



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OPERATIONS

AFD Captain (ret) Michael Dunn, Hazmat Specialist, MS, BS, AS, AS



ALEXANDRIA HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM

- Fire Department is tasked with the primary responsibility for hazardous materials incidents within the city



Incidents Involve.....

- Homeowners
- Facilities that use and/or produce hazardous materials
- Major modes of transportation:
 - I95
 - Beltway
 - Metro
 - Virginia Railway
 - CSX
 - Plantation Pipeline (Fuels)
 - Washington Gas Pipeline (Natural Gas)
 - Potomac River



Team History

- 1984 - Team established and placed at station 202
- 1987 - Team accepted into the Virginia Department of Emergency Management System as a Regional Response Team
- 1994 – Team partnered with Arlington County Fire Department and became a combined team for both local and state responses.
- 2009 – Team was relocated to the newly opened station 209 designed specifically for the HazMat team.
- 2021 – Team was relocated station 210.



Personnel.....

- Station 210 staffed with minimum of 4 hazardous materials personnel (1 captain, 3 firefighters)
- Total haz mat personnel including support personnel = 47
- Hazardous Materials Commander is the Special Operations Battalion Chief
- Works closely with Fire Marshals - Environmental Crimes Investigation Unit



Training.....

- All Alexandria Fire Department operational personnel are trained at least to the Hazardous Materials Operations Level
- All members of the hazardous materials team are either Haz Mat Technician or Specialist certified
- All team members must obtain at least 24 hours of continuing education each year to remain certified

Haz Mat 210



- Primary Unit for team
- Has Command Area with:
 - Research Materials
 - Communications
- Carries:
 - Monitoring and detection equipment
 - Personal Protective Gear
 - Decontamination Equipment
 - Sampling Equipment

Haz Mat Support 210



- Primary Investigation Unit
- Carries:
 - Monitors & Detectors
 - Personal Protective Gear
 - Tools
 - Absorbent Materials
 - Sampling Equipment

Haz Mat Special Hazards 210



- Primary Equipment Vehicle
- Has Command Area & is the backup unit for Hazmat 210
- Carries:
 - Tools
 - Salvage Drums
 - Tents
 - Plugging & Patching equipment
 - Neutralization
 - Absorbents
 - Personal Protective Gear
 - Decontamination supplies

Haz Mat Special Hazardous Unit



- Primary Defensive Unit
- Carries:
 - Bulk absorbents and booms
 - Salvage drums
 - Tools
 - PVC piping

Foam Unit 210



- Carries 660 gallons foam concentrate
- Trailer mounted 1000 gpm nozzle
- Portable foam inductors & nozzles
- Absorbents
- Drums
- Pump
- Flammable gas monitor



Other Units.....

- 1 – Mass Decontamination trailer
- 1 – WMD trailers
- 1 – Rehab Bus
- 1 - Engine