Mission
The mission of the Hazardous Device Unit is to disarm explosive devices and provide training to fire and police departments as well as businesses at risk for bomb threats. The unit has statewide jurisdiction and responds to about 250 calls annually.

Training
Technicians in the unit receive specialized training conducted by the FBI and the U.S. Army at the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, as well as through the Illinois Public Safety and the Illinois Public Safety Training and Education Center. They also are certified by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Board to teach topics related to explosives.

Experience
The Hazardous Device Unit has more than 30 years of experience in bomb threat management, including training in school administrations and those at risk of high-profile, public events.

Management
Each unit has a high incidence of bombings compared to other states. A comprehensive bomb threat management plan serves several purposes. The plan will:

- Identify why an institution is at risk and who is most likely to be a threat.
- Identify public areas most likely to be targeted for a possible explosive device.
- Provide a plan for a non-evacuation search in a short time.
- Give supervisory personnel information to determine if an evacuation is needed.
- Select an evacuation site that provides safety for workers.

Planning
County and city officials should identify schools, businesses, public facilities and other high-risk public places. A bomb threat management plan should be submitted to local and state law enforcement officials. The plan can involve police and fire departments as well as access and business management in order for law enforcement to arrive on time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
For Secretary of State Police services in your area, please contact:

Command Center
Springfield 217-782-7126

Uniformed District Offices
Villa Park 630-693-0551
Springfield 217-785-7117
Rockford 618-244-8343
Belleville 618-236-8765

Salvage Vehicle Inspection Stations
Villa Park 630-693-0551
Belleville 618-236-8755
Springfield 217-557-2084

Police Inquiry Unit
Springfield 217-786-6388

The Hazardous Device Unit — or "Bomb Squad" — was established by the Secretary of State Police in 1976. It is staffed by highly trained and experienced bomb technicians who provide statewide services to local, county, and federal agencies. The unit is equipped with a response vehicle, bomb transport trailer, bomb suits, X-ray machines and other specialized tools needed to handle possible explosive devices.
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Technicians in the unit receive specialized training conducted by the FBI and the U.S. Army at the Redstone Arsenal in Alabama, along with training from the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Academy. This comprehensive training is designed to equip bomb technicians with the skills necessary to safely and effectively handle bomb threats.

Experience
The Hazardous Device Unit has more than 30 years of experience in bomb threat management, providing training to school administrators and teachers, law enforcement officers, and private businesses. Training is essential in maintaining a state-of-the-art management program.

Management
Technicians in the unit are responsible for coordinating and implementing bomb threat management plans, conducting training exercises, and providing technical assistance to organizations at risk. They are also responsible for maintaining specialized equipment, such as bomb disposal vehicles and equipment, to ensure the safety of bomb disposal teams.

Planning
Comprehensive plans for bomb threat management can identify potential risks, establish procedures for handling bomb threats, and provide a framework for responding to bomb threats. These plans include detailed procedures for communication, coordination, and activation of bomb threat management teams.

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Rockford . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .618-244-8343
Belleville . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .618-236-8765

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Springfield . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .217-557-2084

Police Inquiry Unit
Springfield . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .217-586-6005

The Secretary of State Police also provides training and services to schools, businesses, and other organizations to help them prepare for bomb threats.

Secretary of State Police

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