



15TH CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION
Vermont National Guard

DISCLAIMER

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BRIEF

... was created by the presenters and should not be considered official U.S. Army policy.

DUE TO THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF WMD DEFENSE

... technical data and specifics will not be addressed, and we may not be able to answer all questions.





4TH GRADE
GREENDALE SCHOOL
FRANKLIN PARK NJ 08852

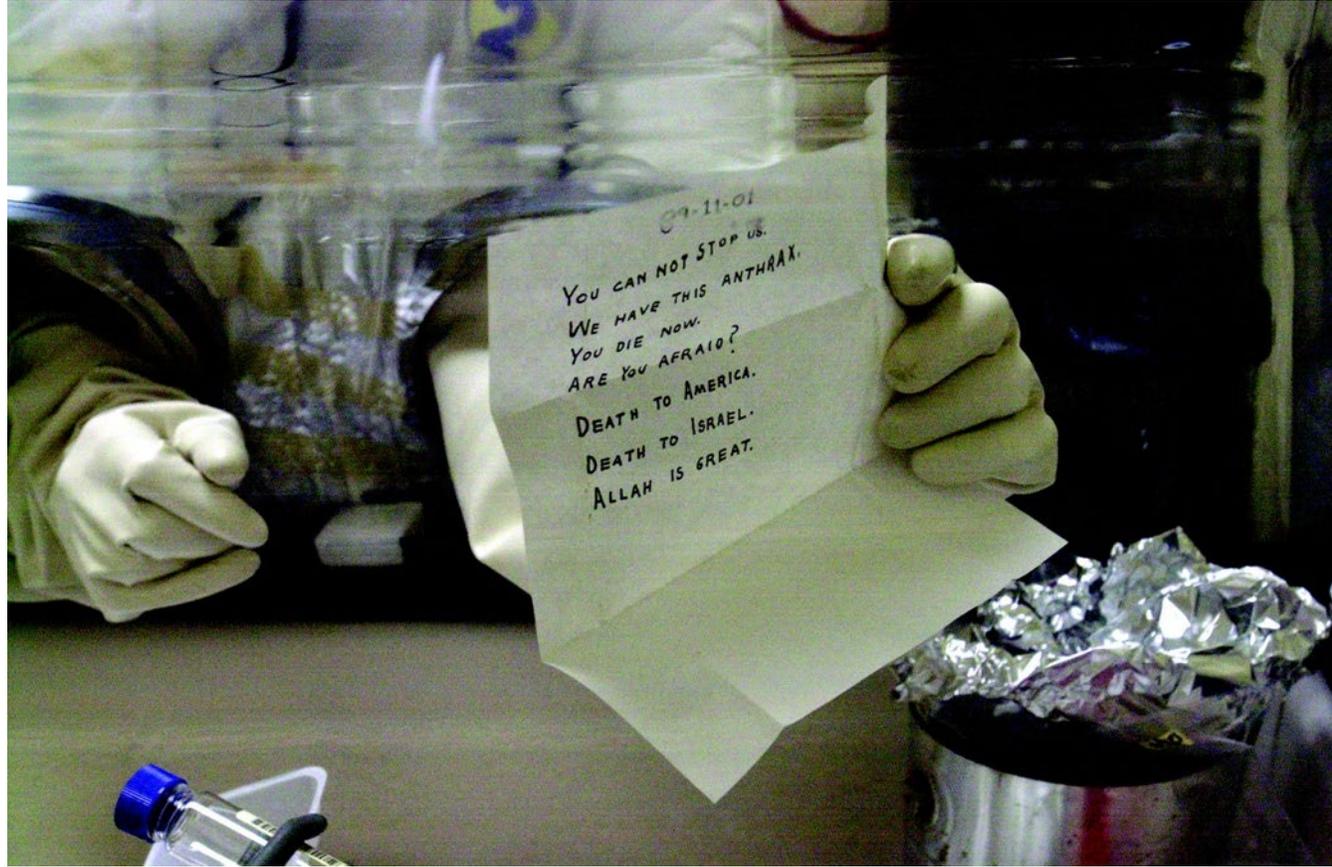


SENATOR LEAHY
433 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE
BUILDING
WASHINGTON D.C. 20510-4502

