7 CRITICAL TASKS

ASSESS THE SITUATION AND ASK YOURSELF:

1. What do I have
2. Location of incident
3. Number of suspects
4. Type of weapons
5. Type of chemical (Refer to DOT Emergency Response Guidebook)

Remember: Simple information is difficult to obtain.

DANGER ZONE

1. Identify immediately in order to limit additional exposure to danger.
2. Once the "danger zone" is identified, immediately communicate its boundaries to the Communications Center.
3. The "danger zone" boundaries will be communicated to the general public in the affected area.
4. No one, including law enforcement and fire personnel, will be allowed to enter the "danger zone" until authorized by the Incident Commander.

ESTABLISH INNER PERIMETER—
Control and Contain

1. No unauthorized personnel are to have access to the inner perimeter.
2. If plainclothes personnel are used on the inner perimeter, replace with uniformed personnel as soon as possible. This enables all personnel to quickly identify unauthorized intrusions into the scene.
3. Ensure personnel take proper cover and concealment. In the event of a Hazmat incident, personnel must maintain discipline.
4. Limit the movement of inner perimeter personnel.

Checklist developed in cooperation with the National Sheriffs' Association

7 CRITICAL TASKS, *cont.*

ESTABLISH OUTER PERIMETER
1. Limit and control access into the emergency incident area.
2. Identify and secure safe routes of travel for emergency vehicles both to and from the scene.
3. Prevent or control access to the inner perimeter.
4. Establish a media information area.
5. All outer perimeter personnel should be made aware of the Command Post location, Staging Area location, and the Media Information Area location.

ESTABLISH INCIDENT COMMAND POST
1. An Incident Command Post (ICP) should be established between the inner and outer perimeter. For certain types of incidents, the ICP should not be in line-of-sight to the scene.

ESTABLISH STAGING AREA
1. The Staging Area is used to control the deployment of personnel and material.
2. Establish the staging area outside the inner perimeter.
3. A Staging Area is NEVER to be within view of the scene and SHOULD NOT be located at the Command Post.
4. Assign a unit to respond to the Staging Area and assume the duties of the Staging Officer.
5. Advise the Communications Center of the location of the Staging Area and the route to be used to gain access to it.
6. Advise all unassigned units responding to report to the staging area.
7. Advise the radio dispatcher to contact any responding mutual-aid agencies with the staging area information.

REQUEST ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
1. Assess the need for additional personnel, specialized units, and/or other agencies.

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