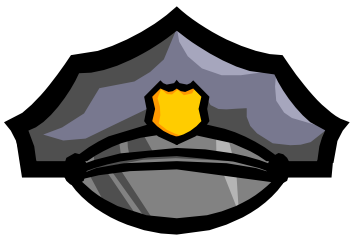


# RADIATION RESPONSE For LAW ENFORCEMENT



## How to Recognize and Respond to Incidents Involving Radiation in Georgia

*Radiation incidents can occur anywhere.*

*There are techniques that you can use to protect yourself, your fellow responders and others.*

*Georgia state radiation experts can provide assistance during a radiological response.*

Georgia Department of Natural  
Resources  
Environmental Protection Division

Georgia Emergency Management  
Agency  
GEMA

Revised: April 2008



## RADIATION RESPONSE For LAW ENFORCEMENT



Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division

2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive

Atlanta, GA 30334

General Information During Business Hours

Radiation Programs—(404) 362-2675

rademergencynfo@dnr.state.ga.us



Georgia Emergency Management Agency

**REPORT ALL INCIDENTS TO:**

24 Hour Emergency Contact

**1-800-241-4113** (within Georgia)

**(404) 656-4863** (Atlanta or outside Georgia)

**1-800-TRY-GEMA**

(Use any one of these telephone numbers)

## Have you encountered an incident involving radioactive materials?

- **SAFELY** approach from upwind, up-slope direction
- **ISOLATE AND SECURE** the scene
- **LIMIT TIME** of contact in the area containing radioactive materials
- **NOTIFY** Georgia State authorities
- **OBTAIN** information about the scene (see below)
- **INFORMATION** that should be reported includes:
  - Your name, address and contact telephone number
  - Location of encounter with driving directions
  - Description of any device or package and any labels found
  - Identity (name, address, contact telephone number) of person possessing a package or device
  - Vehicle description (make, model, color, license plate)

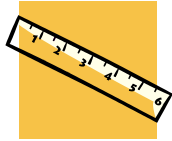


## Responder Safety = TDS + PPE



### Time

Minimize the time spent within the radiological area



### Distance

Maximize the distance from the sources of radiation.



### Shielding

Place shielding (e.g., vehicles, clothing) between you and the sources of radiation.



### Personal Protective Equipment

Typical PPE used during radiological incidents may consist of, but is not limited to, the following:

- Disposable coveralls
- Jackets
- Shoe covers or boots
- Gloves
- Hoods
- Safety glasses
- Respiratory protection (e.g., respirators)



## Radiation Response Guidance

### Safety

- Approach from upwind, upslope side, especially if involved in fire
- Check for other hazards—chemicals, electricity, traffic, water, weapons
- Attempt to determine the types and quantities of radioactive materials

### Isolate

- Cordon off incident scene to an initial evacuation area of 500 meters/yards in all directions
- If obvious danger exists (such as fire), initiate evacuation of general public to a safe area
- Secure persons of interest nearby

### Notify

- Advise Fire / Rescue of possible radiological incident
- Advise Medical Responders of injured and possible contaminated individuals
- Advise Georgia radiation authority
- Relinquish control of technical response upon arrival of Georgia Emergency Radiation Team

## Scene Size-Up, Initial Actions

### Radiological Incident Indicators

- Human senses cannot detect radiation
- Instruments can detect radiation (e.g., Geiger counters)
- Look for Radiation signs and labels at scene



### Approaching the Scene

- **Safety**, first and always
- **Isolate**, and deny entry
- **Notify** Fire/Rescue, Medical, State Radiation Authority

### Immediate Actions

- Keep all uninvolved persons away from scene and reroute traffic as needed
- Detain all persons involved with incident or potentially contaminated at the scene
- Record names, addresses, phone numbers of those unable to remain at scene