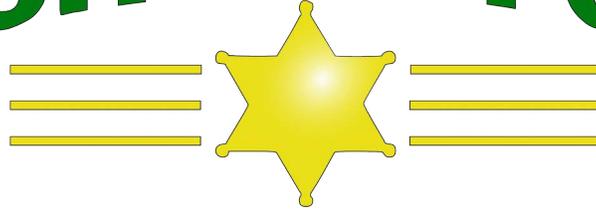


# NORTH BALDWIN SHERIFFS



# SEARCH AND RESCUE

## New Member Welcome Kit

You should get the following items.

- 1 – New Member Orientation booklet
- 1 – Orange, NBSSAR “Call Out” hat
- 1 – Khaki, NBSSAR general use hat
- 1 – NBSSAR “work” tee shirt
- 1 – NBSSAR Identification Badge

# New Member Orientation

North Baldwin Sheriff's Search And Rescue  
POB 295  
12370 Airport Road  
Bay Minette, AL. 36507  
Squad Phone 251-937-3188

Welcome to North Baldwin Sheriff's Search And Rescue. As a new member, you probably have many questions like, "Where do I start?", "What can I expect to be doing?", "What do I need?" and "What resources are available?". In an effort to answer some of these questions. We have put together this guide to help get you on your way be a productive and valuable member of this squad. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact a Officer to get your questions answered.

## Membership Requirements

Bylaws State "2.2 NIMS Certification is required within thirty (30) days else application is automatically rejected." Basically you have 30 days to provide us with a copy of IS-100 and 700 or your membership is automatically terminated. But for good reason...

Currently, NIMS IS-100 & NIMS IS-700 are the two National Incident Management System required certifications for our new members. These certifications are required by Baldwin County EMA for our members to participate. These certifications are available online using the links below. After completing each course, print out the certification and get a copy to the Squad Secretary or email a copy to the Chief. These certifications make us eligible for Federal Grant monies and they will help you learn about Incident Command Structure.

NIMS IS-100                      <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is100b.asp>

NIMS IS-700                      <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is700a.asp>

As a new member, you are classified as a "Non Voting Member". You can not vote on any motion brought to the floor but you can voice your opinion during the "Open Discussion" portion of the motion. If you have insight on the matter at hand, by all means, share. You are not required to attend meetings or call outs to keep your membership. But; then why did you join if you don't? Right? After one (1) year of active membership, you may request, at any regular meeting, "Voting Member Status". Your past history and participation will be considered and the Lieutenants will either recommend or not recommend you for full membership at the next regular meeting. Before you request "Full Voting Membership Status", consider carefully your commitment to SAR. Once you are a voting member, you must maintain minimum standards for attendance for call outs and for meeting per our bylaws to remain a voting member.

## Equipment & Supplies

As a SAR responder, you will need certain supplies to go with you out in the field. Keep in mind that you will be working in a lot of different environments and will need to have everything with you at all times to support you in those environments. Most of these things are kept in a “Ready” or “24-hour” pack. This pack is usually a backpack and its design must only suit your needs. We have found that backpacks used for school, work well for several years. Don't spend a lot of money for it because you will no doubt learn what you like in the design of a ready pack as time goes by and you can upgrade. See the list at the end of this booklet to get an idea of what *you* may want to carry. Some of the more important things to plan on getting are...

### Things to Get – Navigational Related

- Compass – Don't skimp on this.
- GPS

Many people nowadays have a GPS and some even have a compass. But not many know much about how to “properly” use the two. And even after you learn, it takes constant practice to remain proficient with them. Ask about our “GPS and Compass Navigational Class”. We have this class from time to time and as we get enough interested people.

You can also find many learning resources online.

*Illustration 1: Garmin Handheld GPSr*

### If you don't have a GPS or compass.

**Things to Get – GPS** – You will need a handheld GPSr of some sort from time to time. Dedicated GPSr's are good because they typically last 10–15 hours on fresh batteries and many use easy to get “AA” batteries.

Today, many people use their cell phone and GPS apps. This is fine if you choose to go that route but have a backup plan when your battery goes dead in 3–4 hours.

Lastly, train with your GPSr so that you are COMPLETELY familiar with locating your position and navigating to coordinates.



**Things to Get – Compass** – We don't just navigate from point A to point B. We must do it in a straight line! Anyone who knows anything about navigating accurately will tell you that you must have a good compass to use in conjunction with your GPS. The type of compass you need is a “orienteeing” compass. This compass has a liquid filled dial and is designed to give accurate reading and be quick to use. But beware of cheap! Expect to pay around \$20.00 for a decent one and \$80.00 for a good one. Pay more later when you get proficient. You can always use the first one you buy as a backup compass.

