



MEDIA RELEASE

June 3, 2010

The St. Mary's County Detention Center's Emergency Response Team

The St. Mary's County Detention Center Emergency Response Team (E.R.T.) was founded in 1994 to address potentially volatile situations in the safest way possible for both the inmate and corrections personnel while maintaining control within the facility. These situations may include routine handling of dangerous inmates, violent inmates and riots.

Correctional Officers are voluntarily assigned to the E.R.T. team but must pass an extensive physical fitness test and have the recommendation of their supervisors. Once an E.R.T. officer is chosen, he/she must pass a rigorous one week Emergency Response Basic Training Course. In addition, team members train frequently in order to maintain the highest skill level possible as it relates to techniques such as speed handcuffing, cell extractions of passive and resistant inmates, and Pressure Point Control Tactics.

Recently, Sergeant John T. Ucekay retired from the Emergency Response Team. He was a founding member of the detention center's E.R.T. team and served for fourteen years. Although he is retiring from the team, Sergeant Ucekay will continue to serve as a floor supervisor at the detention center. Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron and Detention Center Commander Captain Michael Merican wish to extend their congratulations and thank Sergeant Ucekay for his dedicated service to the team.

The mission of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Corrections Division is to reduce crime by confining offenders who pose a threat to the community, and do so in the most effective, safe and secure manner possible. The Emergency Response Team is one aspect of the detention center's successful process.



Sheriff Timothy Cameron and Sergeant John Ucekay