

Homeland Security / Suspicious Activity Reporting Procedure

210.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This procedure establishes guidelines for reporting and relaying suspicious activities and/or suspected terrorism related information. This procedure provides employees with awareness level guidelines for suspicious activities and events which may involve chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive attacks.

210.2 PROCEDURES

210.2.1 LIAISON WITH EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Union City Police Department should maintain a liaison with other organizations for the exchange of information, to include information with any real or suspected connection to terrorism. This liaison may be in the form of direct contact with specific departments and/or through such organizations as the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC), Western States Information Network (WSIN), California Office of Homeland Security, and United States Department of Homeland Security. The Terrorism Liaison Officers (TLO) are responsible for maintaining liaison with other organizations and dissemination of terrorist related information within the Department.

210.2.2 REPORTING TERRORISM-RELATED INFORMATION

Any employee receiving information concerning foreign or domestic terrorism-related activities shall follow the protocols outlined below:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]

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Sworn personnel and other police employees should look for and report the following and other suspicious items or events that may link a subject to terrorism:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

210.2.3 PROVIDING AWARENESS INFORMATION

The Union City Police Department's website provides terrorism awareness information to the public and methods for reporting suspicious activity that may be related to terrorism.

210.3 CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, NUCLEAR AND EXPLOSIVE (CBRNE)

CBRNE is a common abbreviation of specific hazardous materials (HAZMAT) which can be used as weapons of mass destruction (WMD). CBRNE materials are Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and/or Explosives.

Appropriate exclusion and protective distances for CBRNE threats vary depending on size and type and the current Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) should be consulted for guidance.

210.3.1 CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Chemical agents can enter the body by inhalation, absorption through the skin or eyes, injection into the body (ex. by flying glass or shrapnel), or by ingestion. Chemical weapons often are disbursed in the form of a gas or as an aerosol spray. There are numerous chemical agents each, with different symptoms and effects. The most common families of chemical agents are:

- Nerve Agents: Nerve agents attack the victim's nervous system. Many common pesticides belong to this family of chemicals.
- Blister Agents: Blister agents also known as vesicants attack the skin, mucous membranes, and other tissues of the victim resulting in blisters and skin burns. Mustard gas and Lewisite are common blister agents.
- Blood Agents: Blood agents attack the ability of the blood to hold and deliver oxygen. Cyanide-based and arsenic-based gases and compounds are the most common types of these agents.
- Choking (Pulmonary) Agents: These chemicals attack the lungs causing them to fill with fluid. Chlorine gas and phosgene are typical choking agents.

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- **Incapacitating Agents:** These agents usually irritate the skin, mucous membranes, or other tissues, and/or affect the Central Nervous System. They may cause vomiting or intolerable pain. While they may lead to serious medical situations such as seizures or heart attacks, they are not designed to kill or cause permanent harm. Used alone, the intention is to temporarily incapacitate or harass the target, or force them to evacuate the area. However, incapacitating agents may be used in combination with other agents to force responders to remove their gas masks and other protective gear, so that they will be exposed to lethal doses of the other agent. Examples of incapacitating agents are pepper spray, tear gas, riot control agents and several military chemicals from different nations.

210.3.2 BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

Biological weapons present a serious challenge for response planning. There is risk that a biological attack may not be detected until days or weeks after it happens. This late onset of symptoms necessitate good air-borne and blood-borne pathogen habits on the part of first responders. There are two types of biological weapons:

Pathogens: These are disease-causing agents, some of which can reproduce and keep spreading long after the attack. The potential for many thousands of casualties is possible but the more likely number is much less because of the difficulty of efficiently delivering the pathogenic agents to large numbers of people.

Pathogens can be bacteria such as anthrax, viruses such as smallpox, or fungi like yeast and molds, mycoplasmas that cause pneumonia and similar problems, or Rickettsia. Plague, smallpox, anthrax, hemorrhagic fever, and rabbit fever are known to be probable biological weapons. Not all diseases are contagious, and many have a low mortality rate when properly treated.

Toxins: Toxins are poisonous substances produced by living things. Many toxins are extremely lethal and small quantities can kill very large numbers of people. In many ways, a toxin attack is more like a chemical attack than a biological one. Some possible toxin weapons are ricin, botulinum toxin, and aflatoxin. Again, the difficulty for the terrorist is in finding an effective way to disperse or distribute the toxin.

210.3.3 RADIOACTIVE WEAPONS

There are many types of radiation, both in the form of high-speed sub-atomic particles and waves of various lengths. With respect to radioactive weapons, ionizing radiation such as alpha, beta, and gamma radiation is of most concern. Radiation is odorless and colorless and can be detected only with radiation detectors. Responders should remember “Time, Distance, and Shielding” when it comes to dealing with radioactive materials (Time: limit exposure time, Distance: stay as far away as possible from radioactive sources, Shielding: use terrain features, buildings, or other dense materials as shields from radioactive sources).

Radiological Dispersion Devices (RDD): An RDD or “dirty bomb” is an explosive intended to spread radioactive material from the detonation of conventional explosives. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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- █ [REDACTED]
- █ [REDACTED]

210.3.6 CBRNE AWARENESS LEVELS

In the event of a CBRNE attack, the Union City Police Department's primary objective is to secure and isolate the target area and assist the FBI in the criminal investigation of the incident. Department response to incidents involving CBRNE or other hazardous materials will be accomplished in accordance with the Hazardous Material Response policy and the City Emergency Operations Plan.

[REDACTED]

Another immediate problem for responders and victims is the potential for asbestos exposure. Older buildings may contain asbestos as insulation, pipe coverings, siding or roofing, flooring, adhesives, floor or ceiling tile and wall panels. Any explosion or collapse may cause this asbestos to become airborne in hazardous levels.

Immediately, the primary inhalation threat and decontamination problem will be dust. Any expedient breathing protection should be used--masks, wet towels, handkerchiefs, etc.--while exiting the area immediately.

210.3.7 CBRNE EQUIPMENT

All equipment utilized by the Union City Police Department will meet the standard for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Division standards for first responder CBRNE equipment.

210.4 REVISIONS

Adopted: August 3, 2018