not put your SOPs, TTPs, or ROEs on the web, such as on Facebook or elsewhere on the open web. And even be careful about putting too much detail on our member forums, which are also really not secure enough.
- Avoid publishing too much details on which recruitment centers are being guarded, and when. When contacted by media, you may want to give them one or two examples where an overt team is present that they can interview, but make sure they know those are only examples, and that other stations are being guarded as well, and they may be guarded by covert teams. Do not give complete lists of stations being protected, or of total head count of personnel doing the protecting. Keep that unknown to all except those directly involved and also the recruiters and friendly local police.
- Work to coordinate wherever possible with local police to avoid a blue-on-blue incident.
- Be sure to get the consent of your team members before any media is allowed to photograph them, and be sure to have that covert reserve that the media never even knows is there (and cannot photograph).
- You need to make contact with the administrators and security staff of your area schools and shopping malls also. Help them to conduct a threat assessment, and offer you help and assistance in protecting them.

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For the Return of TRUE Liberty

Adam Boyle

State POC

Oath Keepers of Vermont

[Phone Number Redacted by VPR]

VT@oathkeepers.org