

Boston College High School

Model UN Conference

XXXII



Boston Marathon Bombing



Chair: Liam Heffernan

Co-Chair: Jack Reardon

Crisis Director: Will Yang-Goodwin

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Crisis Procedure

James Conley '24 - Conference Assistant Crisis Manager

Overview

The procedure in crisis committees varies from other types of committees you may be used to like general assemblies. There are some key differences in the committee, which will go through different crisis steps in debate. *It is important to note that this is only an overview with general guidelines and that chairs/co-chairs have the right to make any procedural changes they see fit during the committee.*

General Debate

- I. Debate will always open with a role call; to which all delegates respond “present” or “present and voting”.
- II. Crisis committees are generally less uniform in debate, with *NO motions for speaker’s lists*.
- III. Rather, the primary forms of debate in crisis committees are **round robins**, **moderated caucuses**, and **unmoderated caucuses**.
- IV. Due to the nature of a smaller-sized committee, delegates can offer a point of inquiry, without permission from the chair, as long as someone else is not speaking.
- V. Speeches are usually much briefer, so it is not recommended to yield your time to other delegates or time.

Moderated/Unmoderated Caucuses

- VI. Moderated caucuses occur frequently in debate in a crisis committee.
 - A. Motions for moderated caucuses over 8 minutes will almost always be disregarded.
 - B. If there are not enough speakers, delegates can speak multiple times in a single moderated caucus.

C. If there are no other points or motions, the debate defaults to a moderated caucus.

VII. Unmoderated caucuses rarely occur in crisis committees.

A. Similar to moderated caucuses, unmoderated caucuses are usually under 8-9 minutes.

B. In a crisis committee, an unmoderated caucus may be more useful for synthesizing directives with other delegates.

Round Robins

VIII. In a round-robin, every delegate has the chance to speak, and the order is determined by the chair's placement.

IX. Speaking times are generally limited to a minute or less.

X. Round robins can be found most useful after a major crisis event/update, in which they will often be looked upon favorably by chairs.

Directives

XI. In a crisis committee, directives are essentially shortened versions of resolutions that would be found in GA's, and

A. Can be only a couple of clauses long.

B. Do not contain pre-ambulatory clauses.

C. Can be useful in response to a crisis update/event.

XII. Oftentimes, voting procedure will occur after a directive has been introduced.

A. There is no question-and-answer period.

B. Two-for, two-against or one-for, one-against speeches will occur to replace question-and-answer.

C. If no delegates choose to speak against the directive it will pass.

D. For any extraneous circumstances, the chair will explain details for further procedure.

XIII. Chairs often set caps on how many directives will be introduced.

Personal Directives

- XIV. Personal directives are very important in crisis committees and are often used to communicate with the crisis staff in the backroom.
- XV. Personal directives should be written as personal notes in the context of;
 - A. Who you are representing.
 - B. The current status of debate and events in the committee.
 - C. Who may not be represented but has a role in the events of the committee.
- XVI. When writing the notes, you must write on behalf of your representative, and write to/address someone who can help you accomplish your goals in the context of your committee.
 - A. For example, if you are seeking permission to murder someone else in your committee, you may write to the general of your country's military.
 - B. When writing personal directives, NEVER break the fourth wall by writing directly to the backroom.

Timed Crisis

- XVII. In a timed crisis, the crisis staff will give delegates a limited time to respond to a crisis announcement.
- XVIII. During this time, some of the procedural guidelines listed above are subject to change in terms of strictness, to maintain the flow of the committee.

Miscellaneous Information/Advice

- XIX. In a crisis committee, it is possible to enter trial procedure, in which a delegate can be put on trial for potentially having committed high crimes.
 - A. Should the committee enter trial procedure, more information will be provided by the chair.
- XX. If there are any questions about procedure or abilities, seek your chair or co-chair; they are there to help.
- XXI. Be efficient and use directives to your advantage!

Letter from the Crisis Director

Hello Delegates,

I am excited to join you all as we go into the background and situations surrounding the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013. I'm proud to serve as the Crisis Director for this committee and happy to work with my good classmates Liam and Jack. About me: I am a junior at BC High and have been here for 5 years. I've been involved in MUN since middle school and staffed BCH MUN for the first time last year as a crisis staff for our illustrious Sec-Gen Zain. Besides Model UN, I am an active member of the Political Discussion Club, I throw shot put and javelin for the track team, and I have been on the Varsity skiing team since freshman year. Besides my resume, I like writing things and doing kung fu.

My goal is to create a crisis tree where each of you can have a thoughtful debate in the front room while navigating more dangerous waters in the back room. I want to help you all dive into your interests in whatever, really, and watch everyone develop as delegates.

I am excited to see all of you in March to reshape the history of our beloved city– or watch you all devolve into factionalism and chaos before the first crisis hits. Either way, here's to a great conference.

