

Brotherhood Instructors, LLC.

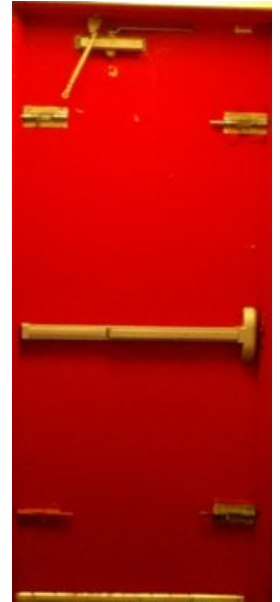
Slide Bolts - Exterior

Slide bolts are very commonly added to doors as secondary locking devices. These locks are popular for their ease of installation and strength. Slide bolts are most often held in place with bolts or screws. Slide bolts that are screwed in place generally pose little difficulty when forcing entry. The screws will pull out of the door or jamb they are screwed into without a tremendous amount of force being applied. Slide bolts that are bolted in place are much more substantial and must be dealt with properly if forcible entry is to be conducted in a timely manner.

Slide bolts can be installed on the interior or exterior of the door. Exterior in this case refers to the slide bolt on the opposite side of the door from the forcible entry firefighter. From the exterior firefighters will be able to make a reasonable assumption that a slide bolt is present from the bolt heads visible on the door. Slide



bolts are held in place by four or six bolts in most cases. There is no way to determine which locks are engaged on an outward opening door. For this reason, attempt conventional forcible entry techniques first before moving on to specific slide bolt tactics. There is no reason to waste time attacking a slide bolt that is not locked.



There are two methods for defeating slide bolts when working from the exterior. The bolt heads can be cut off with a power saw or the door can be weakened to allow the bolts to pull through the door. If a saw is present cutting the bolt heads is generally faster. Having a power saw set up with the blade on the outboard side will make cutting the bolt heads off much easier as it allows for a more flush cut.



To force the slide bolt using the irons, place the pike of the halligan next to the bolt head and drive it through the door with a few hits from the axe or sledge hammer. Doing this next to each bolt will leave only a small tab of metal between the hole and the bolt head. Now, when force is applied to the door using regular conventional forcible entry tactics the small metal tab will tear and allow the bolt to be pulled through the door.



We talk TO you, not AT you!