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DEPARTMENT OF
FIRE

GARY COSTAMAGNA
FIRE CHIEF

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

January 12, 1999

APPROVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

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JAN 12 1999

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: City-wide - All Districts

RECOMMENDATION:

This report is for information only and requires no action.

CONTACT PERSON: Karen Giovanini, Administrative Analyst, 264-7146

FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING OF: January 12, 1999

SUMMARY:

This report is provided to apprise the Council of Domestic Preparedness Training that was conducted in Sacramento during the week of November 2 - 6, 1998.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

During the week of November 2 - 6, 1998, Federal team members from the Department of Defense were in Sacramento conducting Domestic Preparedness (DP) Training. This Domestic Preparedness training was hosted and facilitated by the Sacramento Fire Department. The Domestic Preparedness program addresses Nuclear material, and Biological and Chemical (NBC) weapons. These same weapons can also be referred to as Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

The DP program was designed as a "Train-the-Trainer" program to prepare participants to function as trainers and provide similar instruction to emergency response personnel in their own agencies. The DP instructors used a team teaching approach combining the skills and expertise of the nation's

NBC specialists with the skills and expertise of emergency response experts. These classes were designed to increase the depth of knowledge of responders confronted with the challenges created when a terrorist incident involves the employment of chemical, biological or radiological agents. In addition, the classes teach how to recognize when a terrorist NBC event has occurred and know the potential impacts of that event. Twenty-three (23) classes were taught over a four (4) day period. The classes included First Responder Awareness, First Responder Operations, Technician Haz-Mat, Incident Command, EMS Provider and Hospital Provider. Through the attendance of all these classes, 469 "Train-the-Trainer" certifications were issued.

There were over twenty-five (25) agencies that participated in assigning members to these classes to become trainers. These agencies included the Sacramento Fire Department, Sacramento Police Department, Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, Sacramento County Health, California Highway Patrol, City of Sacramento Public Works Department, Sacramento County Public Works, Sacramento Regional Fire, American River Fire District, Elk Grove CSD Fire Department, West Sacramento Fire Department, California National Guard, Sacramento County Fire Department, Sacramento Regional Transit, Federal Bureau of Investigation, State Office of Emergency Services, Sacramento International Airport, hospital providers and various other public safety agencies.

The week ended with a tabletop exercise held Friday, November 6, 1998. The purpose of the tabletop exercise was to provide participants with an opportunity to evaluate current response concepts, plans and capabilities for response to a chemical terrorist incident in Sacramento. The exercise focused on key local emergency responder coordination and critical decision making for integrating State and Federal assets necessary to save lives and protect the public following a chemical terrorist event. The exercise concentrated on Sacramento's role in responding to the potential consequences of a chemical terrorist event. Emphasis was on coordination, integration of capabilities, problem identification and resolution.

It is anticipated that within the next 6 months, first responders in each participating agency will be trained. The Department of Defense will again return to Sacramento in the Spring/Summer of 1999 to conduct a full fledged active field exercise to practice the skills learned during the training and subsequent agency training. This exercise will include using haz-mat teams and first responders in staged field events with activation of a fully operational and staffed Emergency Operations Center (E.O.C.).

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Domestic Preparedness (DP) training initiative was established under the FY 1997 Defense Authorization Bill (P.L. 104-201, September 23, 1996), commonly called the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici legislation. This legislation provides funding for the Department of Defense (DoD) to enhance the capability of federal, state and local emergency responders in incidents involving nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) terrorism. Through DoD, this grant provided all training materials and instruction. No monetary funding was transferred to the City of Sacramento.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

This report does not involve an activity which would be covered by CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act).

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

This program is an example of operating partnerships within public safety and other governmental agencies.

MBE/WBE EFFORTS:

There is no requirement for procurement of goods or services associated with this report.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis Smith
Fire Chief

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:



WILLIAM H. EDGAR
City Manager