WOONSOCKET POLICE DEPARTMENT

Thomas f. Oates, III
Chief of Police

TYPE OF ORDER	NUMBER/SERIES	ISSUE DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
General Order	360.03	7/23/2021	7/23/2021
SUBJECT		**PREVIOUSLY ISSUED DATES**	
Homeland Security		7/16/2015	
ACCREDITATION		**RE-EVALUATION DATE**	
CALEA Standards: 46.3.1, 46.3.2, 46.3.3, 46.3.4 **RIPAC Standards:** 10.10, 10.11		6/17/2021, 8/21/2023	
INDEX		**DISTRIBUTION**	
Special Operations		All Personnel	

HOMELAND SECURITY

I. PURPOSE

Given the threats of domestic and international terrorism to this nation, the State of Rhode Island, and the citizens of Woonsocket, the employees of the Woonsocket Police Department must be prepared to do their part in the war on terror. Police officers must be vigilant for signs of terrorist activities and be prepared to address them directly or to report them to the appropriate authority for an interagency response. Terrorist acts often appear to be intended to:

- Intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
- Influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; and
- Affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of this department to establish procedures for reporting and relaying terrorism-related intelligence or information. Secondly, to provide all employees of this department with proper awareness level guidelines for events involving chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons.

III. DEFINITIONS

Information: Facts, observations, or claims which are raw, unevaluated, and uncorroborated, which are not yet analyzed against other information or put into context.

Intelligence: Information that has been processed through an intelligence cycle, has been validated, analyzed, and given meaning.

Homeland Security: A concerted national effort to prevent terrorist attacks within the United States, to reduce America's vulnerability to terrorism, and to minimize the damage and recover from attacks that do occur.

WMD: Weapon of Mass Destruction.

IV. PROCEDURES

RI 10.10

A. Terrorism Intelligence Liaison

1. Liaison: The Chief of Police shall designate an employee as a liaison between this department and the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA), as well as other local, state, and federal agencies and organizations that deal with terrorism-related intelligence, preparedness planning, and training.
2. The liaison shall:

    a. Coordinate the reporting and distribution of terrorism-related information and intelligence developed within the department;
    b. Receive, filter, and disburse terrorism-related intelligence, bulletins, and strategic assessments from outside sources to affected employees or owners or operators of critical infrastructure, as appropriate and following intelligence-sharing protocols.

B. Intelligence Sharing Resources

Homeland Security Information Center

The RIEMA is the coordinating agency for multi-jurisdiction and multi-agency response in the State of Rhode Island for all emergencies including natural and technological hazards such as fires, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, winter storms, chemical releases, weapons of mass destruction, and terrorism incidents. In its service to the state, the agency:

1. Develops reviews and enhances the State's disaster preparedness and recovery plans for "All Hazards";
2. Distributes and coordinates those plans on a State-wide basis;

3. Operates, maintains, and enhances the State's Emergency Operations Center (EOC);
4. Operates, maintains, and enhances the State's Mobile Command Center;
5. Manages and coordinates state-wide response to and recovery from natural, technological, and terrorism disasters;
6. Is the State's Liaison to the Department of Homeland Security;
7. Coordinates the State's disaster response/recovery needs with Federal agencies;
8. Serves as a coordination point for federal disaster relief programs;
9. Plan, conduct, and critique exercises that test and improve preparedness; and
10. Develops, distributes, and provides instruction on guidelines for citizen, business, and industrial disaster planning.

The Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency assists and supports the State in reducing loss of life and property from all hazards, providing for the safety and security of the State of Rhode Island. They are the official coordinating agency of the State of Rhode Island for the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency in times of state, national, multi-jurisdiction, and multi-agency emergencies and all disasters.