*Suunto M-3DL Leader Compass*

Look at the Suunto A-30L Woodsman Compass to get an idea of what you are looking for. Whatever compass you decide on keep in mind that you need to be accurate within 2 degrees and you must be able to use it while walking.



## Things to Get – Helpful Tools

- Tracking Stick

A tracking stick is used to aid in tracking.

In the field it has many other uses as well. Spider webs, beating brush back or crossing logs. You can make one yourself using a broom stick or wooden dowel or huckleberry makes a very strong stick that will last for years once it cures. Or you can purchase one ready made at hiking stores.

## Searching

Searching is a very demanding task both physically and mentally. The physical part because we may be out all day carrying a pack and walking through mud, briars and pushing through brush. The mental part because it takes a lot of continuous concentration to stay focused on searching for clues. Keep yourself in good physical condition.

## Other Tasks

Going out into the field is not the only thing you may be asked to do. Or, it may not be what you want or can do. Don't worry, there are plenty of other things that need to be done besides field work like logistics, liaison and communications.

We may need food, water or fuel delivered. We may need someone to help with interfacing with other teams/organizations. We may need help with radio comms logging or data collection. If you feel there is some area that you have a particular interest in, let us know and we will try to put you in a position that you are comfortable with.



*Illustration 2: "Fancy" Tracking Stick*

## Web Resources

Our web site.

[www.nbssar.com](http://www.nbssar.com)

Email Address to know.

[info@nbssar.com](mailto:info@nbssar.com)

## Call Out System

In SAR, there are two types of call outs or “notices”. One is a “Notice Of a Mission”. The other is a “Notice To Respond”. Both of these will come either through a prerecorded phone call or SMS text. A “Notice Of A Mission” simply lets you know that there is, or may soon be, a mission in progress. You do not need to do anything at this time but get ready and make sure you have everything in order. You may, or may not, get a “Notice Of A Mission” depending on timing and urgency.

When a “Notice To Respond” to a mission is ordered, you will receive a telephone message on the phone number you listed as your primary phone number on your application. Everyone in the squad gets this call within about 3 minutes of each other. The message will come from 251-937-3188. Save this number in your phone under the name “Call Out”. When you get a call from “Call Out”, you may want to let it go to voice mail to replay it as many times as you need. Please note that some phone carriers have problems with automated messaging and this may not work for you. You will only be given enough information to prepare you for the mission.

## So you got the call to respond. What do you do, assuming you can go?

First, call (or text depending on the instructions you were given) the contact person given in the call out message and tell them when you'll be available. Please, don't ask questions about the mission as this takes up valuable time. After this, you will be notified of where to go.

Do NOT call (or text) to say that you can “NOT” make the call out. Remember, we have many members.

If you have personal equipment (4 wheeler for example) that you feel may be helpful to the mission, relay that information prior to leaving.

Put on your uniform. (Orange NBSSAR hat and squad shirt) grab your ready pack and tracking stick and drive to the staging area given in the message. Do not speed, you will not help anyone if you are involved in an accident. Once at the staging area you will find out more information about the call and you will be given instructions on what to do next. Ask questions about anything you don't understand at this time.

Remember to always present yourself in a professional manner while on a mission. The public is always watching and they expect nothing less.

## Uniforms

Once you are accepted as a member, you will be given a shirt and hats.  
Additional uniform hats and shirts can be purchased through the squad.

Hats are \$10.00 ea.

Tee Shirts are \$15.00 ea.

Uniform Shirt \$~40.00 ea.

They can be purchased after any regular meeting. (prices subject to change.)

Although not required black tactical boots are recommended. "Magnum" brand does well and are inexpensive.



To get started on your SAR path, we strongly recommend starting by taking the National Association of Search And Rescue (NASAR) Search And Rescue Technician III (SARTECH III) certification program. This is a basic introduction to SAR known as ISAR and provides the foundation for all of your SAR understanding. These classes are taught within the squad and testing is done online through the NASAR website. The class is a Friday evening and Saturday event and you will be taught by teachers that have many years of SAR experience and will bring the course material to life. Explanations and practical, "real world" examples help to clarify the material in a way that reading alone can not. NBSSAR has NASAR SARTECH III classes on a "as needed" basis. In these classes we give you practical examples of SAR in the field and explain the fundamentals of SAR as it applies to NBSSAR. At the end of the "class", you can take the NASAR SARTECH III test to complete you basic understanding of SAR. From here, you can begin studying for SAR TECH II which is an advanced course in SAR. Below is SAR TECH II "Minimum Personal Equipment List" and Personal First Aid and Survival Kit (Urban) Personal SAR Equipment . They are given here for you to get some ideas for ***your*** "Ready Pack".

In Closing,

Thank You for dedicating you life to searching for lost persons of all kinds.

Our motto "That others May Live" says it all.