20520+4502

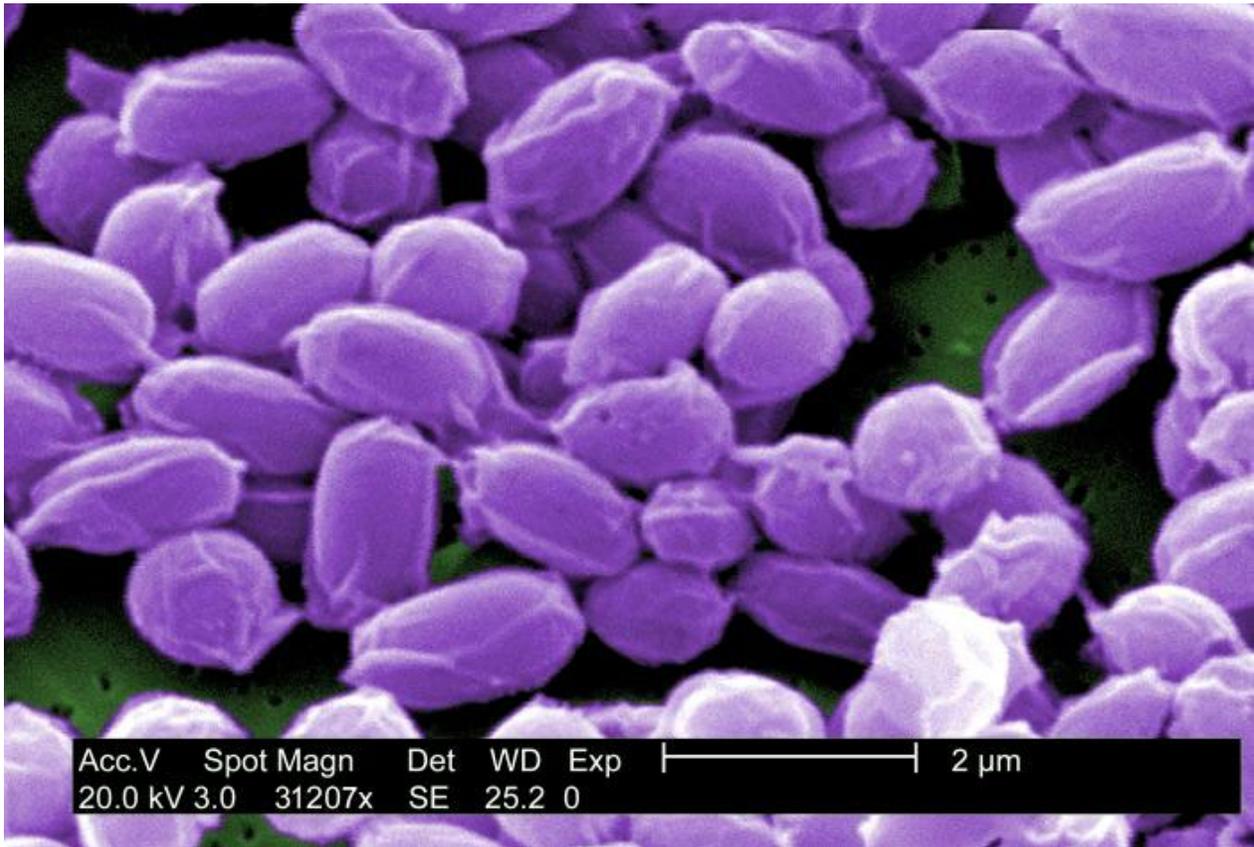


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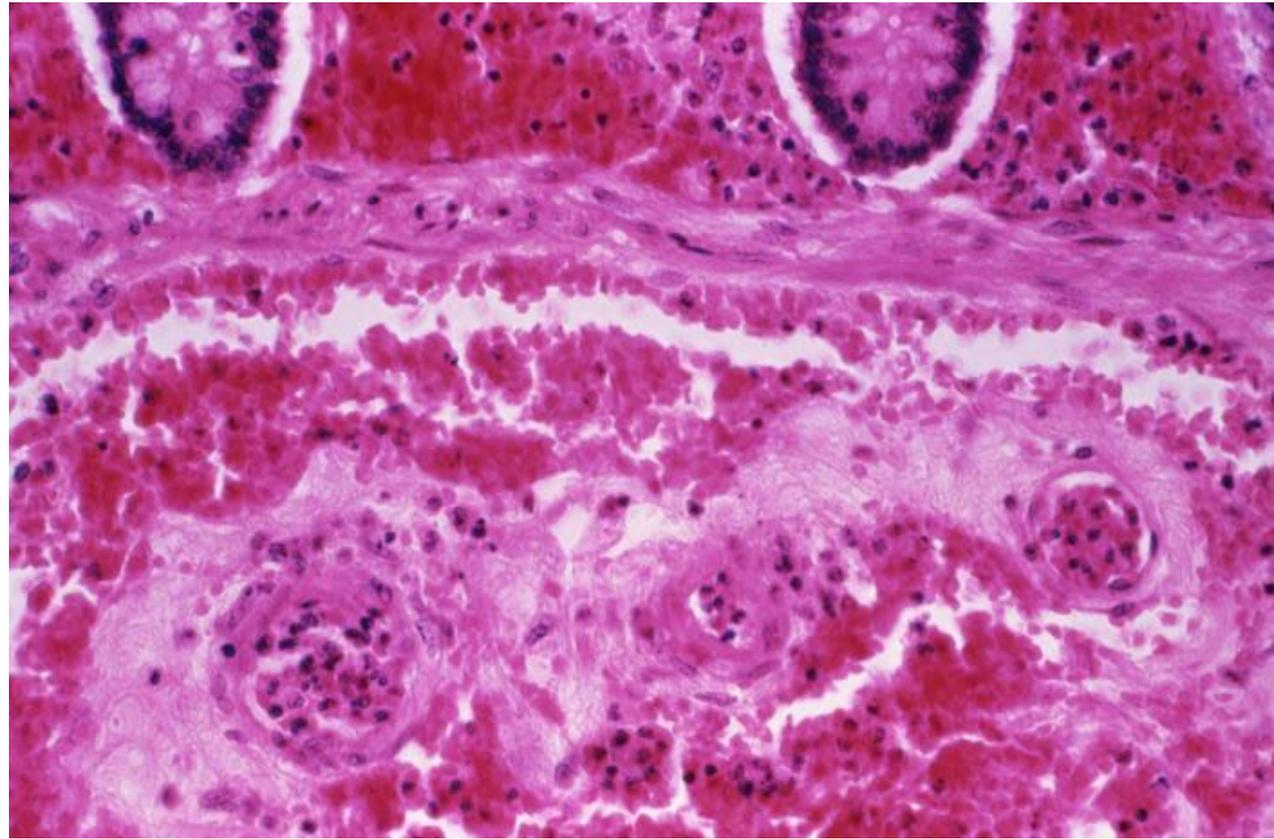




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Electron micrograph (SEM) depicted spores from the Sterne strain of *Bacillus anthracis* bacteria.



This micrograph reveals submucosal hemorrhage in the small intestine, in a case of fatal human anthrax

2001 AMERITHRAX TIMELINE



Robert K. Stevens



Thomas Moore Jr



Joseph Curseene Jr.



Kathy Nguyen



Otilie Lundgren

Sept. 11, 2001: Terrorists attack the United States

Sept. 18, 2001: The first letters containing anthrax are mailed.

Oct. 4, 2001: Bob Stevens of American Media in Florida is hospitalized with inhalation anthrax

Oct. 5, 2001: Stevens, 63, dies. It's the first anthrax death in the U.S. in 25 years.

Oct. 15, 2001: Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD) tells reporters anthrax was found in his office

Oct. 23, 2001: Two postal workers from the Brentwood facility in Washington, D.C., are confirmed to have died from inhalation anthrax.

Oct. 5, 2001: Stevens, 63, dies. It's the first anthrax death in the U.S. in 25 years.

Oct. 31, 2001: Kathy Nguyen dies from inhalation anthrax.

Nov. 21, 2001: Otilie Lundgren, 94, of Connecticut, becomes the fifth person to die from inhalation anthrax.

Dec. 2003: The Brentwood postal facility reopens in Washington, D.C., after more than \$130 million worth of renovation and cleanup.

