



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS

Operations Manual

Approved by:

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Title: HazMat Response – White Powder Incident

Division: 19

Article: 5

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SECTION 1 - PURPOSE

The purpose of the Hazardous Materials Response to White Powder Incidents is to set a guideline for notification and response to incidents involving unknown white powder or threat including, fentanyl, ricin, anthrax, etc.

SECTION II – GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Everything should slow down to a hazmat pace (this isn't an immediate hazard).
- Along with LE, ask questions to find out the following:
 1. Was the mail opened?
 2. Is it a credible threat on a target facility?
 3. Is there a threatening note?
 4. Is there a powder or threat of a powder?
- If there is a credible threat, evacuate the building.
- Notifications made – RERT activated, LE can assist with additional federal agency notification
- Based upon knowledge gained, utilize ERG, WISER, PEAK Web etc. to perform research.
- PPE should be determined – APR with HEPA respirator or SCBA with a Tyvek suit
- Identify individuals who were exposed to the letter/handled the letter.
 - Symptoms should be evaluated and compared to research

SECTION III – DECONTAMINATION

- If there is a need to transport someone to SJH, take the time to decontaminate the individual(s).
 - Individuals who just handled the letter without opening – Hand washing/Hype-wipe/FAST-Act for hands and any other contact points
 - Individuals who opened the letter – Remove outer layer of clothing and utilize the FAST-Act Mitts to decon exposed skin.
- Responders
 - Hype-wipe/FAST-Act Combat Wipes or Chlorine bleach solution utilized on outer layer of PPE during Decontamination
- Equipment
 - Hype-wipe/FAST-Act Combat Wipes or Chlorine bleach solution – Do not submerge in Chlorine bleach solution

SECTION IV – SAMPLING AND EVIDENCE COLLECTION

- If there is not enough material
 - Test for radiation, VOC's
 - Double-bag the letter and seal with evidence tape
 - Wipe exterior bag with a hype-wipe/FAST-Act Combat wipe, hand over to LE
- If there is enough material to sample – Make sure to leave enough sample for later laboratory sampling
 - Sample downrange if possible
 - Test for radiation, VOC's
 - Mix portion of sample with distilled water to test for pH
 - Powders should be sampled with HazMat ID and Rigaku Raman detectors
 - Double-bag the letter and seal with evidence tape
 - Wipe exterior bag with a hype-wipe/FAST-Act Combat wipe, hand over to LE