

705.00 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

705.01 General Procedures

- Refer General Order 701.01 for emergency mobilization if required.
- Hazardous Materials “HazMat” Incidents: Title 29, Article 22, of the Colorado Revised Statutes assigns responsibility to local governments for response to hazardous materials incidents. Article 22 requires the governing body of every town, city, and county to have a Designated Emergency Response Authority, “DERA”, for hazardous materials incidents occurring within the corporate limits of such town, city and county. For the City of Greeley, the Greeley Fire Department is the Designated Emergency Response Authority. The Greeley Fire Chief, or his designee in his absence, will be the Incident Commander.
- The following situations that will require the HazMat team to respond include but are not limited to:
 - Illegal dumping;
 - Plane crashes;
 - Accidents involving placarded vehicles. A placard is a 10 3/4:” square diamond required by the Department of Transportation to be placed on certain vehicles (road or rail) which indicates the presence of sizeable or dangerous quantities of hazardous materials. The absence of a placard does not eliminate the possible presence of a hazardous material being transported;
 - Train accidents;
 - Flammable liquid spills exceeding 30 gallons;
 - Confirmed structure fires when known storage of hazardous materials exist; and
 - Incidents that have a likely presence of hazardous materials.
- Duties and responsibilities of the Greeley Police Department during a HazMat incident, as directed by Greeley Fire, include but are not limited to:
 - Crowd control,

GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Traffic control,
- Scene security, and
- Coordination and control of evacuation activities.
 - Large-scale evacuation
 - Divide the area into quadrants and utilize the public address system installed on the patrol vehicles to advise citizens.
 - The Public Information Officer will utilize Reverse 911 and local media to assist in the notification of the public.
 - Officers will document citizens' refusal to evacuate.
 - Limited area of evacuation: officers will use the public address system on the patrol vehicles and go door-to-door to ensure contact.
- Any other activities to aid and assist Greeley Fire in the resolution of the incident, including investigative assistance.
- Accident investigation if the incident is a result of a traffic accident.

705.0 Duties of the First Officer on-scene

- Approach the scene from upwind if possible, avoiding any fumes, spills or leaks.
- Secure the scene and limit access to the area.
- Notify a supervisor and Communications, ensuring that Greeley Fire has been notified and advised on the situation.
 - Attempt to ascertain the identity of the chemical involved if applicable.
 - Vehicles, railroads and planes are required by law to display hazardous materials placards when they are transporting such. The placards are usually diamond shaped and have a four-digit number on them. This number is the product identification number. All patrol cars, Dispatch, and the Watch Commander's Office are supplied with an Emergency Response Guidebook. This book assists in the identification of a hazardous material and the proper procedures involved with the identified substance. A hazardous material can be identified with the Emergency Response Guidebook by cross referencing the four-digit product identification number from a placard or by-product name. The

GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

absence of placards does not remove the possibility of hazardous materials existing.

- Advise on the perimeters of the scene and the extent of injuries or fatalities.
- Advise on any added equipment or manpower that is needed to help control the scene.
- Advise other responding units of the best way to approach the scene to avoid the hazard.
- Render first aid if possible. Due to the nature of the situation, such as a fire or noxious gases, an officer may not be able to render aid. It is important that all officers realize and accept their limitations in these situations.

705.03 Duties of the Patrol Supervisor on Scene/Watch Commander

- Contact the officers on scene and assess the situation. Notify the Watch Commander.
- The Watch Commander will contact the HazMat Incident Commander in order to coordinate:
 - Traffic control.
 - Access into the area for emergency equipment.
 - Evacuation of civilian personnel, if necessary. When a situation arises that gives the police or fire department cause to believe that a general public danger exists, the Fire Duty Commander and a police supervisor will jointly evaluate the situation. If one of them believes that a danger to the general public exists, they will immediately contact their respective Chief or their designee and if one of them believes that a general public danger exists, he may proceed to activate any one of Phase I, Phase II, or Phase III of the City of Greeley Disaster Plan, within the constraints of their individual department directives.
- Assist in early product identification and follow recommendations provided in the Emergency Response Guidebook.
- Request CHEMTREC notification if appropriate.
- Remember that the Police Department's mission in HazMat incidents is to assist Greeley Fire.

GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

- The duties and responsibilities of the balance of available police resources will be determined by the supervisor's assessment of the situation and the extent and depth of the Fire Department's requests for police assistance in such situations.
- When appropriate, the Watch Commander will notify the Investigations Commander for the assignment of an investigator.
- Once the area has been made safe, the investigator will work with the assigned fire investigator to determine the cause and origin and the pursuit of criminal charges, if any are applicable.
- As is the case in most incidents involving hazardous materials, a federal or state agency may become actively involved in their own investigation. In these situations, the investigators assigned to the investigation will assist those agencies when appropriate and conduct our own parallel investigation.
- Prior to the filing of any criminal charges, assigned investigators will consult with Greeley Fire Department and the District Attorney's Office for a determination of charges to be filed.

General Order 705.00	<u>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</u>	Reviewed: 01/19
Authorized by Mark Jones, Police Chief		
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<u> <i>Mark Jones</i> </u>	Date:	<u> January 15, 2019 </u>
Signature		