

**Adams and Jefferson County Hazardous Response Authority
FIELD OPERATING GUIDELINES**

EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTION PLANS

F.O.G. #: 1802

**Category: General Operational Procedures for
Hazardous Material Operations**

DATE November 1, 2022

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I. Purpose:

- A. To define the initial operations procedures and fatality management.

II. Guideline:

- A. The Incident Commander shall oversee the isolation, evacuation or shelter-in-place operations of the incident area.
- B. HazMat Officer Duties. In conjunction with the incident management team, the HazMat Officer shall:
 - 1. Determine the level of team response i.e., Full Response, Partial Response or Technical Consultation
 - 2. Establish a Hazardous Materials Response Branch within the Operations Section and assume or assign the role of HazMat Branch Director or HazMat Group Supervisor as defined within the ICS structure.
 - 3. Ensure that an Assistant Safety Officer-HazMat is assigned as needed.
 - 4. Determine final perimeter locations of the Exclusion (Red) Zone, the Contamination Reduction (Yellow) Zone and the Safe (Green) Zone.
 - 5. Be the final authority in decisions regarding deployment of the team. Course of action or choice of no action will be done with citizen and responder safety of the highest priority. The nature of the involved substance, if not previously identified, will be determined before taking offensive action if possible. Physical state and/or chemical properties may determine that no action or delayed action could be both the safest and most effective option. (I.E. Natural Gas fire, compressed gasses venting as designed or hot tar spill)
 - 6. Coordinate all incident planning with the Incident Commander or a designated representative.
 - 7. Serve as an advisor on hazardous substances to the Incident Commander.

8. With consideration of all related factors, the entry team shall be deployed as required. The HazMat Officer shall ensure provisions for accountability are followed per FOG 800

C. Fatality Management. Under Colorado law, the County Coroner has a statutory duty to take control of a dead person's body. Any hazardous material incident resulting in a fatality should be treated as a crime scene and the local law enforcement and Coroner's office should be notified.

1. Interaction Protocol with the Coroner's Office:

- a) If any victim of an incident is deceased, the Incident Commander, and local law enforcement should request that the coroner's representative respond to the Command Post.
- b) The Incident Commander; including local law enforcement, the AJCHRA HazMat Officer, and the coroner will make the determination as to if the body is to be decontaminated or is safe to process without on-site decontamination.
- c) Decontamination of a body, if practical shall be preformed at the incident scene by the AJCHRA in appropriate level of protective clothing. The coroner or their representative may assist the AJCHRA in the decon process. If there are multiple fatalities, then the Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT) should be requested through the local Emergency Manager.
- d) Once determined that decontamination is complete, the body will be turned over to the coroner for disposition with chain of custody documented.
- e) Should decontamination not be accomplished, the HazMat Officer will assist and advise the Incident Commander and the Coroner regarding the transportation or temporary storage until the problem can be resolved.

III. References:

- A. FOG 800 – Incident Management System
- B. FOG 1900 – Team Leader On-Call