



**2-24 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT RESPONSE**

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related SOP(s)

2-25 Bomb Threats and Bomb Emergencies

B. Form(s)

None

C. Other Resource(s)

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976  
Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Emergency Check-List  
Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Training Manual  
Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA); National Institute for  
Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health  
(IDLH) Values  
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

**2-24-1 Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) employees personnel when responding to a scene that contains a hazardous material that may be categorized as exceed could be Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) values (IDLH). If a hazardous substance material is not identified, it shall be considered categorized as immediately dangerous to life or health IDLH and Department employees personnel shall not enter the affected area until it is confirmed to be safe by the the Albuquerque Fire and Rescue (AFR) Special Hazardous Materials (AFR Haz-Mat) Team (HEAT) personnel.

**2-24-2 Policy**

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) to respond to hazardous material incidents and provide a maximum amount of safety to officers sworn personnel and citizens community members.

**N/A 2-24-3 Definitions**

None



**7** 2-24-4 Procedures

A. Initial Response

1. ~~The dispatched sworn personnel~~ Officer shall:

- ~~a. From a safe distance,~~ From a safe distance, a ~~Assess the situation, from a safe distance,~~ by observing h ~~Hazardous m~~ Material p ~~Placards, reviewing shipping papers, interviewing drivers/victims;~~
- ~~a.b. and m~~ Make an on-scene evaluation;
- ~~b.c. When a hazardous condition exists, personnel shall~~ Contact the New Mexico the State Police (NMSP) d ~~District d~~ Dispatcher and the Albuquerque Fire Rescue (AFRD) Special Hazards Team (HEAT) Haz-Mat Team through ~~via the Emergency Communications Center (Emergency~~ APD Communications Center (ECC) when a hazardous condition exists);
- ~~e.d. Establish a safe perimeter around the scene of the accident/incident scene by using additional units, as necessary, for traffic/crowd management, as necessary control;~~
- ~~e.e. Notify the Field Services Bureau (FSB) s~~ Supervisor of the situation; and
- ~~e.f. Conduct the appropriate investigation when it is safe to do so.~~

B. Exposure to Biological or Chemical Agents

1. An employee who is exposed to a biological or chemical agent while on-duty shall:

- a. Immediately notify their supervisor;
- b. Contact the ECC and advise them to contact the AFR ~~Hazardous Materials (Haz-Mat) Team;~~
- i. Once the AFR Haz-Mat Team is on-scene, the employee shall follow all decontamination procedures as determined by the AFR ~~personnel~~ Haz-Mat Team.
- c. Request for ECC to dispatch an officer to assist;
- d. Secure the contaminated area until AFR Haz-Mat Team clears the scene;
- e. Follow the directives given by the Medcor nurse and ~~Department~~ Safety Officer;  
and
- f. Follow up with the City's Employee Health Center; and
- g. Bring any medical treatment paperwork related to treatment already received, on the first business day following the exposure.

2. The officer who assists the employee who was exposed to a biological or chemical agent shall notify their on-duty supervisor and respond consistent with this ~~policy~~ Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

3. The supervisor of the employee who was exposed to a biological or chemical agent shall:



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~~a. Notify~~ Ensure that the Medcor nurse and the Safety Officer at (+505) -850-4511)  
~~are notified.~~

~~i.~~ The Medcor nurse and Safety Officer are available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days per week.

~~4. The Medcor nurse will~~ determines the employee's exposure risk and advises them of medical treatment.

~~5. The FSB Field S~~ Supervisor shall:

~~2.~~

~~a. Confer Communicate~~ Meet with the on-scene appropriate Fire Rescue AFR e AFR Chief and Hazard Team personnel regarding evacuation of the area;

~~a.i.~~ The on-scene AFR Hazard and Mat Team personnel will advise the FSB supervisor of the type of hazard and what support the Department can provide.

~~b.~~ Notify the shift commander on-duty FSB lieutenant;

~~b.~~

~~c.~~ Meet with the on-scene AFR Fire Chief. The AFR Chief will advise on the type of hazard and what support the Department can provide;

~~d.c.~~ Ensure the establishment of Establish a safe outer perimeter; and

~~e.~~ Notify the communications ECC to contact a representative of the City of Albuquerque Office of Emergency Preparedness.