ATTACK IMPACT

- 5 dead, 17 seriously injured
- Postal Facilities
 - Cleanup took 3 years
 - Cost 250 Million \$
 - FBI estimates total cost at 1 Billion \$

LONER LIKELY SENT ANTHRAX, FBI SAYS

Search

Ralph R. Frerichs

Bioterrorism

HIV controversies

John Snow site

UCLA epidemiology

about EPI

academics

courses & seminars

centers & programs

faculty & preceptors

resources

links

Dept. of Epidemiology
University of California,
Los Angeles (**UCLA**)
School of Public Health
Box 951772
Los Angeles, CA
90095-1772 USA

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#), November 10, 2001.

THE ANTHRAX THREAT

Loner Likely Sent Anthrax, FBI Says

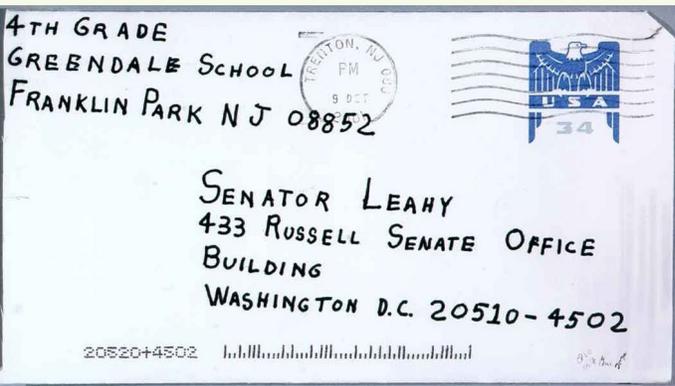
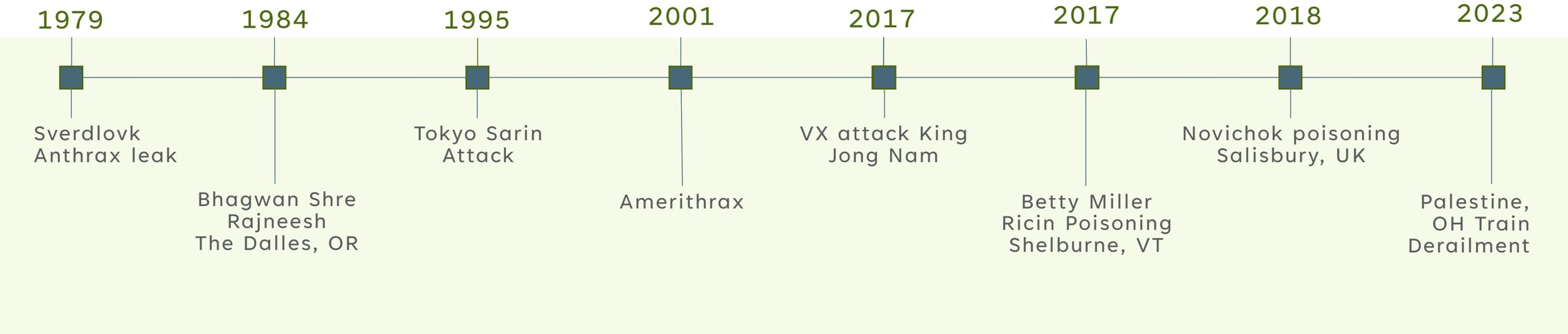
By ERIC LICHTBLAU and MEGAN GARVEY, TIMES STAFF WRITERS

WASHINGTON -- The FBI is increasingly convinced that the person behind the recent anthrax attacks is a lone wolf within the United States who has no links to terrorist groups but is an opportunist using the Sept. 11 hijackings to vent his rage, investigators said Friday.

Based on case studies, handwriting and linguistic analysis, forensic data and other evidence, authorities do not believe at this point in their five-week investigation that Osama bin Laden's Al Qaeda network was behind the anthrax attacks, FBI officials said.

Instead, FBI investigators said at a news briefing that they are probably looking for an adult male with at least limited scientific expertise who was able to use laboratory equipment easily obtained for as little as \$2,500 to produce high-quality anthrax. FBI officials, in offering their most expansive public assessment to date of their probe, are hoping that the rough profile they have developed of the anthrax culprit could produce a redux of their 1996 capture of the infamous Unabomber.

