



POARCH CREEK POLICE TRAIN WITH FBI

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Poarch Creek Indian Reservation, Atmore, Alabama – July 17, 2007. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians Police Department received specialized training earlier this month from local FBI agents. This was a two-day training that concentrated on tactical entry. The Brewton Police Department also participated in this training.

“We have a long standing working relationship with the FBI and when they approached us regarding this training we were excited to have the opportunity to work with them.” Larry Hammonds, Poarch Creek Police Chief. FBI Special Agent in Charge Debra K. Mack stated "despite how self sufficient an agency is, there is always power in partnerships. Partnerships with local and federal law enforcement, and also within the community."

This training opportunity was beneficial for every department involved. Training of this type is a chance to develop liaison contacts and to open doors for additional resources. Should the need arise, local and federal agencies who have trained together and know what each is capable of, will be able to operate and respond in a more effective and efficient manner to protect its citizens.

The training demonstrated to local officers the equipment and tools needed for SWAT teams to use in tactical procedures. The teams were allowed to use a vacated subdivision that is owned by the Tribe, giving them the ability to simulate situations that were very realistic for the training. “This is a win-win opportunity that will provide us the opportunity to better protect the area schools, residences, and businesses. It is great overall training,” said Hammonds.

The Poarch Police Department’s SWAT Team is in its fundamental stages. “We have just recently established a SWAT team,” Hammonds said, “Before, if we needed someone with specialized training, we just called someone in. With this training we are better prepared to handle situations without immediate outside assistance.” Poarch’s SWAT Team consists of seven members.

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