THE CONCEPT

The increased coordination of Bomb Squads, Explosive Detection Canine Teams, and Tactical Teams is critical, given the complexity of recent events in New York State, across the United States, and throughout the world.

To continue to foster these partnerships, the NYS Division of Homeland Security is hosting the 2022 Excelsior Challenge, a training event for Bomb Technicians, Explosive Detection Canine Handlers, and Tactical Team Operators at the State Preparedness Training Center.

Attendees will participate in a series of scenario-based activities to enhance operational coordination, communication, and integration among these three law enforcement specialty disciplines. These scenarios will be based on the current threat environment and will leverage the entire grounds of the SPTC. This training will reinforce core concepts and objectives of other training events conducted in Oriskany, including the Raven’s Challenge Exercise, Canine Week, and Tactical Week.

PARTICIPATION LEVELS (ANTICIPATED)

- **Bomb Technicians:** 3 per FBI-accredited Bomb Squad in NYC
- **EDC Handlers:** 2 per Law Enforcement Agency with EDC capabilities in NYS
- **Tactical Team Operators:** 3-6 per Law Enforcement Agency with a Tactical Team in NYS
- Other invited guests, as designated by DHSES

Final details on participation levels by discipline will be provided in the formal invitation for the Excelsior Challenge.

Next Steps
This summer, the SPTC will release a formal invitation for the 2022 Excelsior Challenge. This invitation will contain information on registration, lodging, and other logistics.

Questions
If you have any initial questions, please contact Meghan Dudley (meghan.dudley@dhses.ny.gov) or Bob Stallman (robert.stallman@dhses.ny.gov). Thank You!

We look forward to your participation in the 2022 Excelsior Challenge!