Best,

William Goodwin '25 Crisis Director

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Letter from the Chair

BC HIGH MUN Conference XXXII Attendees,

My name is Liam Heffernan '24 and I am pleased to be welcoming you to BC High MUN 32. This is going to be my second time chairing a committee, and I am beyond excited to get to work with you and to see how you work towards resolutions. I have been involved in the Model UN club here at BC High for several years now and it has been a tremendously rewarding experience both in how it has bettered my ability to debate and also through the friendships I've made within the club. One of my favorite memories has been attending NAIMUN in Washington, D.C. in 2022. I don't doubt that being a part of this committee will further strengthen my passion for MUN.

Outside of Model UN, I like to play soccer and guitar. I am also part of various other extracurricular clubs and activities such as speech and debate. I love to go into the city with my friends to hang out or just to walk around. While I have a wide range of interests, Model UN has been one of the most valuable because of how it has challenged me as a public speaker and as a critical thinker in general. Again, I am thrilled to be a part of this committee and cannot wait for it to begin. If any of you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me. Good luck preparing and see you soon!

Sincerely,

Liam Heffernan '24 Chef du Cabinet

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Letter from the Co-Chair

Dear Delegates,

Thank you for your interest in the Boston Marathon Bombing Crisis committee. I am very excited to have the opportunity to co-chair this committee alongside Liam. My name is Jack Reardon and I have been a member of the BC High Model UN club since 7th grade. I have been lucky enough to participate in the conference as a member of BC High's conference crisis committee and as a chair. As a huge fan of Boston-related history and someone interested in modern security issues like extremism and public safety, I am excited to delve into a topic so close to our school, city, commonwealth, and country. Besides participating in Model UN, I am also an active member of BC High's St. Louis Project, Environmental Club, and Rugby team. I have included my email below so that I can answer questions and receive position papers. I am excited to be able to help lead this Crisis Committee and am looking forward to what I am sure will be an exciting and engaging experience for every delegate.

Sincerely,

Jack Reardon '24 Co-Chair

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Background Information:

The Boston Marathon is the world's oldest annual marathon, attracting runners from all around the globe. The marathon is traditionally held on Patriots' Day, a public holiday in Massachusetts that commemorates the American Revolutionary War Battles of Lexington and Concord. The festive atmosphere draws hundreds of thousands of spectators to the 26.2-mile route from Hopkinton, Massachusetts, to Boston's Back Bay neighborhood. More than 26,000 runners participated in the race in 2013, marking the 117th time that the world's oldest annual marathon had been contested. About five hours into the race, the first bomb exploded less than half a block from the finish line, on the north side of Boylston Street. Roughly 12 seconds later a second bomb exploded some 600 feet from the first. It too was planted on the north side of Boylston Street amid a crowd of onlookers. First responders reacted immediately, and a medical tent that had been erected to treat runners was turned into an emergency medical facility. Three bombing victims died of their injuries, and more than 100 of the seriously injured were transferred to area hospitals as local police and federal investigators surveyed a crime scene that covered 15 square blocks.



One important thing to understand in order to fully understand the response to the Boston Bombing was the Country's policies and attitudes surrounding terrorism. The Patriot Act, which had been passed shortly after 9/11, gave the U.S. government unprecedented control over surveillance and other anti-terrorist measures. It facilitated increased information sharing between law enforcement agencies and intelligence agencies. It also provided tools for tracking and investigating financial transactions, with the goal of identifying and disrupting funding sources for terrorism. Finally, it enhanced immigration-related authorities, including the detention and deportation of suspected terrorists. It is worth noting that the Patriot Act has been subject to various debates and discussions regarding its implications for privacy and individual freedoms.

The Following Information Pertains to the Roles and Agencies to be involved in the Review (you can ignore many of the specific laws, but much of this information is helpful):

A. Executive Order 12333

The roles and responsibilities of the intelligence elements of the FBI, DHS, CIA, and NCTC are broadly set forth in Executive Order (E.O.) 12333, as amended. Originally signed in 1981, and amended several times since, E.O. 12333 placed restrictions on intelligence collection activities engaged in by Executive Branch agencies, including the FBI, CIA, and NCTC, while also seeking to foster "full and free exchange of information" among these agencies. Among other purposes, E.O. 12333, as amended, is intended to enhance "the acquisition of significant foreign intelligence, as well as the detection and countering of international terrorist activities." To further this purpose, E.O. 12333 provides the basic jurisdictional framework for the various roles and responsibilities of the Executive Branch agencies and

departments that comprise the Intelligence Community.

Under E.O. 12333, the FBI has primary responsibility to “coordinate the clandestine collection of foreign intelligence collected through human sources or through human-enabled means and counterintelligence activities inside the United States.” The CIA has primary responsibility to coordinate intelligence gathering activities outside the United States. In addition, E.O. 12333 authorizes the NSA to “[c]ollect (including through clandestine means), process, analyze, produce, and disseminate signals intelligence information and data for foreign intelligence and counterintelligence purposes to support national and departmental missions[.]”