RIEMA Contact Information:
645 New London Avenue
Cranston, RI 02905
401-946-9996
http://www.riema.ri.gov/

C. Information Sharing Guidelines

1. Information Sharing Classifications:

   a. UNCLASSIFIED: Dissemination has no restrictions.
   b. FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO): Dissemination is restricted to those who have law enforcement or public safety responsibilities concerning homeland security, or to individuals who need to know/right to know based on the execution of their official duties to protect the public. This includes critical infrastructure partners whose position or role gives them a need to know/right to know.
   c. LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE (LES): Dissemination is restricted to law enforcement only. This may have to do with the conclusions reached by analysts or may involve C.O.R.I. or LES information contributed by a third party.
   d. CONFIDENTIAL: This is the designation that shall be applied to information or material the unauthorized disclosure of which could be reasonably expected to cause damage to the national security that the original classification authority can identify or describe.

e. SECRET: This is the designation that shall be applied only to information or material the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably could be expected to cause serious damage to the national security that the original classification authority can identify or describe.
f. TOP SECRET: This is the designation that shall be applied only to information or material the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably could be expected to cause exceptionally grave damage to the national security that the original classification authority can identify or describe.

2. Third-Party Rule: Dissemination of information contributed by another agency will be controlled by that agency. Any third-party dissemination *must be approved by that agency.*

D. Reporting and Relaying Intelligence and Information

1. Field Personnel

a. Any employee receiving information or intelligence concerning possible terrorist activities shall immediately notify the Officer-in-Charge (OIC).
b. The OIC will determine the appropriate response from the department personnel. This may include notification of the Investigator, Chief of Police, and other local law enforcement agencies, and all other appropriate state and federal agencies.

2. Support Personnel: Civilian personnel who become aware of information of possible intelligence value should bring the information to the attention of the OIC, who will determine the appropriate response from the department personnel.

E. Equipment

1. All equipment utilized shall meet the standard for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Division standards for first responder CBRN equipment.
2. Current issued equipment is assigned to individual officers and listed in the Department's database and said equipment will be maintained by each officer.

F. Department of Homeland Security Color-coded Threat Level System

1. The color-coded threat level system is used to communicate with public safety officials and the public-at-large through a threat-based, color-coded system, so that protective measures can be implemented to reduce the likelihood or impact of an attack.

2. Raising the threat condition has economic, physical, and psychological effects on the nation; therefore, the Homeland Security Advisory System can place specific geographic regions or industry sectors on a higher alert status than other regions or industries, based on specific threat information.
3. The color-coded threat system has five levels:

    a. Red: Severe - Severe risk of a terrorist attack.
    b. Orange: High - High risk of a terrorist attack.
    c. Yellow: Elevated - Significant risk of a terrorist attack.
    d. Blue: Guarded - General risk of a terrorist attack.
    e. Green: Low - Low risk of a terrorist attack.

RI 10.11

G. Hazardous Materials Awareness and Response

1. Generally

a. A responder must resist the urge to "rush in" to the scene and risk becoming a casualty. Others cannot be helped until the situation has been fully assessed.
b. Do not walk into or touch spilled material.
c. Avoid inhaling fumes, smoke, or vapors.
d. A hazardous materials response is a multidisciplinary response involving police, fire, and other government agencies and private entities. Police responders shall coordinate their efforts with other responding entities to support the response effort. The senior fire official will generally be the incident commander.

2. Police Response

a. It is best to assess the scene from an upwind direction.
b. Before approaching the scene of a hazardous materials incident, responders must stop and assess the situation from a distance. Try to identify the material by:

    1) Having persons involved with the material approach the responder;
    2) Reading placards on vehicles using binoculars.

c. Report the situation and the material to the Fire Department;
d. Hazards and risks of hazardous materials, and the appropriate response and precautions, may be determined through the use of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Guide booklet or software;
e. Consider the following:

    1) Is there a fire, leak, or spill?
    2) What is the wind speed and direction?

3) What are the weather conditions?
4) What is the terrain?
5) Are there risks to people, property, and the environment?
6) What can be done immediately?

f. Set up an appropriate perimeter, isolate the area, and ensure the safety of persons in the hazard area. Such actions may include:

1) Shelter in place; or
2) Evacuate.

g. Address pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
h. Provide support for personnel trained for and tasked with addressing the hazardous material.

3. Emergency Operations Plan: For further information, see the City of Woonsocket's Emergency Operations Plan and *General Order 360.04 Emergency Operations Plan*.

The department shall make terrorism awareness information available to the public using the following methods:

a. Information and links on the department website; and/or
b. Informational pamphlets.

