

WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (WMD) INCIDENTS

Staging - With the exception of the first due Engine Company, all other units dispatched on a WMD incident shall initially stage at one location two blocks upwind/uphill. If explosive material is involved, stage a minimum of 1500 feet away.

1st Due Engine:

- Cautiously approach the incident from uphill/upwind and stop a minimum of 500 feet from the incident site or where casualties or damage are first encountered and begin serving as a reconnaissance company
- Deliver a Blue Card Initial Radio Report
- All personnel shall don full firefighting gear including SCBA's and attempt to gather as much information as possible about the incident without directly exposing company personnel to suspected hazards
- If necessary, this company may approach closer to obtain more information but should always maintain enough distance so as not to become part of the incident
- Avoid direct contact with victims
- Avoid unknown liquids
- Deliver a Follow-up Report with attention to:
 - Conditions found on arrival.
 - Apparent need for rescues.
 - Gross estimated number of victims.
 - Signs and symptoms of victims.
 - Need for victim decontamination



1st Due BC:

- Transfer and assume command
- Establish a unified command post
- Isolate area/deny entry
- Request additional resources
- Request HM 13
- Direct ambulatory victims to safe refuge area
- Conduct snatch and grab rescue operations if feasible and safe to do so
- Identify agent or agents through signs and symptoms, and detection devices
- Begin victim decontamination
- Establish triage/treatment/transportation areas (MPI)
- Contact SCMC and activate MCI plan
- Reevaluate hazard area / evacuate downwind if indicated

Nerve Agents - G & V agents

- Salivation
- Urination
- Defecation
- Dim vision
- Pin Point pupils

Blister agents

- Reddening of the skin
- Blisters
- Eye pain
- Coughing
- Airway Obstructions

Blood Agents - Cyanide/Chlorine/Phosgene/Chlorine

- Eyes & Airway irritation
- Dizziness
- Pulmonary edema