

# Surgical Emergency Response Team (SERT) - Activation Algorithm



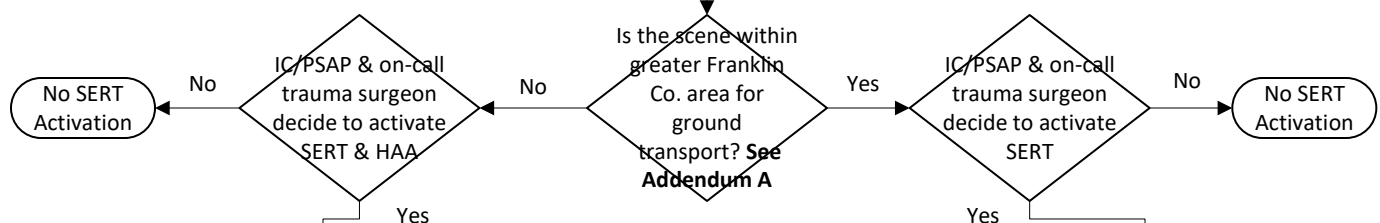
**Event occurs that needs Surgical Emergency Response Team (SERT) Request**  
 1) Patient is entrapped and all other options and extrication attempts have been exhausted.  
 2) Extremity entrapment when > one-hour extrication time is anticipated and includes one or more of the following: Amputation will be required; Hemorrhagic shock is present; Respiratory compromise is present.

Incident Commander (IC) or Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) calls Columbus Fire Department (CFD) Fire Alarm Office (FAO) at 614-221-2345 requesting SERT.

CFD FAO calls on-call hospital to notify of activation  
**Ohio State odd months**  
**First call:** ED charge nurse (614-293-6546); **second call:** Transfer center and time critical disease (614-366-8111)  
**Grant even months (if helicopter air ambulance (HAA) is needed only call Ohio State)**  
**First call:** Direct line OhioHealth transfer center (614-566-1572); **second call:** OhioHealth transfer center (877-933-7264)

Hospital staff notifies on-call trauma surgeon that SERT is being requested

CFD FAO facilitates communication with on-call trauma surgeon and IC/PSAP as needed



On-call trauma surgeon will notify CFD FAO and ED charge nurse of decision to activate SERT

CFD FAO transfers request for SERT activation and need for HAA to MedFlight MedComm at 1-800-222-5433. MedFlight works with AirEvac Lifeteam as needed. **Note: If the EMS field provider does NOT contact CFD FAO for SERT activation, the hospital, HAA dispatch, or other PSAP receiver is responsible for notifying CFD FAO of the SERT activation request to ensure closed loop communication.**

SERT physician collects & brings needed supplies including but not limited to field surgical kit & blood/fluid per hospital protocol

HAA dispatch sends closest available HAA to hospital ED to pick up SERT physician and transport to scene

HAA crew transporting:  
 • Responsible for escorting SERT physician to scene & keeping them safe  
 • Communicate with IC & introduce SERT physician to EMS officer on scene

EMS officer on scene will direct SERT physician to patient & explain the situation

SERT physician serves as medical control

At scene:  
 • SERT physician performs any procedure outside HAA crew scope of practice

On-call trauma surgeon will notify CFD FAO & ED charge nurse of decision to activate SERT

SERT physician collects & brings needed supplies including but not limited to field surgical kit & blood/fluid per hospital protocol

CFD FAO sends closest available CFD EMS/Fire ground ambulance to hospital ED to pick up SERT physician and transport to scene

CFD transporting medics:  
 • Responsible for escorting SERT physician to scene & keeping them safe  
 • Communicate with IC & introduce SERT physician to EMS officer on scene

EMS officer on scene will direct SERT physician to patient & explain the situation

SERT physician serves as medical control

At scene:  
 • SERT physician performs any procedure outside CFD scope of practice

After scene stabilization:  
 • SERT physician will make decision on the closest most appropriate trauma center\*

**Debriefing:**  
 • Coordinated by the requesting scene EMS agency  
 • Occurs within 30 days following the incident  
 • Includes participating EMS agencies and their PSAPs, HAA crew, CFD FAO, COTS, & SERT physician or designee


**\*Pediatric Caveats:** The on-call SERT physician from OhioHealth Grant Medical Center or The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center will be activated per guidelines. The responding SERT physician will consult with Nationwide Children's Hospital trauma surgeon leadership, as needed. The patient will be transported to Nationwide Children's Hospital.

ADDENDUM A – this map may be updated independent of this algorithm.










**Fire Stations & Columbus Fire Battalions**

*This map shows all central Ohio fire stations and Columbus Fire Battalion boundaries*

 Central Ohio Fire Stations

**Fire Battalions**

-  1
-  2
-  3
-  4
-  5
-  6
-  7



0 2 4  
Miles

Map created by CFD GIS Office on 12/18/2019