4. WMD awareness level guidelines

Chemical Weapons Awareness Level Guidelines

a. Generally

1) Chemical agents are poisonous vapors, aerosols, liquids, and solids that have toxic effects on people, animals, or plants. They can be released by bombs or sprayed from aircraft, boats, and vehicles. They can be used as a liquid to create a hazard, to people and the environment. Some chemical agents may be odorless and tasteless. They can have an immediate effect (a few seconds to a few minutes) or a delayed effect (two to forty-eight hours).
2) While potentially lethal, chemical agents are difficult to deliver in lethal concentrations. Outdoors, the agents often dissipate rapidly. Chemical agents also are difficult to produce.
3) A chemical attack could come without warning. Signs of a chemical release include people having difficulty breathing; experiencing eye irritation; losing coordination; becoming nauseated; or having a burning sensation in

the nose, throat, and lungs. Also, the presence of many dead insects or birds may indicate a chemical agent release.

5. Decontamination guidelines

Decontamination is needed within minutes of exposure to minimize health consequences. A person affected by a chemical agent requires immediate medical attention from a professional. If medical help is not immediately available, decontaminate yourself and assist in decontaminating others.

a. Use extreme caution when helping others who have been exposed to chemical agents. When possible:

   1) Remove all clothing and other items in contact with the body;
   2) Contaminated clothing normally removed over the head should be cut off to avoid contact with the eyes, nose, and mouth;
   3) Put contaminated clothing and items into a plastic bag and seal it;
   4) Decontaminate hands using soap and water; and
   5) Remove eyeglasses or contact lenses. Put glasses in a pan of household bleach to decontaminate them and then rinse and dry.

b. Flush eyes with water.
c. Gently wash face and hair with soap and water before thoroughly rinsing with water.
d. Decontaminate other body areas likely to have been contaminated. Blot (do not swab or scrape) with a cloth soaked in soapy water and rinse with clear water.
e. Change into uncontaminated clothes. Clothing stored in drawers or closets is likely to be uncontaminated.
f. Proceed to a medical facility as directed or transported for screening and professional treatment but **DO NOT PROCEED TO THE FACILITY/HOSPITAL without** being screened for further decontamination. The presence of a contaminated person in the medical facility may cause the facility to have to cease operation for decontamination.
g. When practicable, members subjected to exposure should complete an Occupational Exposure Report as per *General Order 250.16 Occupational Exposure Control*.

H. Biological Weapons Awareness Level Guidelines

1. Generally

a. Biological agents are organisms or toxins that can kill or incapacitate people, livestock, and crops. The three basic groups of biological agents that would likely be used as weapons are:

    1) Bacteria;
    2) Viruses; and
    3) Toxins.

b. Most biological agents are difficult to grow and maintain and many break down quickly when exposed to sunlight and other environmental factors, while others such as anthrax spores and are very long-lived.
c. Biological agents can be dispersed by spraying them into the air, infecting animals that carry the disease to humans, and contaminating food and water.

    Delivery methods include:

    1) Aerosols: biological agents are dispersed into the air, forming a fine mist that may drift for miles. Inhaling the agent may cause disease in people or animals;
    2) Animals: some diseases are spread by insects and animals, such as fleas, mice, flies, mosquitoes, and livestock;
    3) Food and water contamination: some pathogenic organisms and toxins may persist in food and water supplies. Most microbes can be killed, and toxins deactivated, by cooking food and boiling water. Most microbes are killed by boiling water for one minute, but some require longer boiling. Follow official instructions; and
    4) Person-to-person: the spread of a few infectious agents is also possible. Humans have been the source of infection for smallpox, bubonic plague, and the Lassa viruses.

2. **Response:** If you become aware of an unusual and suspicious substance nearby:

    a. Move away quickly;
    b. Contact dispatch and report the incident;
    c. When possible, wash with soap and water; and
    d. Seek medical attention if you become sick.

3. **Exposure:** If you are exposed to a biological agent:

    a. When possible, remove and bag your clothes and personal items. Follow official instructions for disposal of contaminated items;
    b. When possible: Wash yourself with soap and water and put on clean clothes; and
    c. Seek medical assistance;

1) You may be advised to stay away from others or even quarantine.

d. If you believe you have recently been exposed to a biological weapons agent, ***DO NOT ENTER A MEDICAL FACILITY*** without being screened for further decontamination. The presence of a contaminated person in the medical facility may cause the facility to have to cease operation for decontamination.
e. When practicable, members subjected to exposure should complete an Occupational Exposure Report as per *General Order 250.16 Occupational Exposure Control*.