B. FBI

The FBI’s domestic operations are governed by the Attorney General Guidelines for Domestic FBI Operations (AG Guidelines) and implemented through the FBI’s Domestic Investigations and Operations Guide (DIOG). The AG Guidelines and the DIOG authorize three levels of investigation to address a potential threat to national security: (1) an assessment, which requires an authorized purpose but does not require any particular factual predication; (2) a preliminary investigation, which requires information or an allegation of a possible threat to national security; and (3) a full investigation, which requires an articulable factual basis of a possible threat to national security. The AG Guidelines established these different levels of investigation to provide FBI personnel with flexibility to adapt the investigative methods used to the nature of both the matter under investigation and the information supporting the need for investigation. This flexibility includes the option of choosing a lower level of investigation, even when the predication for a higher level of investigation is met, if FBI

personnel determine the matter can be resolved through less intrusive Methods. Both the AG Guidelines and the DIOG emphasize the core principles that FBI investigations must be undertaken for an authorized purpose and should be carried out by the least intrusive method feasible under the circumstances of the investigation. According to the DIOG, the threshold requirement that all investigative activities be conducted for an “authorized purpose” is a safeguard intended to ensure that FBI employees respect the Constitutional rights of Americans. Thus, both the AG Guidelines and the DIOG make clear that no investigation may be conducted for the sole purpose of monitoring activities protected by the First Amendment or the lawful exercise of other rights secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States. Representatives from the DHS, CIA, and other federal, state, and local agencies work directly with FBI-led JTTFs across the country, including in Boston.

C. CIA

In addition to E.O. 12333, the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, governs the ability of the CIA to engage in intelligence activities. The National Security Act provides the basic statutory authority for the CIA’s intelligence activities, while prohibiting the Agency from exercising either law enforcement or domestic security functions. Section 104A of the Act authorizes the Director of the CIA to provide “overall direction for and coordination of the collection of national intelligence outside the United States through human sources by elements of the intelligence community authorized to undertake such collection.”

D. DHS

The Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended, created the DHS and established the Department's primary mission to prevent terrorist attacks in the United States and to carry out the functions of the entities transferred to the Department, which included the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Multiple components within the DHS execute its mission. Those involved in this review include:

- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), which oversees and adjudicates immigration benefits;
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), which vets people and goods entering and exiting the United States; and
- TSA, which secures U.S. transportation systems.

E. NCTC

In 2004, the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) codified the establishment of the NCTC as part of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. The primary missions of the NCTC that pertain to this review are to:

- Serve as the primary organization of the federal government for analyzing and integrating all intelligence possessed or acquired pertaining to terrorism or counterterrorism (except intelligence pertaining exclusively to domestic terrorists and domestic counterterrorism);
- Ensure that . . . agencies have access to and receive intelligence needed to accomplish their assigned activities; and

- Serve as the “central and shared knowledge bank on known and suspected terrorists and international terror groups, as well as their goals, strategies, capabilities, and networks of contacts and support.”

Committee Overview:

The Committee will focus on the immediate aftermath of the Boston Marathon Bombing and the subsequent manhunt. Delegates will take on the roles of key decision-makers involved in the crisis, including representatives from law enforcement agencies, government officials, and emergency responders. It will be the delegates' job to consider each of the following questions to consider and work towards their solutions.

N.B. To make the committee more interesting, it has not been predetermined that Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev are responsible for the bombing. The idea is that the suspects are genuinely unknown going in and through your deliberation and collaboration, will work to find them.

Questions to consider:

What Should be the Immediate Response to the Bombing?

- Analyzing the initial response of local law enforcement, emergency services, and government agencies to the bombing.
- Addressing the challenges of providing medical care and assistance to the victims.

How should you identify and pursue the suspects?

- Discussing the process of identifying the suspects, Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.
- Evaluating the coordination between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in the manhunt.

How will you deal with citywide lockdown and public safety?

- Assessing the decision to implement a citywide lockdown in Boston.
- Balancing public safety concerns with civil liberties during the lockdown.

Media Relations and Public Perception:

- Examining the role of the media in disseminating information during the crisis.
- Evaluating the impact of media coverage on public perception and the decision-making process.

What are the international implications?

- Discussing the international implications of the Boston Marathon Bombing.
- Exploring the global response and cooperation in counterterrorism efforts.

Committee Positions

1. Carmen Ortiz: US Attorney for the District of Massachusetts
2. Edward Davis: Boston Police Commissioner
3. Richard Deslauriers: Special Agent in Charge, FBI Boston Field Office
4. William B. Evans: Superintendent, Boston Police Department
5. Deval Patrick: Governor of Massachusetts
6. Thomas Menino: Mayor of Boston
7. Roderik Frazer: Boston Fire Commissioner
8. Timothy Alben: Colonel of the Massachusetts State Police
9. Paul MacMillan: MBTA Transit Police Chief
10. James Hooley: Chief of Boston EMS
11. B. Todd Jones: Director of ATF
12. Robert Mueller: Director of the FBI
13. Martha Coakley: Massachusetts Attorney General
14. Jeh Charles Johnson: Director of Homeland Security
15. Matthew G. Olsen: Director of NCTC

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