HISTORY



2018 Salisbury Poisonings



Population - ~40,000

Leading industry – Tourism

Located about 3 hours from
Major Metropolitan Center

2018 Salisbury Poisonings

4 March 2018 – Sergei and Yulia Skripal found unresponsive on park bench . Symptoms initially thought to be drug overdose turned out to be nerve agent poisoning.



5 March 2018 – Major Incident Declared. Detective Nick Bailey who visited Skripal's house hospitalized for exposure. Admitted to hospital in critical condition discharged 22 March 2018.



30 June 2018 – Two British nationals admitted to hospital for poisoning, Dawn Sturgess and Charley Rowley . Police determine that its same Novichok agent. Perfume bottle containing agent found to have enough agent to “kill thousands of people. Dawn dies from her exposure.



22 Nov 2018 – Detective Nick Bailey releases interview stating he was wearing a forensic suit and that lost his home and all possessions due to possible contamination.

2018 Salisbury Poisonings



Salisbury declared decontaminated after Novichok poisoning

1 March 2019



Novichok poisoning by the numbers

- 1 death
- 5 hospitalised
- 7000+ samples analysed
- 12,800+ hours spent in PPE
- 28 shipping containers of contaminated waste collected
- 540m³ waste sent for incineration

FOURTH GENERATION AGENTS

SAFETY AWARENESS FOR FIRST ON-SCENE RESPONDERS*

Introduction

- ▶ This information is part of ongoing preparedness for all hazards and is intended to help you protect yourself if an incident ever occurs involving a fourth generation agent (FGA, also known as A-series or Novichok nerve agents), such as the one used in the United Kingdom in 2018. No illicit use or manufacture of an FGA or other nerve agent is known to have occurred in the United States, and there is no known threat of any nerve agent use in the United States.
- ▶ If an incident occurs involving an FGA, first on-scene responders (law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services personnel) initially may be unaware that an FGA is present. Conduct an appropriate initial scene assessment in accordance with standard protocols. **Implement protocols for a hazardous materials response if you suspect any potential nerve agent incident, and ensure the local FBI Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Coordinator is notified immediately.** The FBI will investigate the threat or presence of any nerve agent, including FGAs, as a violation of federal law.
- ▶ **The National Guard WMD-Civil Support Teams (WMD-CSTs) possess unique training and have specialized U.S. government fielded equipment to perform field identification to assist local and state responders. Your state Emergency Operations Center can contact the WMD-CSTs if you suspect a nerve agent release.**

WHAT IS OUR MISSION

- 15th CST supports civil authorities at a CBRN incident / All Hazard incident
 1. Assess current and projected consequences
 2. Assist with appropriate requests for state response.
 3. Advise on appropriate response measures
 4. Identify CBRN agents / substances
- We are specialized for terrorist incidents, but can respond to any all-hazard response to support the Incident Commander
- Responds under authority of Governor, may respond as part of Federal mission, always within the homeland.

WHERE WE FIT

**PUBLIC SAFETY /
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**



CST

**LAW ENFORCEMENT /
EVIDENCE COLLECTION**

WHO WE ARE

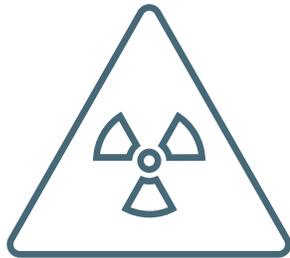
22 Full-time Vermont National Guard Soldiers & Airmen

- 6 Sections
 1. Command
 2. Operations
 3. Survey
 4. Medical / Analytical
 5. Communications
 6. Decontamination

COMMAND

- Reports to the Incident Commander
- Advance team begins travel within 90-minutes
- Integrates with ICS Systems
- Informs to the capability of additional potential support assets

OPERATIONS



THREAT MODELS

Provide hazard predictions and plume modeling to identify potentially contaminated areas and assess current and potential hazards



MISSION TRACKING

Creates and manages Common Operation Picture (COP)

SURVEY



SITE CHARACTERIZATION

- Detects and characterizes unknown contaminants and samples suspected agents
- Operates in any CBRN/ Hazardous environment