## Equipment List

The following equipment is commonly compiled to form what is referred to as a “24-hour ready pack.” Such a pack holds those items that will assist the holder in functioning safely and effectively during a SAR mission. Some items may be carried on a belt, in pockets, or strapped to the person. This is the minimum equipment recommended to be carried on all missions in non-urban or wilderness areas. Your local equipment requirements may vary. Consult a physician for recommendations about analgesics and other drugs that you may carry in the SAR pack.

### Personal First Aid and Survival Kit

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 - Plastic bag, zip lock, qt. size, for kit | 8 - Matches in a waterproof container             |
| 4 - Acetaminophen or aspirin tablets         | 1 - Moleskin                                      |
| 4 - Antacid tablets                          | 2 - Quarters for phone call                       |
| 2 - Antiseptic cleansing pads                | 1 - Razor blade, single edge safety type          |
| 1 - Antiseptic ointment                      | 1 - Roller gauze bandage                          |
| 6 - Band aids, various sizes                 | 2 - Safety pins, large                            |
| 1 - Candle, long burning                     | 1 - Splinter forceps, tweezers                    |
| 2 - Cotton swabs, non sterile                | 1 - Space type blanket or space-type sleeping bag |
| 1 - Duct tape, 5-10 ft.                      | 1 - Towelette, clean                              |
| 1 - Leaf bag, large                          | 1 - Whistle                                       |

### (Non-urban) Personal SAR Equipment

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 - Pack, 1800 cubic inch (minimum)            | 1 - Measuring device, 18 in. minimum                  |
| 4 - Bags, various sizes, zip locked            | 1 - Metal cup or pot                                  |
| 1 - Bandanna, handkerchief                     | 1 - Mirror, small                                     |
| 1 - Cap or other headgear                      | 1 - Nylon twine or small rope, 50 feet                |
| 2 - Carabiners, locking gate                   | 1 - Pad and pencil                                    |
| 1 - Clothes bag, waterproof                    | 2 - Prusik cords (6mm – 8mm; 6 ft. length)            |
| 1 - Clothing, adequate for climate             | 1 - Rainwear, durable                                 |
| 1 - Clothing, extra set, suitable for climate  | 1 - SAR personal identification                       |
| 1 - Compass, orienteering                      | 1 - Shelter Material, 8x10 plastic or coated nylon    |
| 1 - Flagging tape, roll                        | 1 - Scissors, multi-purpose                           |
| 1 - Flashlight or lantern                      | 1 - Socks, extra pair                                 |
| 1 - Flashlight extra, extra batteries and bulb | 1 - Sunscreen lotion                                  |
| 1 - Footwear, sturdy, adequate for climate     | 1 - Tissue paper or baby wipes (recommended)          |
| 1 - Gloves, durable, even in summer            | 1 - Tracking stick, 42" long                          |
| 1 - Goggles, or eye protection, clear          | 1 - Watch   |
| 1 - Insect repellent                           | 2 - Water containers, at least liter size             |
| 1 - Knife, multi-purpose                       | 1 - Webbing, 1" tubular - length suitable for harness |
| 1 - Lip balm, with sunscreen                   | 1 - Wire, 5-10 ft., woven steel                       |
|  | 8 - Wire ties, plastic, self locking                  |

### Optional Personal Support Equipment Recommended But Not Required

- |                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2 - Antihistamine, 25mg Benadryl | 1 - Gaiters                        |
| 2 - Extra leaf bags              | 1 - Rain cover, pack               |
| 1 - Extra water container        | 1 - Sterno or stove                |
| 1 - Foam pad                     | 1 - Sun glasses, 97% UV protection |
| 2 - Food, nonperishable          | 1 - Trail snacks                   |
|                                  | 1 - Water purification tabs        |

The following requirements are for an urban SAR pack. This should only be carried when its use is approved.

Personal First Aid and Survival Kit (Same as in the 24-hour ready pack.)

(Urban) Personal SAR Equipment	1 - Raincoat & pants durable
1 - Fanny pack, 600-1200 cubic inch	1 - SAR personal identification
4 - Bags, various sizes, zip locked	1 - Small pad and pencil
1 - Bandanna, handkerchief	1 - Sunglasses, 97% UV protection
1 - Cap or other headwear	1 - Sunscreen lotion
1 - Clothing, adequate for climate	1 - Tissue paper or baby wipes
1 - Compass, orienteering	1 - Tracking stick, 42" long
1 - Flagging tape, roll	1 - Watch
1 - Flashlight or lantern	1 - Water container, at least liter size
1 - Footwear, sturdy, adequate for climate	
1 - Knife, multi-purpose	
1 - <b>Map</b>	(Items <b>bolded</b> above are variances from the non-
1 - Mirror, small	urban pack list)