

**BIOLOGICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE**

**Purpose:**

- A. To provide uniform response guidelines to all biological incidents within the district.
- B. To identify inherent safety precautions that should be taken at such incidents.

**Guidelines:**

- A. Engine 703 and a squad shall respond to all reports of biological incidents, non-emergency.
- B. Request the response of EMA, Unit 298, and Hebron 373.
- C. Position uphill and upwind away from the building exhaust system.
- D. Establish a command post and a liaison with law enforcement.
- E. Isolate and secure the area (NAERG Guide #158 recommends 80 feet).
- F. Do not allow unprotected individuals to enter the area.
- G. Gather information:
  - 1. Type and form of agent (powder, granular, solid).
  - 2. Method of delivery (envelope, sprayer, bursting device).
  - 3. Location in the structure.
- H. Personnel entering the area must wear full PPE, covering all exposed skin. Proper PPE shall include an SCBA.
- I. Avoid contact with the product.
- J. Keep all potentially exposed individuals isolated near but not in close proximity to the high-hazard area.
- K. Shut down HVAC system that services the area or building.
- L. If victims have visible agent on them:
  - 1. Have them wash exposed skin with soap and water.
  - 2. If highly contaminated and the facility is equipped with showers, the victims may take a shower and change clothes as a precaution.
  - 3. If showers are not available, field decontamination will be required. EMA shall perform this task.
  - 4. EMA shall provide emergency covering/clothing and bag personal effects.
- M. Obtain a list of all persons within the building, contaminated or not, and provide to local public health authorities and law enforcement.
- N. Potentially contaminated items should be contained by EMA utilizing double bagging, steel cans, polyethylene vessels or over-pack drums.

- O. Potentially contaminated persons should be transported to a health care facility once decontaminated.