



Kern County Sheriff's Office **Policies and Procedures**

TITLE: HAZ-MAT/WMD Law Enforcement First Response		NO: H-120	
APPROVED: Donny Youngblood, Sheriff-Coroner			
EFFECTIVE: January 8, 2007	REVIEWED: 10/20/2020	REVISED: 00/00/00	UPDATED: 11/17/2017

POLICY

The Kern County Sheriff's Office recognizes that a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) release incident, chemical incident, or potential release of hazardous agents (HAZ-MAT) requires a multi-agency response. Further, that the response to such incidents is a complex process, requiring specially trained personnel and specialized equipment to safeguard personnel and the public. The Sheriff's Office is committed to maintain a high state of readiness for response to WMD and criminal chemical release incidents.

To provide properly prepared personnel, the Sheriff's Office will maintain a supply of Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment (PPE) for issuance to Sheriff's Office personnel responding to incidents and will provide for the adequate and continuing training on their usage.

DIRECTIVE A

All Sheriff's personnel assigned to a role in a HAZ MAT/WMD incident will first complete a department required training course provided or approved through the Training Section. No personnel will utilize the PPE without first successfully completing the required training.

DIRECTIVE B

The Sheriff's Office will provide Level C chemical protective suits and respirators for use by field personnel. Respirators will be issued to field staff only upon completion of approved training. The respirator must be fit tested upon issuance and at least annually thereafter.

Respirators shall be maintained in good working order. Personnel assigned PPE shall complete annual fit testing of the respirator.

DIRECTIVE C

The Sheriff's Office will establish a safety plan to minimize the risk associated with the usage of supplied equipment.