I. Radiological Weapons Employee Awareness

1. Generally

a. Terrorist use of a Radiological Dispersion Device (RDD) (often called "dirty nuke" or "dirty bomb") is considered far more likely than the use of a nuclear explosive device. An RDD combines a conventional explosive device, such as a bomb, with radioactive material. It is designed to scatter dangerous and sub-lethal amounts of radioactive material over a general area.
b. Such RDDs appeal to terrorists because they require limited technical knowledge to build and deploy, compared to a nuclear device. Also, the radioactive materials in RDDs are widely used in medicine, agriculture, industry, and research, and are easier to obtain than weapons-grade uranium or plutonium.
c. The primary purpose of terrorist use of an RDD is to cause psychological fear and economic disruption.
d. Some devices could cause fatalities from exposure to radioactive materials. Depending on the speed at which the area of the RDD detonation was evacuated or how successful people were at sheltering-in-place, the number of deaths and injuries from an RDD might not be substantially greater than from a conventional bomb explosion.
e. The size of the affected area and the level of destruction caused by an RDD would depend on the sophistication and size of the conventional bomb, the type of radioactive material used the quality and quantity of the radioactive material, and the local meteorological conditions, primarily wind and precipitation. The area affected could be placed off-limits to the public for several months during cleanup efforts.

2. Reaction

a. While the explosive blast will be immediately obvious, the presence of radiation will not be known until trained personnel with specialized equipment are on the scene. It would be safer to assume radiological contamination has

occurred particularly in an urban setting or near other likely terrorist targets and take the proper precautions.

b. As with any radiation, avoid or limit exposure. This is particularly true of inhaling radioactive dust that results from the explosion. As you seek shelter from any location (indoors or outdoors) and visible dust or other contaminants are in the air, breathe through the cloth of your shirt or coat to limit your exposure. If you manage to avoid breathing radioactive dust, your proximity to the radioactive particles may still result in some radiation exposure.
c. If the explosion or radiological release occurs inside, get out immediately and seek safe shelter.
d. Contamination from an RDD event could affect a wide area, depending on the number of conventional explosives used, the quantity and type of radioactive material released, and meteorological conditions. Thus, radiation dissipation rates vary, but radiation from an RDD will likely take longer to dissipate due to a potentially larger localized concentration of radioactive material.

J. Nuclear Weapons Awareness Level Guidelines

1. Generally

a. A nuclear blast is an explosion with intense light and heat, a damaging pressure wave, and widespread radioactive material that can contaminate the air, water, and ground surfaces for miles around.
b. A nuclear device can range from a weapon carried by an intercontinental missile launched by a hostile nation or terrorist organization, to a small portable nuclear device transported by an individual.
c. All nuclear devices cause deadly effects when exploded, including blinding light, intense heat (thermal radiation), initial nuclear radiation, blast, fires started by the heat pulse, and secondary fires caused by the destruction.

2. **Hazards of Nuclear Devices**: The extent, nature, and arrival time of these hazards are difficult to predict. The geographical dispersion of hazard effects will be defined by the following:

a. Size of the device: a more powerful bomb will produce more distant effects;
b. Height above the ground the device was detonated: this will determine the extent of blast effects;
c. Nature of the surface beneath the explosion: some materials are more likely to become radioactive and airborne than others. Flat areas are more susceptible to blast effects; and
d. Existing meteorological conditions: wind speed and direction will affect the arrival time of fallout; precipitation may wash fallout from the atmosphere.

3. **Radioactive Fallout:** Even if individuals are not close enough to the nuclear blast to be affected by the direct impact, they may be affected by radioactive fallout. Any nuclear blast results in some fallout. Blasts that occur near the earth's surface create much greater amounts of fallout than blasts that occur at higher altitudes. This is because the tremendous heat produced from a nuclear blast causes an up-draft of air that forms the familiar mushroom cloud.

    a. When a blast occurs near the earth's surface, millions of vaporized dirt particles are also drawn into the cloud. As the heat diminishes, radioactive materials that have vaporized condense on the particles and fall back to Earth. The phenomenon is called radioactive fallout. This fallout material decays over a long time and it is the main source of residual nuclear radiation.
    b. The fallout from a nuclear explosion may be carried by wind currents for hundreds of miles if the right conditions exist. Effects from even a small portable device exploded at ground level can be potentially deadly.
    c. Nuclear radiation cannot be seen, smelled, or otherwise detected by normal senses. Radiation can only be detected by radiation monitoring devices. This makes radiological emergencies different from other types of emergencies, such as floods or hurricanes.
    d. Monitoring can project the fallout arrival times, which will be announced through official warning channels. However, any increase in surface build-up of gritty dust and dirt should be a warning for taking protective measures.