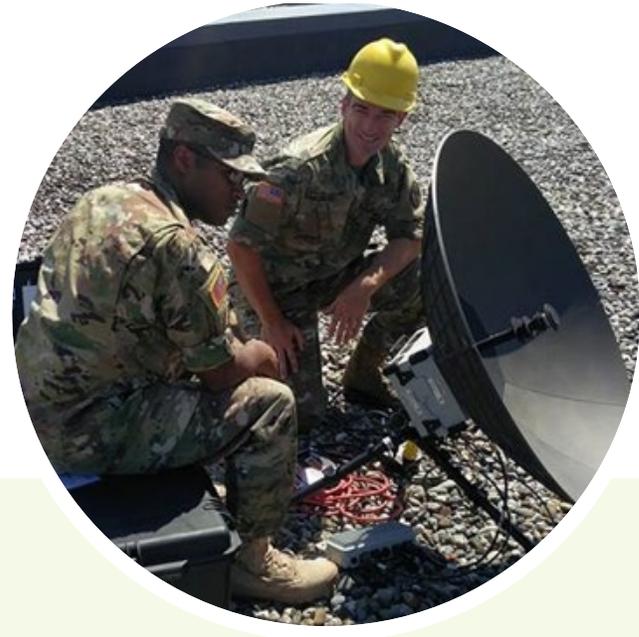


CRIME SCENE PRESERVATION

- Follows FBI approved methods of sampling and crime scene preservation
- Follows Chain of Custody protocols requested by accepting agency

COMMUNICATIONS

- SECURE COMMUNICATION (phone/internet)
- DIFFICULT TERRAIN COMMUNICATIONS



DECONTAMINATION

LARGE SCALE GROSS

- Not designed for of large-scale decontamination
- Can advise on use of decon practices and procedures

SMALL SCALE TECHNICAL

- Limited capabilities to emergency responders

CST is self sufficient for 72 hrs.

Limited by fuel and water for technical decon.

Federally supported by Consequence Management Support Center

MEDICAL & ANALYTICAL



ANALYTICAL LABORATORY SYSTEM

- Provides presumptive analysis of CWA, BWA, TICS, and toxins

MEDICAL SUPPORT

- Provides emergency healthcare and medical treatment for CST Team members
- Subject matter experts in signs and symptoms of

ALS CAPABILITIES

- Radiological analysis and interpretation.
- Gas chromatograph and mass spectrometer.
- Polymerase chain reaction for deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) identification.
- Infrared spectrometer.
- Immunoassay tickets.
- Electrochemiluminescence technology.
- 2x Class III biosafety cabinet (glove box).
- Secure and nonsecure interface to the Unified Command Suite for the transmission of digital sample information.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FROM CST



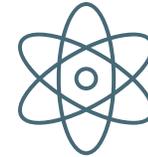
**INCIDENT
COMMANDER
ON SCENE**



**VERMONT
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**



**VERMONT
NATIONAL GUARD
DIRECTOR OF
MILITARY
SERVICES**



**COMMANDER
15TH CST**



**RESPONSE TO
INCIDENT
COMMANDER**

NON-EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

TRAINING

- Regional exercises (a.k.a. Northern Fallout/Vigilant Guard)
- Local training events
- Capabilities briefing
- Exercise advisement and assistance.

COST TO USE CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM RESOURCES

NO COST

- Free to Local, State, Federal Agencies

SCALABLE & TAILORABLE FOR THE INCIDENT

- Stand-by operations for special events
- Provides operational assistance at an all-hazard event

Participate and assist in the development of exercises

Conduct training for first responders



NSSE (NATIONAL SECURITY SPECIAL EVENT)

- Superbowl
- Boston Marathon
- Killington World Cup
- PGA
- Sturgis
- Patriots Games
- Inauguration
- Dalai Lama Visit
- POTUS/VPOTUS Visits

STATE SUPPORT

- DMV truck stops
- State of the State
- Burlington Marathon/Fireworks
- Local Partner Training events (Nevada Test Site, Northern Fallout)

REAL WORLD RESPONSES

- Wake Robin (Ricin)
- Murder Investigation Green Mountain Ntl. Forest
- Hurricane Sandy
- Chemical Suicide
- COVID-19
- Lost Hikers/Persons
- 2023 Flood Response and LNO support

