

**STOCKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**GENERAL ORDER**

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT**  
**SUBJECT**

**DATE:** March 1, 2005

**NO:** X-3

**FROM:** CHIEF ERIC JONES

**TO:** ALL PERSONNEL

**INDEX: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS**  
**CARE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**  
**INCIDENTS INVOLVING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

**I. POLICY**

When incidents involving spillage or release of hazardous materials (other than radioactive) occur on the Stockton City streets, or in the case of a drug laboratory seizure, the Stockton Police Department will assume scene management responsibility, isolate the area, attempt to prevent the spread of contamination, assure citizens receive proper medical attention and protect the scene until persons trained in the decontamination or removal of such material arrive. The Stockton Fire Department will exercise incident command in these cases and scene management/incident command responsibility in all other hazardous material incidents within the city limits. (See General Order X-4 for the handling of radioactive material.)

**II. DEFINITION**

Hazardous materials include any substance in this order (other than radioactive) which could endanger the lives or health of citizens or wildlife, contaminate the water supply or threaten the environment. This includes chemicals, pesticides, gasoline, poisons, etc.

**III. PROCEDURES - INCIDENT ON-STREET:**

- A. Upon arriving at a scene where hazardous material has been or might have been spilled or released on a City street, the officer will:
1. Assume Scene Management (VC Sec. 2454); notify the Watch Commander.
  2. Until Fire Department responders arrive:
    - a. Attempt to identify the type of material involved, advise the Telecommunications Center and follow actions described in Guidebook for Hazardous Materials Incidents (2004 Emergency Response Guidebook). These guides are kept in the Patrol Sergeant vehicles, Watch Commander vehicle, SWAT van, Mobile Command Post and the Watch Commander's and Patrol Sergeant's offices and the Telecommunications Center.
    - b. If safely possible, aid injured or trapped persons and provide necessary first aid.
    - c. Request additional help as needed to handle the situation.
    - d. Isolate the incident area from traffic pedestrians, as necessary.
  3. Authorize a Scene Manager to sign a manifest committing the City to payment for services rendered by the clean-up crew. Notify city O.E.S. by completing an S.I.R., ATTENTION: O.E.S./ADMINISTRATION-FISCAL AFFAIRS UNIT.

4. When required by the scope/severity of the incident, activate procedures in the Stockton Multihazard Functional Emergency Operations Plan, Annex C, Appendix C-2.
- D. Telecommunications Center personnel will, upon receiving a report of spilled or released hazardous material, take the following actions:
1. Dispatch a unit to the scene for investigation.
  2. Dispatch the Fire Department.
    - a. If known, advise the Fire Department of the type of hazardous material and recommend route into the area.
  3. Standby to notify other agencies in accordance with STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES - HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INCIDENT NOTIFICATION. LISTED AS INFO HAZMAT IN THE CAD SYSTEM.

**IV. PROCEDURES - INCIDENT OFF-STREET**

- A. If first on-scene, the officer will:
1. Assume Scene Management responsibility until arrival of the first Fire unit and implement all appropriate safety precautions cited above.
  2. Upon arrival of first Fire unit, provide situation update to the incident commander and revert to traffic control/scene security.
- B. If not first on-scene, upon arrival the officer will provide law enforcement support as required.
- C. The Watch Commander will monitor and take such actions as may be dictated by the situation.
- D. The Telecommunications Center will:
1. Monitor the situation.
  2. Act as secondary agency in support of Firecom in making calls in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures - HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INCIDENT NOTIFICATION. LISTED AS INFO HAZMAT IN THE CAD SYSTEM.

**V. PROCEDURES - DRUG LABORATORY SEIZURE:**

- A. Scene will be cleared in accordance with SWAT Standard Operating Procedures.
- B. Senior officer on-scene will assume Scene Management Responsibility, implement all safety precautions cited above and provide administrative follow-up until cleanup is complete.
- C. Narcotics officers, Evidence Identification Technicians or other personnel will not invade the scene until it is declared safe by a qualified hazardous materials inspector. This may require calling in a private company early in the incident.
- D. Send any injured person to a hospital. Advise emergency medical personnel and the hospital of possible patient contamination and the type of hazardous material suspected.
1. Take every caution to avoid exposure.
    - a. Remain upwind from the incident area at all times.

- b. Do not eat, drink, or smoke in the area.
- c. Do not touch debris in the area. Some chemicals are so lethal only a few drops on the skin can kill.
- d. Prevent spread of the material.
  - (1) Do not allow exposed persons to leave the area until they are decontaminated.
  - (2) Do not allow vehicles to drive through the area.
  - (3) Do not allow removal of debris except by authorized persons.
- e. Any person involved in the incident should immediately wash clothes and skin upon leaving the area. This may counteract prolonged exposure and resulting illness.

B. Special Procedures

- 1. Spill of 40 gallons or less of motor vehicle fluids contained in gutters (none escaped to sewers, storm drains or surrounding earth, and there is minimal risk of exposure to the public):
  - a. Request the Telecommunications Center make agency notifications per STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES.
  - b. Tow truck operators, Fire or Public Works may capture the fluids with absorbent or native material, sweep to the shoulder and spread to dry.
- 2. Spill of 40 gallons or less of motor vehicle fluids with potential of entering a waterway or posing a threat to the public or spill over 40 gallons:
  - a. Request Telecommunications Center make agency notifications per Standing Operating Procedures.
  - b. Initiate appropriate actions as outlined in III .A.2 above.
  - c. Coordinate clean-up as required.

C. The Watch Commander will:

- 1. Monitor the situation and appoint a senior Scene Manager, if necessary.
- 2. Through the Telecommunications Center, contact a private clean-up company, if necessary. The Telecommunications Center has a list to choose from with each specializing in certain conditions.