

<b>TITLE</b> OPERATIONS MANUAL	<b>STANDARD</b> INSTRUCTION 02		<b>DEPARTMENT</b> FIRE
<b>SUBJECT</b> FIRE SUPPRESSION: RADIATION EMERGENCIES	<b>SECTION</b> 29	<b>PAGE</b> 1 of 2	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> 12/06/2011

**I. PURPOSE**

To establish guidelines and procedures for Fire-Rescue crews when responding to fire related and medical emergencies involving radiation materials

**II. SCOPE**

This policy shall apply to all SDFD Personnel.

**III. AUTHORITY**

The Fire Chief in coordination with the Assistant Fire Chief of Operations, Deputy Chief Shift Commanders authorizes the information within this policy.

**IV. POLICY**

A. Notifications

1. The first arriving Fire-Rescue company officer shall IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY Fire Communications Center (FCC) once it has been determined that radioactive materials are involved.
2. FCC shall immediately notify the proper agencies.

B. Emergency Procedures – Rescue

Rescue procedures for trapped victims exposed to radioactive materials should follow the same general procedures for victims involved in fumigated structures (Emergency Procedures – Victims inside Fumigated Structures) listed in this Standard Instruction (*Sub Section V, D*)

Additionally, the following guidelines should be considered:

1. If any person is alive and trapped in wreckage involving radioactive materials, every effort should be made to perform a rescue.
2. Remove victims from contamination area of the accident with as little contact as possible and hold at transfer point.
3. Move victim to a designated decontamination area
4. This area should be able to control and contain all runoff
5. Perform Emergency decontamination
  - a. Remove victims clothing
6. Provide any and all medical treatment needed while still maintaining your personal protection.
  - a. Perform basic medical treatment prior to, and during, emergency decontamination.
  - b. Begin more advanced medical treatment after emergency decontamination is completed.

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7. Before transport of victim, place the victim in a stretcher completely enclosed in blankets so as to contain all possible contamination with blankets.
8. Patient should only be transported to a hospital that is equipped and ready, to accept radio logically contaminated patients.
9. Confirmation with the Base Hospital that the receiving hospital is able to accept radiologically contaminated victims is recommended.

C. Emergency Procedures – Firefighting

1. Remember to conduct fire fighting operations from upwind as far as possible, keeping out of any smoke, fumes or dust arising from the accident.
2. Treat in the same manner as a Hazardous Materials emergency with fire involving toxic chemicals.

Note: Refer to **Sub Section IV, E** of this Standard Instruction (General Guidelines for Handling Hazardous Materials Incidents)

3. Once fire is knocked down or extinguished, limit the amount of exposure to the suspected material until it has been monitored and released by HIRT personnel. Similar to scene preservation procedures used for common fires where MAST will investigate.
4. Segregate all personnel, clothing and tools used at fire until they can be monitored for contamination by HIRT personnel.
5. Do not eat, drink, or smoke in the area. Do not use food or drinking water that may have been contaminated with material from the accident.
6. Upon arrival of HIRT specialists and physicians, assist as required and directed.

D. Traffic Control

1. In the event of a radiological incident involving a vehicle accident, detour all traffic around the scene of accident.
2. If radioactive material is spilled, prevent passage of all vehicle traffic through the area.
3. Be prepared to evacuate the area and to establish collection points for evacuees.