FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION / 
U.S. ATTORNEY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Directive-15 (HSPD-15), to United States Policy and Strategy in the War on Terror, designates the 
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as lead federal agency for the operational response to terrorist 
incidents, including the use of Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD), in the United States.

Legislation has made the use, attempt to use, or conspiracy to use a WMD a federal offense. Applicable 
statues providing the FBI jurisdiction include:

Title 18, U.S.C., Section 175-178, Biological Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act (BWAT) 
Title 18, U.S.C., Section 1365, Tampering with Consumer Products 
Title 18, U.S.C., Sections 871-879, Extortion and Threats 
Title 18, U.S.C., Sections 371-373, Conspiracy 
Title 18, U.S.C., Section 2332a, Use of a WMD

Upon notification of a potential terrorist/WMD event, the FBI will respond according to its established 
policy. The FBI will provide an on-scene coordinator who will liaison with the activated state or local 
Incident Command.

If the event warrants a major response, the FBI will set up a Joint Operations Center (JOC). The JOC is 
the FBI's structure for organizing incident responses. All Federal, state and local agencies are represented 
in the JOC structure. This structure is intended to interface with the existing local command structures 
and to facilitate in the coordination of intelligence collection, deployment of assets and media 
dissemination. The JOC does not replace the command post or Incident Command System established by 
local emergency responders.

Duties

1. ANNEX II to NSPD-46/HSPD-15 mandates the FBI will be the lead agency authority for all 
   "operational response” issues related to a terrorist event.
2. Responsible for deploying Federal assets to assist State/Local agencies.
3. Liaison with law enforcement on-scene coordinator.
4. Coordinate with HazMat teams on-scene to identify hazardous agent(s).
6. Identify / interview victims, witnesses and subjects at the scene of a WMD incident.
7. Transport evidence to Idaho State Laboratory/Federal Laboratories as required FBI.
8. Ultimate prosecution of subjects.

A WMD incident will always be treated as a crime scene. As such, preservation and collection of 
evidence is critical. Therefore, coordination is required between law enforcement authorities, who view 
the incident as a crime scene, and other responders, who view it as a hazardous materials or disaster site. 
Although protection of life remains paramount, the protection / processing of the crime scene is 
imperative to ensure the prosecution of subjects involved.

Notification

State Communications (StateComm) 1-800-632-8000 or 208-846-7610
F.B.I. Offices:
Northern Idaho – Coeur d’Alene  208-664-5128
   Lewiston  208-746-3440
Southern Idaho - Boise  208-344-7843
   Pocatello  208-238-5275

24-hour emergency – Salt Lake City FBI  801-579-1400

There is a WMD coordinator located in the Boise and Salt Lake City FBI offices.

U.S. ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

The FBI will contact the U.S. Attorney’s Office upon notification of a WMD incident. The U.S. Attorney’s Office and FBI will maintain contact throughout the investigation. The U.S. Attorney’s Office will provide legal advice relative to the incident during the progression of the investigation including but not limited to: evidence collection, searches, and identification of victims and witnesses, as needed and necessary. The U.S. Attorney’s Office will also coordinate or assist with coordination and work in cooperation with the Idaho Attorney General’s Office relative to the investigation and prosecution of person(s) responsible with the WMD incident.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office will be available through its Intelligence Specialist to assist in the coordination and dissemination of information among law enforcement agencies throughout the incident and subsequent investigation. If the U.S. Attorney’s Office activates its Critical Incident Response (CIR) Plan and convenes its CIR Team, the Intelligence Specialist’s duties would fall under the direction of the CIR Team and the U.S. Attorney’s Office Crisis Management Coordinator.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office will be available to provide or assist in providing needed services to victims and witnesses as requested or needed. The U.S. Attorney’s Office will be available to coordinate, assist the coordination of, and cooperate with area victim/witness service providers and organizations, victim/witness coordinators, public health organizations and other federal, state and local agencies to obtain the necessary resources and services needed by victims and witnesses. The U.S. Attorney’s Office will make every effort to balance the need of the victims and witnesses with the need to preserve evidence at the crime scene.

Department of Justice /U.S. Attorney’s Office Contacts:

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