BRIEFING THE MEDIA
RADIOGRAPHY EXAMPLE
Instructor answers to 10 media questions

OPENING STATEMENT

GOOD AFTERNOON, I AM _____ THE EMERGENCY MANAGER OF CENTRAL CITY. I WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE SOME DETAILS ABOUT THE CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENT AT 25 WAGRAMER TODAY. FIRST LET ME SAY THAT THE INJURED WORKER IS GETTING PROPER CARE, THE SITUATION IS UNDER CONTROL, AND WE HAVE MOBILIZED THE KEY CITY FIRST RESPONSE AGENCIES – POLICE, FIRE HAZMAT TEAM, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL ARE ON SCENE, THE COMPANY, ACROBAT INDUSTRIES HAS ALSO DISPATCHED A RESPONSE TEAM TO RECOVER THE DAMAGED EQUIPMENT. I HAVE NOTIFIED THE REGIONAL RADIOLOGICAL ASSESSOR AND HE AND HIS TEAM ARE ON THE WAY.

We have heard there was some sort of incident today involving radiation, what happened?

AT 1330 TODAY THE CITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE DISPATCHER WAS NOTIFIED OF A CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENT AT 25 WAGRAMER INVOLVING ONE KNOWN INJURY AND A RADIOLOGICAL SOURCE. THE WORKERS WERE USING AN INDUSTRIAL RADIOGRAPHY MACHINE TO INSPECT PIPE WELDS. THERE IS ONLY ONE KNOWN INJURY AT THIS TIME.

What is the city done to respond and protect the public from this hazard? What departments/agencies are responding?

WE HAVE RESPONDED WITH POLICE, FIRE HAZMAT TEAM, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE RESPONSE ASSETS AS REQUIRED.

Who is responsible for the accident?

THE COMPANY PERFORMING THE WORK WAS ACROBAT INDUSTRIES

Is anyone contaminated?

THE HAZMAT TEAM IS IN THE PROCESS OF DETERMINING THAT NOW

Is radiation present in the air or on the ground? If so, what levels?

THE HAZMAT TEAM IS SURVEYING THE AREA AS WE SPEAK. THEY HAVE REPORTED THAT THE RADIATION SOURCE IS INTACT. THE SOURCE DOES EMIT GAMMA RADIATION. THAT IS WHY PEOPLE NEED TO HONOR THE SAFETY PERIMETER ESTABLISHED BY THE POLICE

Are there any deaths or injuries confirmed? What are the names of the injured?

THERE IS ONLY ONE KNOWN INJURY – AN ACROBAT EMPLOYEE WAS INJURED BY A FALLING PIPE ON THE SCENE. IT IS QUITE LIKELY THAT HE WAS EXPOSED TO RADIATION BEFORE BEING MOVED BY THE MEDICAL PERSONNEL

We have heard that ACROBAT INDUSTRIES has been under scrutiny for safety violations, can you confirm that?

I DO NOT KNOW OF ANYTHING RELATED TO THAT QUESTION – YOU WILL HAVE TO SPEAK TO THE COMPANY OR APPROPRIATE REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

Why are police keeping the public and media so far from the scene?

THAT IS A SAFETY MEASURE TO KEEP PEOPLE AWAY FROM ANY DANGER OF CONTAMINATION OR EXPOSURE AS WELL AS TO ALLOW THE RESPONDERS TO PERFORM THEIR WORK - I URGE THE PUBLIC TO ASSIST US BY STAYING AWAY FROM THE INCIDENT AREA

What do you have to say to the residents of the community near the accident who might be impacted by this accident?

THEY CAN BE SURE THE INCIDENT IS STABILIZED AND THE RESPONDERS ON SCENE WILL RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE MEASURES WHEN THEIR ASSESSMENT IS COMPLETE. THE COMPANY, ACROBAT INDUSTRIES, IS ON ITS WAY TO RETRIEVE THE EQUIPMENT. THEY ARE ESTIMATED TO ARRIVE AT 1530.

When will you have further information for us?

I WILL BE CONDUCTING ANOTHER MEDIA BRIEFING IN ONE HOUR – 1530

CLOSING STATEMENT

FINALLY, I WANT TO ASSURE YOU WE ARE DOING EVERYTHING APPROPRIATE IN RESPONDING TO THIS SITUATION. THE SITUATION IS UNDER CONTROL, WE ARE LOOKING AFTER THE INJURED WORKER, AND WE WILL REOPEN THE AREA AS SOON AS IT IS SAFE TO DO SO. THANK YOU.