



FIRE DEPARTMENT CITY OF NEW YORK
Hazardous Materials Operations
FDNY Training Academy
Building No. 8
Randall's Island, New York 10035

To: Whom It May Concern

From: Timothy Rice Battalion Chief WMD Coordinator

Date: August 8, 2022

Subject: **Green Day Testing 2022**

I am writing on behalf of Battalion Chief Jason Lyon. Chief Lyon and I have been colleagues and peers for several years. He, along with five other hazmat response leaders from the first responder community have been invited to participate in the Green Day testing this fall. This series is funded in part by the Counterterrorism Technical Support Office (CTTSO), the Department of Energy as well international partners from Israel and Canada.

Having been involved in a number of unique projects opportunities during my tenure, none has been more impactful and realistic than the radiological dispersal device test series. The radiological competency for hazmat personnel in my opinion is the most challenging to maintain and improve. Decades of research, tests, and procedures for response to radiological incidents were taken to task in 2018 and again in 2019. In 2018, my role was to provide a responder perspective to what was until that time theoretical emergency response procedures. The following year in 2019, I participated again with the condition I expand this knowledge and opportunity to a larger cross-section of the emergency response community. To meet that objective, we invited five other hazmat experts and responders from around the country. This is the next iteration of that test series. Chief Lyon is an ideal candidate given his role in Billings, the region, and the state of Montana. He demonstrates the strategic perspective required for incidents of this nature.

Experiments and training of this type are typically inaccessible to personnel who would be first on scene. All emergencies start locally, and just as importantly, end locally. No amount of classroom or simulated training can provide the level of practical experience that this test series provides. While large urban areas and agencies may have the resources at their disposal to pursue planning guidance for a large-scale radiological accident, emergency, or intentional act, it is virtually impossible to demonstrate real competency or proliferate the concepts nationally across the First Responder community. This unique opportunity and partnership has exponentially increased the ability to disseminate best practices by some of the nation's HazMat community leadership. I strongly encourage you to consider Chief Lyon for participation.

Respectfully,
BC Timothy Rice, FDNY
WMD Coordinator
Timothy.rice@fdny.nyc.gov
347-203-7125