TAKE 5 FOR SAFETY

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES

5-MINUTE SAFETY DRILL

Risk Management: It's Your Call Meth Labs!

Date:_____

Shift:_____

Dept:_____

Station:_____

Training Code:_____

NOTES:

FOCUS: Meth labs have been characterized as an explosion waiting to happen. In fact, over 30% of the meth labs discovered in the U.S . are found as a result of fire or explosion. These pose a serious threat to all emergency personnel..

CHALLENGE

The methamphetamine epidemic in the United States is having a devastating effect on our country. In every state, clandestine labs are showing up in the most unlikely places. The quiet unassuming neighborhood is as likely to have a meth lab as a run down tenement building.

This increase in methamphetamine production is a serious problem for firefighters, emergency medical personnel and other first responders. The clandestine labs are responsible for explosions and hazmat releases, and they can unleash other dangers on unsuspecting response personnel.

You have been called to this scene where a fire has resulted in an explosion. This apartment is the location of a meth lab. It's your call!

DISCUSSION

- How prepared is the department to handle fighting a fire involving illegal drugs?
- What issues concern you about evacuation of residents and treatment of residents?
- Does the department have the appropriate decontamination protocols established?
- What security concerns do you have as the safety officer regarding potential "booby" raps installed by the occupant?
- How often have you had to deal with a situations such as this?
- Do you have a good working relationship with law enforcement departments?
- Are there frequent briefings about drug trafficking in your service neighborhoods?
- How can this situation be made safer from a response standpoint?

The greatest asset of the fire service is our people; protect them!

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Ask for public entity safety coordinator

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