

DRAFT UPDATE TO MINNESOTA COURT SECURITY MANUAL

NBC (Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical) INCIDENTS

This section is intended to provide contact information if you suspect a NBC incident and a short reference of symptoms for the agents most likely to be used in a NBC attack. This information was obtained from the Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Division of Emergency Management and the Center for Disease Control.

According to the Minnesota Emergency Operations Plan (updated 12/31/01):

Relative to federal roles in preventing and responding to potential or actual terrorist incidents, Presidential Decision Directive (PDD)-39 is the primary document that organizes the roles of federal agencies. It designates the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) as the lead agency in crisis management to prevent and/or respond to potential or actual terrorist incident. According to this directive, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for the consequence management aspect of any incident.

The initial notification of an NBC terrorist incident or threat will be made to the Minnesota Duty Office (MDO) at the Division of Emergency Management. If that notification includes a request for assistance, the MDO will refer the request to DEM management who, with assistance from other agencies and local officials, will assess the potential that a weapon of mass destruction is involved. If there is an actual release, or it is determined that a credible threat exists, the need for staging, pre-deployment, public information and non-public information will be determined.

As the emergency plan provides, if you suspect a NBC terrorist incident you should call the Minnesota Duty Office. The contact information for that office is as follows:

MINNESOTA DUTY OFFICER PROGRAM	1-800-422-0798 (GREATER MINNESOTA) 651-649-5451 (METRO AREA)
The purpose of the 24-hour Minnesota Duty Officer program is to provide a single point of contact for both public and private sector entities to call when state-level assistance is needed or when a state-level notification is required.	

CHEM-BIO: QUICK RESPONSE CARD (CB-QRC)

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Chemical Weapon (CW) Indicators	Biological Weapons (BW) Indicators
<p>Suspicious Devices/Packages - <i>unusual metal debris - abandoned spray devices - leaking packages - unexplained munitions</i></p> <p>Unusual Liquid, Spray or Vapor - <i>droplets - oily film - unexplained odor - low lying clouds or fog unrelated to weather</i></p> <p>Dying or Dead Animals - <i>lack of insects</i></p> <p>Unexplained Conditions or Casualties - <i>serious illnesses - nausea - disorientation - difficulty breathing - convulsions - definite casualty patterns - multiple victims</i></p>	<p>Unusual Liquid, Spray or Vapor - <i>spraying dispensers - suspicious devices or packages</i></p> <p>Unusual Conditions or Casualties - <i>unusual illness for region/area – definite pattern inconsistent with natural diseases - human casualties</i></p> <p>Dying or Dead Animals – <i>sick/dying animals or fish</i></p> <p>Unusual swarms of insects</p>
INITIAL ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Remain Calm ◆ Don Protective Equipment ◆ Maintain Safe Position - Reassure Victims ◆ Await Properly Equipped Response
NOTIFICATION ESSENTIALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Wind Direction and Weather Conditions ◆ Direction of Cloud or Vapor ◆ Number/Location of Victims - Types of Injuries – Symptoms ◆ Recommended Safe Access Route and Staging Area ◆ Witness Statements and Observations

ANTHRAX

Symptoms:

- Symptoms usually occur within 1-6 days.
- Initial symptoms are often followed by a short period of improvement (ranging in hours to 2-3 days).
- Fever (temperature greater than 100 degrees F). The fever may be accompanied by chills or night sweats.
- Flu-like symptoms, including cough, usually a non-productive cough, chest discomfort, shortness of breath, fatigue, sore throat (followed by difficulty swallowing), enlarged lymph nodes, headache, nausea, loss of appetite, abdominal distress, vomiting or diarrhea.

In most cases anthrax can be distinguished from the flu because the flu usually has additional symptoms such as a runny nose.

- A sore, especially on your face, arms or hands, that starts as a raised bump and develops into a painless ulcer with a black area in the center.

If you believe you have been exposed to anthrax:

- Clothing and other items worn at the time should be placed in plastic bags.
- Upon arriving home, shower with soap and water.
- If medication is prescribed it should be taken until you are instructed otherwise.

Additional information about anthrax:

- Anthrax can be successfully treated.
- There have not been any documented cases of human-to-human transmission.

SMALLPOX

Symptoms:

- Symptoms of smallpox begin 12-14 days after exposure.
- Initial symptoms include high fever, fatigue, and head and back aches.
- A characteristic rash, most prominent on the face, arms and legs follows in 2-3 days. The rash starts with flat red lesions that evolve at the same rate. Lesions become pus-filled and begin to crust early in the second week. Scabs develop and then separate and fall off after about 3-4 weeks.

If you believe you suspect someone has smallpox or suspect that smallpox has been released in the area, report suspected cases right away. If you call the Minnesota Duty Officer Program, they will notify the Minnesota Department of Health, the FBI and local law enforcement. The state health department will notify the CDC.

Additional information about smallpox:

- If the smallpox vaccine is given within 4 days after exposure, it can lessen the severity of illness or even prevent it.
- Symptomatic patients with suspected or confirmed smallpox are capable of spreading the virus. Patients should be placed in medical isolation so that they will not continue to spread the virus. In addition, people who have come in close contact with smallpox patients should be vaccinated immediately and closely watched for symptoms of smallpox.

PNEUMONIC PLAGUE

Symptoms:

- Symptoms usually occur 1-6 days after becoming infected.
- Fever
- Weakness
- Rapidly developing pneumonia with shortness of breath, chest pain, cough, and sometimes bloody or watery sputum.
- Nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain may also occur.

Additional information about the plague:

- There are two different types of plague: pneumonic plague and bubonic plague. Pneumonic plague can be transferred from person to person; bubonic plague cannot. Pneumonic plague is transferred when a person breathes the bacteria particles into their lungs. Bubonic plague is transmitted through the bite of an infected flea or exposure to infected material through a break in the skin. If bubonic plague is not treated, however, the bacteria can spread through the bloodstream and infect the lungs, causing a secondary case of pneumonic plague.
- Pneumonic plague can be treated. To prevent a high risk of death, antibiotics should be given within 24 hours of the first symptoms. To prevent illness, a person who has been exposed to pneumonic plague must receive antibiotic treatment without delay.

BOTULISM

Symptoms:

- Double vision or blurred vision
- Drooping eyelids
- Slurred speech
- Difficulty swallowing
- Dry mouth
- Muscle weakness
- If untreated, these symptoms may progress to cause paralysis of the arms, legs, trunk and respiratory muscles

Additional information about botulism:

- If diagnosed early, botulism can be treated with an antitoxin that blocks the action of toxin circulating in the blood. If not treated early, the respiratory failure and paralysis that occur with severe botulism may require a patient to be on a breathing machine for weeks.
- In the past 50 years, the proportion of patients with botulism who die has fallen from about 50% to 8%.

RADIATION EXPOSURE

Symptoms:

- Radiation affects the body in different ways, but the adverse health consequences of exposure may not be seen for many years.
- Adverse health effects range from mild effects, such as skin reddening, to serious effects such as cancer and death.
- Acute radiation syndrome (ARS), or radiation sickness, is caused when a person receives a high dose of radiation to much of the body in a matter of minutes. The immediate symptoms of ARS are nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

Additional information about radiation or nuclear attack:

- As a general rule, you can reduce the potential exposure and subsequent health consequences by limiting time near the radiation source, increasing distance from the source, or keeping a physical barrier (such as the wall of a building) between you and the source.

**If you have comments on this draft of the Courthouse Security Manual, please contact
Bridget Johnson at 651-284-0248 or bridget.johnson@courts.state.mn.us. Thank you.**