

## FG Supplemental - HRVS Verbal Commands & Extraction Steps

Next is extraction of the occupants. During this step, bring out the driver first. Then repeat the procedure with each additional occupant.

### Skill Steps

Give one command at a time, but once compliance is met, follow-up quickly with the next command, minimizing the time they have to think about escape/attack plans.

Begin by ordering them to remove their seatbelt with the off-hand (the least convenient hand - for example, on the driver's side this would be the left hand).

Next, have the suspect open the vehicle door **from the outside handle** by reaching through the window.

Have the suspect face away from you as they step from the vehicle, and have them then kick the door closed behind them.

Keep the suspect's hands visible - have them interlace their fingers and order them to place their hands on top of their head.

### Scan for weapons

- Order the suspect to pull up on their outer clothing, using their collar, to expose the waistband
- With the waistband exposed, have the suspect SLOWLY turn 360°
- Challenge any weapons AFTER the suspect has completed the 360° turn and has faced away; let them know you have seen a weapon and warn them they will be shot if they make a move toward the weapon
- Do not order the suspect to touch or remove any weapons

QTC: **Why not allow them to remove the weapon?**

AR: Action versus Reaction

### Trunk Check

Next, order the suspect to manipulate any potential passenger compartment using one hand. For example, press-check the trunk, open the doors to a van, or open the tailgate of a truck. Have them leave doors open.

QTC: **What is our purpose in opening these areas to view?**

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**AR:** "Protective sweep" for additional suspects who have or could remain hidden.

**Important Teaching Point:** Do not abuse this tool!! We are not looking for evidence or contraband that we could not discover otherwise in a later vehicle search.

### Walk the Suspect Back

**Say to Class:** Now, have the suspect slowly walk backward toward the sound of your voice. Keep the suspect faced away. Constantly maintain verbal control over the suspect.

Stop the suspect prior to their entering the 'curtain of light' threshold approximately 1/2 to 1/3 the distance from your patrol car. Quietly exit your patrol vehicle, close your vehicle door, and take one-step back.

Draw the suspect behind the 'curtain of light' and stop them in the 'handcuff' area. Order the suspect into a non-compliant cuffing position. Holster your weapon and handcuff the subject. Immediately secure any visible weapons. Constantly maintain the contact/cover officer principle.

**Important Teaching Point:** Ensure your cuffing position allows you to face the suspect vehicle; **NEVER** turn your back on the suspect vehicle.

**Say to Class:** Once the suspect is fully controlled and cuffed, tactically escort the suspect to the rear of your patrol vehicle

Never lose physical control of your suspect.

Complete a thorough search or frisk (depending on level of suspicion). Be sure to tag and bag all evidence or weapons. Secure items in your trunk or front passenger compartment. Never leave weapons, evidence or personal items unattended on the back of your trunk.

### Clearing the Vehicle

**Say to Class:** You now return to the 'A' post of your patrol vehicle and extract each visible occupant using the same techniques. Once all visible occupants have been processed, **bluff** the vehicle twice for additional occupants and wait for a response.

*"Suspect hiding in the vehicle, your partner gave you up, put your hands up, or we'll send in the dog."*

If a suspect responds, extract them as before, and then repeat the bluff.

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Determine one or two-officer approach to clear the trunk. If only two officers are present, one *must* remain with the vehicle.

**Important Teaching Point:** NEVER leave a suspect unattended in your patrol vehicle while clearing a suspect vehicle.

If there are more than two officers, then two or more may clear the suspect vehicle, as long as someone guards the suspects and provides long cover. If one is available, consider using a K-9 to clear the vehicle.

Clearing the vehicle includes the approach and checking the passenger and trunk (if applicable) for additional suspects. Consider the use of hard cover or concealment on your approach if it is available.

Tactically approach the vehicle from a 45° angle. Use hard cover when available. Constantly maintain the 'triangulation' principle. Two officers should move in tandem when clearing the vehicle - avoid going to opposite sides of the vehicle. Steer clear of potential crossfire situations: **never place a potential threat between you and your partner.**

**QTC:** As we approach the vehicle, we perform a quick-press of the trunk to make sure it is closed. Why?

**AR:** There could be a suspect hiding in the trunk, ready to pop- out. There would be little or no warning if the trunk was already open.

Slice the pie or quick-peek the passenger compartment. Use rear view mirrors or glass to see reflections on the inside of the vehicle. Minimize yourself as a target by staying 'below the horizon'. For truck beds, vans or SUV's, open doors while your partner maintains lethal cover - stay out of fatal funnels.

Once the passenger compartment has been cleared, move to the trunk. During this procedure, the cover officer must constantly maintain lethal cover. The contact officer retrieves the keys from the top of the vehicle. If there is no trunk key, try to locate a trunk release (signal the cover officer before opening the trunk via a release button). Sometimes you can access the trunk through folding rear seats.

Staying below the horizon, the contact officer places the key in the trunk and tactically retreats 45°.

Staying below the horizon, the contact officer re-approaches the vehicle, unlocks the trunk, pushes it open, and tactically retreats at 45° Slice the pie or quick-peek to clear the trunk.

Some key sets may also contain a keyless remote opener, simplifying this procedure.

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QTC: What will you do if a suspect is located and hiding in the vehicle (any position, trunk)? How will you *modify* your tactics?

NTF: After asking the preceding question, lead a guided group discussion on the following points - allow time for speculation, reflection. Issues should include:

- Has the suspect seen the officers?
- Where is cover...can it be reached?
- Can there be more than one suspect hidden?
- Should you clear the vehicle before cuffing a suspect?

AR:

- If the suspect hasn't seen the officers, retreat to position of cover, and proceed from that location giving orders to the suspect.
- If officer have been seen, and retreating to cover would take too long, may elect to aggress the suspect, have them exit the vehicle and cuff them at the vehicle.
- If more than one suspect, may have to prioritize cuffing in an unsecured area versus clearing the remainder of the vehicle.