



## PER-222

### Public Safety WMD Response – Sampling Techniques and Guidelines

This is a performance-level course designed to address specific fundamentals and skills associated with an emergency response to a WMD incident. As such, it provides detailed technical information and includes hands-on practice of actions required of emergency responders in such situations.

Of special interest is the course's emphasis on collecting forensically valid samples, which is accomplished through maintaining a secure chain-of-custody for the sample from the time of collection through laboratory analysis. This process is consistent with the FBI's 12-step process for managing a crime scene, including those involving a WMD.

#### Course Objectives

At the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Apply to a scenario a systematic approach for managing potential or actual WMD events.
- Explain the phases of WMD response operations.
- List and explain the roles and responsibilities of response agencies.
- Summarize the FBI's 12-step crime scene management process.
- Recognize effective methods of detection and monitoring at a CBRNE event involving a potentially hazardous environment and/or hazardous substances.
- Recognize chemical and physical properties of materials and how they relate to effective detection and monitoring.
- Use monitoring and detection equipment to screen a sample and the sample environment correctly.
- Determine the appropriate collection technique for a given sample.
- Select the correct supplies and materials according to SOPs for a given sample and collection technique.
- Provide sufficient public safety sampling documentation for given technique and materials and explain the relevance to WMD response.
- Determine the appropriate sampling techniques and equipment to be used for public safety sampling operations according to the sample product present.
- Correctly complete all necessary documentation associated with the recon and public safety sampling operations.
- Operate basic chemical, biological, and radiological detectors and monitors.
- Interpret the display data from basic chemical, biological, and radiological detectors and monitors.
- Demonstrate the ability to survey the site and screen suspect material using the provided monitoring and detection equipment.

#### Target Audience/Discipline

Law Enforcement, Fire Service, Hazardous Material Personnel, Public Health

Approximately 80% of the course participants will be the emergency responders most likely to be called upon to operate within the exclusion zone of a WMD incident involving hazardous materials—the responders able to utilize personal protective equipment (PPE) at Level C or higher, employ monitoring and detection devices and procedures, and (potentially) obtain samples from the scene for analysis. Because WMD response is multidisciplinary in nature, the course will also be useful to responders who work with HazMat teams in roles that do not require exclusion zone entry. This second group includes law enforcement, public health, and other personnel with the responsibility to receive and transport a sample from the HazMat team to a designated laboratory.

#### Scheduling

See **Front Inside Cover** to find contact information for the training coordinator in your FEMA region.

#### Min/Max Enrollment

Min 20; Max 30

#### Hours

24.0

#### Format

Instructor-Led Training (Direct Delivery)

#### DHS Course #

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#### Prerequisites

- Successful completion of a WMD awareness-level training course; being a certified HazMat technician qualifies a participant at the primary level; demonstrating a need-to-know job function required to support, supervise, and/or work with individuals responsible for collecting, receiving, or processing samples from a contaminated environment qualifies a participant at the secondary level
- Respiratory medical clearance for wearing Level C PPE (29 CFR 1910.134)
- Government-issued photo ID and a copy of their HazMat Technician-level certification

#### Capt. Christopher Barrella Picatinny Arsenal Fire and Emergency Services Picatinny Arsenal, NJ

*We put all the material from the course (Sampling) to use on May 11, when the haz-mat team responded to an unknown substance call. Youths had obtained an unknown substance from a local defunct laboratory and after destroying a local mailbox, dumped the substance on the ground. Our haz-mat team obtained two samples, one of which is being used by the Morris County Prosecutors Office for legal action against the teens. For once, the lesson came before the test.*