~~d.~~

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~~B=C.~~ C. Contaminated Areas

1. ~~The Fire Rescue AFR Haz-Mat personnel Team~~ may define a specific area around a hazardous material incident as being contaminated. ~~Officers~~ Sworn personnel are cautioned to remain outside this contaminated area whenever possible.

2. ~~FSB Field S~~ Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that involvement of police Department personnel within a contaminated area is minimized.

~~2.~~

~~a.~~ When possible, vehicles and equipment will shall be kept outside the contaminated area.

~~b.~~ When it is necessary to enter this area, carpooling should be considered as well as removal of all unnecessary uniform and leather items.

~~c.~~ When possible, protective clothing provided by the fire department AFR Haz-Mat Team shall ~~ould~~ be used.

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~~C=D.~~ D. Clean-Up and Evacuation



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1. ~~The Fire Rescue AFR personnel~~ Haz-Mat Team will have major responsibility for hazardous material cleanup and evacuation operations, which will be directed from on-scene command posts they establish.
- 1.2. ~~Police Department personnel shall assist~~ assistance will ~~shall be rendered only~~ under the following conditions ~~only~~:
  - a. When specialized training is provided to ~~officers~~ sworn personnel by the ~~Albuquerque Fire and Rescue (AFR) personnel~~ Haz-Mat Team at the scene, as needed; and
  - b. When specialized equipment is provided to ~~officers~~ sworn personnel, such as breathing apparatus, masks, acid suits, etc.
- 2.3. ~~If~~ Should the ~~the Fire Rescue AFR personnel~~ Haz-Mat Team ~~decide~~ determine ~~the need to~~ an area needs to be evacuated ~~an area~~, they will ~~decide~~ establish the boundaries of the area to be evacuated and the time available and needed for the evacuation.
- 3.4. ~~The FSB s~~ Field Services Supervisor will ~~will~~ shall decide based on conducting ~~on~~ door-to-door contact or through the use of the public address systems in ~~patrol cars~~ police vehicles to inform ~~citizens~~ community members of ~~the~~ evacuation, based on time limits, available manpower, and size of the area to be evacuated.
- 4.5. ~~The Field S~~ FSB s supervisor will ~~will~~ shall select an area, such as a parking lot near a major intersection outside the hazard area, and direct all ~~citizens~~ community members to that ~~point~~ location.
- 5.6. ~~An officer~~ Sworn personnel will ~~will~~ shall be assigned to remain with the community members ~~citizens~~ until the emergency is ~~over~~ concludes.
- 6.7. ~~If~~ the emergency situation is prolonged, the ~~Field Services S~~ FSB s supervisor will ~~will~~ shall have the ~~Communications~~ ECC advise the City Office of Emergency Preparedness representative so that necessary arrangements for transporting the evacuees to shelters can be expedited.

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~~D.~~ E. Hazardous Material Identified as an Explosive

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~~—If the hazardous material is an explosive or an explosive device,~~ the on-scene supervisor shall notify the Department's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Unit ~~personnel will~~ shall be notified, ~~consistent~~ conducted in accordance ~~with~~ per the SOP Bomb Threats and Bomb Emergencies ~~SOP.~~ (Refer to SOP Bomb Threats and Bomb Emergencies for sanction classifications and additional duties).

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~~E.~~ Pickup or Disposal of Hazardous Waste Material

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~~When officerssworn personnel come in contact with the hazardous waste material (e.g., chemicals and solvents) that do not pose an immediate health hazard, they citizen willshall be instructed to contact the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Small Business Ombudsman Hotline at 1-800-858-7378 (Pesticide Spills) or 1-800-424-9300 (Chemical Spills), consistent with as provided for in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976.~~

~~The EOD Unit personnel willshall not be called out to pick up or dispose of this type of hazardous material.~~

~~1.~~

~~F. Hazardous Materials as Evidence~~

~~1. If any hazardous materials are needed for evidence, the officerssworn personnel shall contact the Criminalistics Laboratory personnel for instructions and assistance in the proper handling and packaging for storage.~~

~~2. The evidence supervisor shall be notified bBefore tagging such items into eEvidence., the evidence supervisor shall be notified.~~