4. Electromagnetic Pulse

    a. In addition to other effects, a nuclear weapon detonated in or above the earth’s atmosphere can create an electromagnetic pulse (EMP), a high-density electrical field. An EMP acts like a stroke of lightning but is stronger, faster, and shorter. An EMP can seriously damage electronic devices connected to power sources or antennas. This includes communication systems, computers, electrical appliances, and automobile or aircraft ignition systems. The damage could range from a minor interruption to the actual burnout of components.
    b. Most electronic equipment within 1,000 miles of a high-altitude nuclear detonation could be affected. Battery-powered radios with short antennas generally would not be affected. Although an EMP is unlikely to harm most people, it could harm those with pacemakers or other implanted electronic devices.

5. Reaction

    a. The three factors for protecting oneself from radiation and fallout are distance, shielding, and time.

1) Distance: the more distance between you and the fallout particles, the better. An underground area such as a home or office building basement offers more protection than the first floor of a building. A floor near the middle of a high-rise may be better, depending on what is nearby at that level on which significant fallout particles would collect. Flat roofs collect fallout particles, so the top floor is not a good choice, nor is a floor adjacent to a neighboring flat roof.
2) Shielding: the heavier and denser the materials, such as thick walls, concrete, bricks, books, and earth, between you and the fallout particles, the better.
3) Time: fallout radiation loses its intensity fairly rapidly. In time, you will be able to leave the fallout shelter. Radioactive fallout poses the greatest threat to people during the first two weeks, by which time it has declined to about one percent of its initial radiation level.
4) Remember that any protection, however temporary, is better than none at all, and the more shielding, distance, and time you can take advantage of, the better.

b. Take cover as quickly as you can, below ground if possible, and stay there until instructed to do otherwise. Distance and shielding are defenses against a nuclear blast.
c. Listen for official information and follow instructions.
d. Do not look at the flash or fireball; it can blind you. Take cover behind anything that might offer protection.
e. Lie flat on the ground and cover your head. If the explosion is some distance away, it could take thirty (30) seconds or more for the blast wave to hit.
f. Take shelter as soon as you can, even if you are many miles from ground zero where the attack occurred.
g. Cover your mouth and nose with a damp cloth. The danger from fallout is greatest from contaminated particles you may breathe into your lungs. Radioactive fallout can be carried by the winds for hundreds of miles. Remember the three protective factors: distance, shielding, and time.
h. Decay rates of the radioactive fallout are the same for any size nuclear device. However, the amount of fallout will vary based on the size of the device and its proximity to the ground. Therefore, it might be necessary for those in the areas with the highest radiation levels to shelter for up to a month.
i. The heaviest fallout would be limited to the area at or downwind from the explosion and eighty (80) percent of the fallout would occur during the first twenty-four hours.
j. People in most of the areas that would be affected could be allowed to come out of shelter within a few days and, if necessary, evacuate to unaffected areas.

6. Risks

a. The danger of a massive strategic nuclear attack on the United States is predicted by experts to be less likely today. However, terrorism by nature is unpredictable.
b. If there were the threat of an attack, people living near potential targets could be advised to evacuate or they could decide on their own to evacuate to an area not considered a likely target. Protection from radioactive fallout would require taking shelter in an underground area or the middle of a large building.
c. In general, potential targets include:

    1) Strategic missile sites and military bases;
    2) Centers of government;
    3) Important transportation and communication centers;
    4) Manufacturing, industrial, technology, and financial centers;
    5) Petroleum refineries, electrical power plants, and chemical plants; and
    6) Major ports and airfields.

Per order,

Thomas F. Oates, III

Chief of Police

Written directives published within PowerDMS are in full force and effect on the referenced dates and have been approved by the Chief of Police