

ORS Response: RSAR Communications Workshop

Preparing your City for Radiological Theft Prevention



OFFICE OF RADIOLOGICAL SECURITY

The Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA), Office of Radiological Security (ORS) developed the Radiological Security Awareness and Response (RSAR) approach to collaborate with law enforcement to establish and implement their own tailored training program on radioactive material theft response. A well-trained and equipped response force capable of responding to an alarm event in a timely manner is vital to an enhanced radiological security strategy.

Civilian facilities containing radioactive materials are typically open to the public, thus making them vulnerable to tampering or theft. These facilities may lack on-site armed response forces that are sufficiently equipped or trained to handle a radiological security event. ORS uses an “alert and notify” security strategy whereby critical alarms and video assessments are sent to off-site responders. Detection and delay elements are combined with response capabilities to achieve “containment” so that adequately trained and equipped response forces can arrive in sufficient time to prevent the theft of radioactive material.

The RSAR Communications Workshop starts with radiological security training and then progresses to cover the standard operating procedures in processing notifications received by dispatchers. The course length is designed for delivery in a 2–4 hour segment but can be adjusted according to the goals of the host agency. This program is federally funded and provided at no cost to your agency other than the time of your personnel.

ORS understands that dispatch professionals play a vital role in providing critical, accurate, and timely information to responding police and security personnel and need to understand the nature of the call. That is why this training is specifically oriented for dispatchers who must understand the intricacies of a local radiological emergency. This training includes radiation basics, the significance and importance of the alarm/call, and the appropriate level of police response. ORS designed this course to be delivered in-person and provide training tailored to your agency’s schedules, policies, and procedures. The success or failure of the response depends on communicating the information during a stressful emergency necessary to protect the safety and lives of the public and the responding police officers and to mitigate the threat.

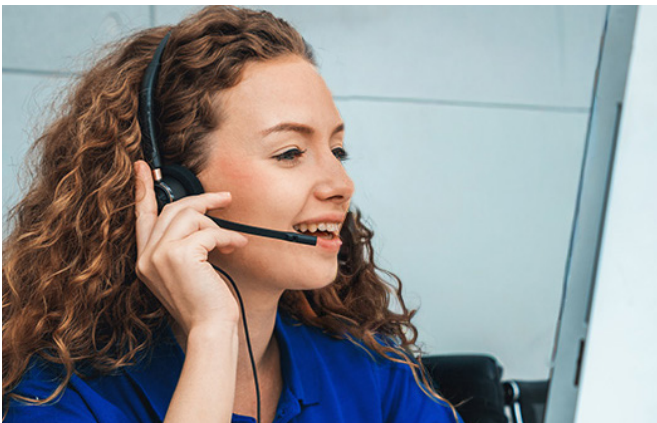
The goal is to increase awareness of the unique requirements posed by an incident involving radioactive material to include:

- ★ Information needs.
- ★ Notification requirements.
- ★ Resource requirements and availability.
- ★ Response timelines.
- ★ A discussion of the protocols and informational needs/requirements for an incident involving radioactive material.



Key Elements of the Workshop:

1. Provide discussion-led training by dispatch subject matter experts to familiarize law enforcement (LE) dispatchers with the threats, appearance, and properties of radiological devices commonly used and available in their jurisdiction. In addition, provide resources available from sites that can help their response.
2. Talk through operational response scenarios to an active threat of the theft of a radiological device.
3. Provide generalized knowledge of notification requirements, resource requirements and availability, and informational needs unique to radiological incidents.
4. Foster an understanding and awareness of the need for communications to include other units and agencies required for a response to an incident involving radioactive material.
5. Increase the awareness and preparedness of dispatchers with regards to the unique requirements posed by an incident involving radioactive material.



Who Should Attend:

- ★ LE or public safety communications dispatchers.
- ★ Supervisory LE personnel responsible for on-scene response and/or informing/liasing.
- ★ Interested public safety responders and those that work with communications/dispatch personnel.



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