~~G.F. Response to Letters/Packages Containing Potential Chemical, Biological, and/or Radiological Agents/Devices~~

~~Upon notification of an incident, the Department APD call taker willshall conduct a preliminary investigation to determine if the minimum criteria for a credible threat exist.~~

~~1.~~

~~2. The mMinimum criteria to determine if afor a letter or package is a credible threat are as follows:~~

~~a. The Lletter or package with has suspicious material present (opened or unopened);~~

~~b. There is Eexcessive tape or string;~~

~~c. It is Llopsided or in an uneven shape;~~

~~d. It was Ppossibly mailed from a foreign country;~~

~~e. There is Ppowder spilling, substance leaking, or staining;~~

~~f. There are Ooily stains, discoloration, or crystallization on wrappers;~~

~~g. There is a Sstrange odor;~~

~~h. The letter or package has Pprotruding wires; and~~

~~i. Any Lletter or package with an articulated threat (opened or unopened), substance need not be present.~~

~~If the minimum criteria are met, the call taker willshall immediately dispatch Field FSB uUnits and notify the APD Bomb SquadEOD Unit, AFR, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).~~

~~If the minimum criteria for a credible threat are not present, the call taker shall advise the caller that the incident does not meet the minimum criteria. The item should be placed in a plastic container or bag and disposed of in a trash~~



~~receptacle; and~~ Upon notification of an incident, the Emergency Communication Center (ECC) personnel shall:

1.

- a. Obtain the location of the object;
- b. Create a call for service;
- c. Advise the caller to step away from the object; and
- d. Request additional information (Refer to the ECC Emergency Checklist and ECC Training Manual).

2. ~~The Initial Field FSB Units~~ sworn personnel who that initially respond to the scene shall:

3.

- a. Upon arrival, to the scene, verify that minimum criteria exist as a credible threat or potential incident;
- b.a. Take every precaution to reduce the possibility of exposure to themselves, Department personnel, and civilians community members;
- b. Initiate the Incident Command System Adhere to the the Department's Training for on Incident Command System management, Federal Emergency Management System (FEMA) training, and National Incident Management System (NIMS) training standards, and
- c. nNotify the cChain of cCommand;
- c. Confer Communicate with the appropriate AFR Haz-Mat Team personnel with regards to establishing a safe perimeter;
- d. Notify the chain of command; and
- e. Develop an evacuation plan, if necessary; and
- f.e. Establish Ensure the establishment of a safe outer perimeter.

~~g. If the minimum criteria for a credible threat are not present, the call taker will shall advise the caller that the incident does not meet the minimum criteria. The item should be placed in a plastic container or bag and disposed of in a trash receptacle; and~~

7 4. In the event of an exposure, Department personnel will shall contact the ECC dispatch and request the rescue AFR personnel Haz-Mat Team for an emergency exposure or call MedCor at (1-800)-775-5866) if the exposure is non-emergent.

3.

~~Exposure to Biological or Chemical Agents~~

~~An employee who is exposed to a biological or chemical agent while on duty shall:~~

~~Immediately notify their supervisor;~~

~~Contact the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) and advise them to contact the Albuquerque Fire Rescue (AFR) Hazardous Materials (Haz-Mat) Team;~~



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~~Once the AFR Haz-Mat Team is on scene, the employee shall follow all decontamination procedures as determined by AFR personnel.  
Request for ECC to dispatch an officer to assist;  
Secure the contaminated area until AFR Haz-Mat Team clears the scene;  
Follow the directives given by the Medcor nurse and Safety Officer; and  
Follow up with the City's Employee Health Center, and bring any medical treatment paperwork related to treatment already received, on the first business day following the exposure.~~

~~The officer who assists the employee who was exposed to a biological or chemical agent shall notify their on-duty supervisor.~~

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The Medcor nurse and Safety Officer are available twenty four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days per week.~~

~~The Medcor nurse will determine the employee's exposure risk and advise them of medical treatment.~~

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1. If any hazardous materials are needed for evidence, sworn personnel shall contact the Criminalistics Laboratory personnel for instructions and assistance in the proper handling and packaging for storage.
2. The Evidence Unit supervisor shall be notified before tagging such items into evidence.