

**MPD Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness
Efforts and Initiatives**
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Since 9/11, law enforcement agencies across the country have taken on a new national security role in addition to the traditional law enforcement role we are accustomed to. This new way of thinking about law enforcement and the new responsibilities that go along with it has become an integral part of our duties on the MPD. Even before 9/11, the MPD worked closely with MFD and other city departments on preparedness issues. The incidents of 9/11 resulted in even closer working relationships and a new sense of urgency to assure that we as a city are prepared to respond to a terrorist attack or any large-scale emergency. As a department, we have taken numerous steps to assure that we are able to confront and respond to any situation that may occur. Below are some highlights of our homeland security/emergency preparedness efforts within the MPD.

Department wide efforts:

- All sworn were recently trained on WMD Awareness (8-hour course).
- All supervisors have been trained in use of the Incident Command System (ICS). They received an 8-hour course on using ICS in WMD incidents and an 8-hour introduction to ICS course in 2002.
- MPD has had a WMD policy in effect since 1999. This policy was revised in 2002. The MPD annex of the emergency plan was revised in fall of 2002 and is undergoing revisions at this time.
- MPD has developed specific response measures for the various national alert levels.
- MPD has had a sergeant on the FBI joint terrorism since the fall of 2001. This is a very important position in that it greatly increases communication and cooperation between the MPD and federal authorities.
- MPD has been involved in details dedicated to providing extra security and protection to our infrastructure as well as during high profile events. This includes the following:
 - Shortly after 9/11, the MPD conducted random vehicle checks in the downtown area. This was well received by the public as it offered extra levels of comfort to those that live and work downtown.
 - During large events at the metro dome and other venues, the MPD has implemented extra security measures including temporary road closures and added staffing.
 - MPD has staffed officers on buyback at the Mpls water works since 9/11. This will now become a permanent assignment.
 - After 9/11 and since the threat level has been raised to Orange, the MPD staffs uniform security within City Hall to offer some additional protection and security.
 - Anti-Terrorism detail for the IACP conference. Joint operation between MPD, MFD, and the 55th Civil Support Team.
- The MPD has established a closer relationship with MFD, Mpls Public Health, other neighboring law enforcement agencies, and the 55th WMD Civil Support Team. Joint training and exercises have taken place with the CST.

- The MPD has very close ties to the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office and staffs their Emergency Operations Center in Maple Grove when it is activated due to increases in threat level.
- MPD has been involved in the creation of the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS). This is a comprehensive system designed to coordinate a response in the event of an act of terrorism involving biological weapons. The steering committee continues to meet monthly.
- MPD has been working with community groups and businesses on preparedness issues. SAFE has a flier which is being distributed to community members on how to prepare yourself and your home for emergencies and disasters natural or man-made. MPD works with local businesses such as Qwest and Xcel on pre and post event plans at their key facilities.
- MPD has a designated **Homeland Security Report** for purposes of reporting suspicious activity that may not be criminal in nature but could be related to terrorism. These reports are routed to our SID for follow-up and or referral to federal authorities.

Command Staff:

- All command staff have been trained in use of the incident command system and have participated in various tabletop and/or full-scale exercises. Such training includes:
 - Full scale chemical exercise in 1999
 - Tabletop chemical exercise in 2002.
 - Tabletop biological exercise in 2002.
 - Integrated Emergency Management Course in Mt. Weather in 2002.
 - Continued federally funded training is being provided to key department command staff on terrorism and incident management.

ERU/Bomb Squad:

- Both the ERU and bomb squad has taken on additional responsibilities since 9/11. They have become much more involved in preparing for and planning tactical responses to terrorist events rather than typical duties.
- MPD is sending all ERU and bomb squad personnel to specialized WMD training at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. This is federally funded training and allows our personnel to train with live nerve agents.
- ERU and Bomb regularly train with the 55th Civil Support Team. They will be receiving an additional course in Tactical Operations in WMD environment this fall.
- After receiving this training, they will have the capability and skills to safely operate in a tactical capacity in a hot zone environment. Very few ERU's in the country currently have this capability.
- The Bomb squad is Level A Hazmat certified and is a designated first responder to WMD incidents.
- The Bomb squad has received training on suicide bombers from the Israeli police and has subsequently trained all MPD sworn on suicide bomber tactics.

Grants- Equipment:

The MPD has been fortunate to have received several state and federal WMD/Terrorism grants for training and the purchase of equipment. The MPD outlined several priorities for the purchase of such equipment which focussed on:

- Personal Protection
- Command, Control, and Communications.
- Detection, Reponse, and Mitigation.

Below is a summary of some of the equipment the MPD has or will be receiving as part of terrorism related grants:

Personal Protection:

- MPD has several sets of chemical protective suits at each precinct for our patrol officers in the event they have to respond to a scene of a hazmat/WMD incident.
- MPD will be purchasing state of the art air purifying respirators (gas masks) for all sworn personnel.
- MPD will be purchasing tactical chemical protective gear for all ERU personnel.
- Bomb squad received a Total Containment Vessel (TCV) in 2002. This bomb trailer will contain explosives with chemical/biological agents attached and not release them into the air.
- MPD now has Mark 1 nerve agent antidote kits available to our ERU.

Command, Control, and Communications:

- Purchase of communications equipment for the mobile command vehicle.

Detection, Response, and Mitigation:

- MPD will be purchasing a decon tent for our bomb squad.
- The bomb squad now has biological agent detection equipment.

Costs:

It is difficult to come up with exact costs of our homeland security efforts since 9/11 however the additional responsibilities and safeguards which have been implemented have been, at times, a significant drain on our resources. Much of our response is not equated to dollars, but to other work that may not get done due to our need to re-allocate staff to other assignments temporarily. This could include assigning investigators to uniformed security details within city hall, or 911 responders to security details at the Metrodome. Nonetheless, the MPD maintains that all of these measures are necessary to protect our city.

Here are some examples of costs incurred by the MPD related to Homeland Security efforts:

- Each time we implement a security detail at the Metrodome it costs on average \$5000 in overtime.
- When we conduct random vehicle checks in the downtown area, we typically staff approximately 22 officers on duty time. This means 22 officers are pulled from their regular duty to conduct these checks. This has not been done too often however.

- War related protests can also cost the MPD significantly. As of 3/19/03, we now have an overtime code to identify and track overtime related to homeland security. **As of 3/22/03, the MPD incurred \$30,660.08 in protests/homeland security overtime costs. This translates to 1,179.25 hours.**

Future Grants- Priorities:

The City of Minneapolis can expect to receive additional grants for terrorism and WMD preparedness later in 2003 and in subsequent years. There are always strict limitations as to what these funds can be used for. Right now, the MPD has several priorities for the use of such funds:

- Funds for a GIS mapping system currently under way in cooperation with MFD and GIS.
- Additional PPE and sustainment funds for our first responders
- Additional tactical response equipment for our ERU and Bomb Squad.
- Reverse 911 system.
- Ongoing training funds

The MPD also has a plan ready for offering the smallpox vaccination to our staff. When phase two of the national plan goes into effect, the MPD will be ready to implement. MPD has worked closely with Mpls Public Health, MFD, Mpls Risk Management, and the MN Department of Health on the plan.

The MPD continues to work with the MFD and other City of Minneapolis departments on identifying citywide priorities for preparedness.