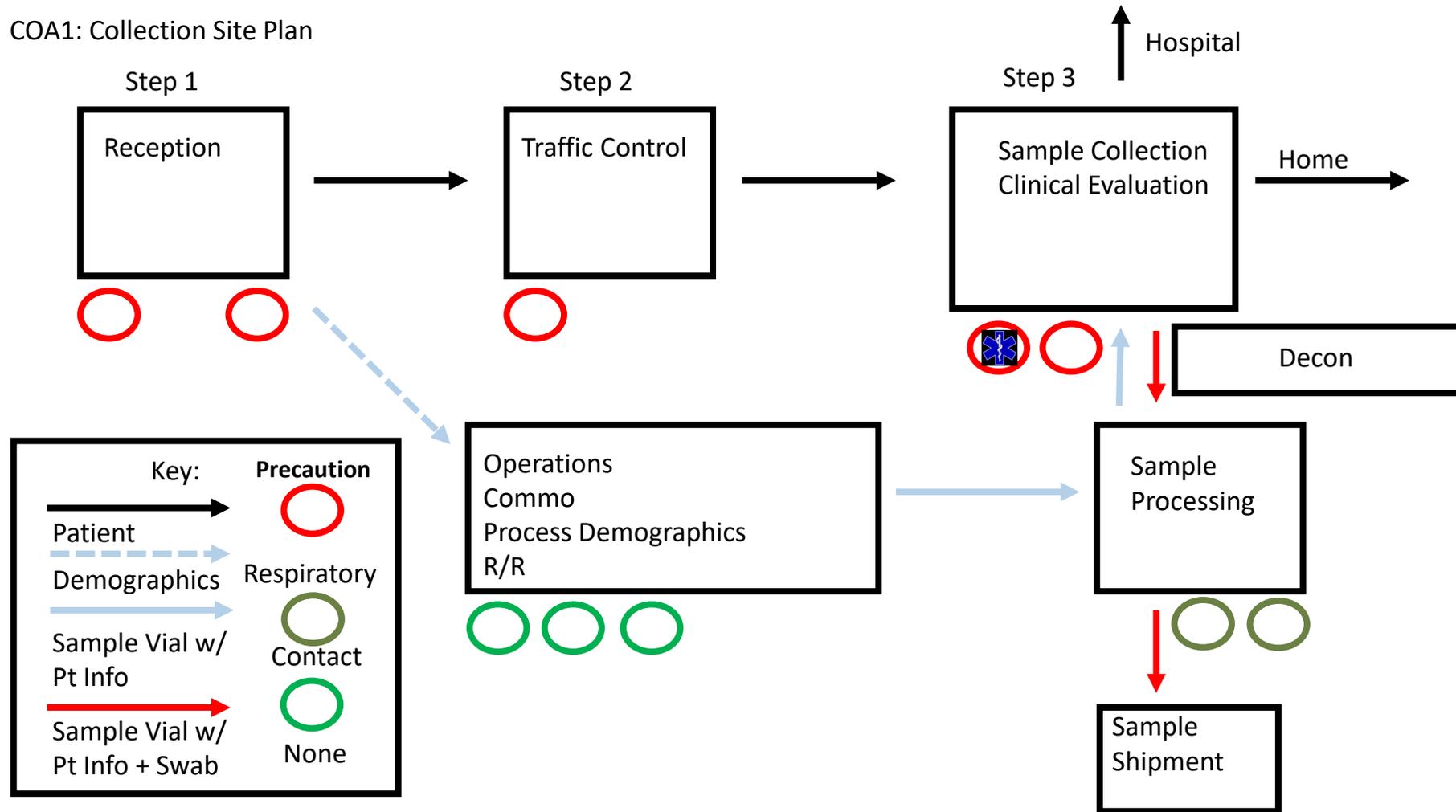
JOINT HAZARD ASSESSMENT TEAMS

The Joint Hazard Assessment Team (JHAT) exists to build a team of agencies that stand ready to prevent, respond to, and prosecute crimes at all kinds of hazardous materials and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) incidents.



2020 COVID Sample Mission

COA1: Collection Site Plan







2023 Flood Response





QUESTIONS

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15th Civil Support Team
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