

COUNTER-TERRORISM AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS BUREAU

NOTICE 15.2

May 14, 2015

TO: All Concerned Commanding Officers

FROM: Commanding Officer, Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau

SUBJECT: RESPONSE PROCEDURES FOR RADIOLOGICAL ALARMS AT HOSPITALS WITHIN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

PURPOSE

This Notice establishes notification and response procedures for radiological alarms at hospitals within the City of Los Angeles, participating in the Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI).

The GTRI, a program designed to prevent the theft of usable weapon of mass destruction type radioactive materials, is funded by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and managed by Sandia National Laboratories (SNL).

Within the City of Los Angeles, multiple at-risk radiological sources have been identified, primarily in hospitals. These sources are extremely hazardous and short-term exposure can lead to serious bodily injury or death. Working in partnership with SNL and the involved hospitals, the Department has had Remote Monitoring Systems (RMS) installed at Real-Time Analysis and Critical Response (RACR) Division, Metropolitan Dispatch Center (MDC), and Valley Dispatch Center (VDC). The RMS provides Department personnel, as well as on-site hospital security, the ability to monitor areas inside the hospitals that contain radioactive materials. The RMS is equipped with an audible alarm and provides Department personnel with live feed monitoring.

PROCEDURE

- I. **COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION'S RESPONSIBILITIES.** All RMS alarm activations require Communications Division (CD) personnel to contact the hospital of occurrence and verify the validity of the alarm. In the event it is a false alarm, CD personnel must request the password from hospital personnel. The password will be listed on the RMS instruction box that will appear on the monitor upon alarm activation. If hospital personnel are unable to give the password or give an incorrect password, CD must follow the procedures of a valid alarm. In the event of an alarm activation, the hospital's on-site security personnel will conduct an assessment of the concerned area according to their internal policies. If it is determined to be a valid alarm, hospital security will notify CD.

- * When practical, place the suspect(s) in the prone position and maintain a safe distance until HMU or LAFD personnel determine it is safe to approach them.

At the termination of an incident that has been determined to be a valid alarm, a supervisor must ensure that all involved personnel at scene complete an Employee's Report, Form 15.07.00, per Department Manual Section 3/712.10. All personnel must be evaluated by LAFD at scene and obtain further medical treatment if directed by the RSO.

IV. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS UNIT, EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION'S, RESPONSIBILITIES. Hazardous Materials Unit must:

- * Meet with the Incident Commander and, if necessary, assume the Safety Officer position within the Incident Command System;
- * Liaise with LAFD, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Los Angeles County Public Health;
- * If required, assist the Incident Commander and METRO personnel in establishing a response plan;
- * Establish control zones as required by the Incident Command System;
- * Determine the level of Personal Protection Equipment needed to ensure the safety of on-scene personnel;
- * If required, conduct a joint entry into the facility with METRO personnel and fulfill the position as the RSO for the entry team;
- * If requested, collect, document, photograph and book evidence;
- * If available, have a HMU Technician respond to Air Support Division (ASD) to operate and monitor the radiation detection equipment; and,
- * If necessary, assist in the safe detention, transportation and booking of a contaminated suspect.

V. SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS TEAM, METROPOLITAN DIVISION'S, RESPONSIBILITIES. Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team must:

- * Have the SWAT Officer in Charge conduct a thorough screen down with the Incident Commander to determine the nature of the security breach, and if any outstanding suspect(s) or threat(s) remain within the facility;
- * As necessary, coordinate with on-scene HMU personnel to develop a response plan in search of any outstanding suspect(s) or threat(s); and,
- * Conduct a joint entry into the facility with HMU personnel, who will fulfill the RSO position for the entry team. Entry into the facility is limited to SWAT and HMU personnel.

VI. AIR SUPPORT DIVISION'S RESPONSIBILITIES. Air Support Division must:

- * Request a HMU Technician to respond to ASD to operate and monitor the radiation detection equipment, if resources allow;
- * Deploy an airship with radiological monitoring capabilities, if resources allow;
- * Assist in directing resources to secure the perimeter;

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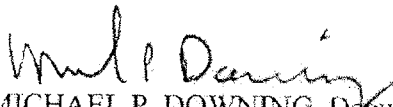
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- * Notify the Incident Commander of all noticeable elevations of radiological readings via the radio, preferably on a tactical channel;
- * Conduct search operations if it has been determined that a radiological source has been removed from the facility; and,
- * Conduct search operations for outstanding suspect(s).

VII. MAJOR CRIMES DIVISION'S RESPONSIBILITIES. Major Crimes Division is responsible for the follow-up investigation.

Should you have questions regarding this matter, please contact the Emergency Service Division, Hazmat Unit, at (323) 342-4267.

APPROVED:


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