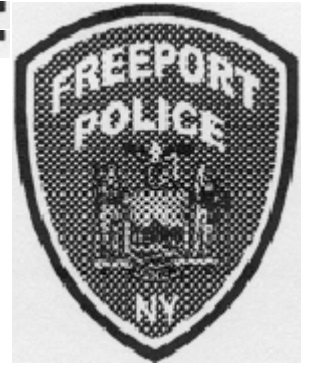


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November 2001

Dear Neighbor:

In the aftermath of the murderous terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, we have been advised to draw upon the American Spirit to find consolation for our overwhelming losses, and offer support to those around us. We have been called upon by our President to transform ourselves from victims of criminal terrorists to the resilient people we were prior to the attacks we suffered.

We have also been asked to become aware of persons or circumstances, which during the course of normal observation, would make us suspicious or uneasy. A person who abandons a bag or package, or attempts to gain access to a government, medical, power or water supply facility through an unauthorized entrance, fence or building perimeter area, or by using false I.D. should be reported as soon as possible to the police.

There may be circumstances caused by misguided individuals, with criminal intent, who may try to create more public fear by performing or threatening acts which allege the use of biological or chemical exposure agents. Our response will be the same to any report of a suspected incident involving these substances, however, the same effort will be used to hunt down the person responsible to bring them to justice. A person responsible for engaging in a terrorist threat may be prosecuted federally with a mandatory prison sentence.

To determine if a package or letter may be suspicious, you should consider the following:

- A -It contains no post mark, AND AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING IS PRESENT:
- B -The postmark is from an unfamiliar location, from which you had no expectation of receiving something,
- C -The weight is unevenly distributed, lopsided or bulky,
- D -The package or envelope has become irregular in shape due to placement or movement of the contents, or may have visible wire inside or protruding outside of it,
- E -The label or other visible stickers or writing is misspelled, consists of reused or cutout print, or otherwise suspicious irregular typing,
- F -The item has no return address,
- G -The postmark and return address are from two different geographic areas,
- H -The item or its enclosure has been tampered with,
- I -The item has oily stains, discoloration or a powder on it, or leaking from it,
- J -The item is wrapped with an excessive amount of string or tape,
- K -The item is addressed to a title of a person, not a name,
- L -The item has a strange odor.

If you observe any unusual or suspicious packages or mail in your home, business place or other public area that you believe MAY contain a hazardous material, please follow these guidelines:

- 1) Remain calm. Do not handle the item. If you have touched it, limit your contact with the item, placing it down as soon as possible away from other people and animals. Shut windows, turn off fans and air conditioners, and then close off the room, preventing other people from entering it. WASH your hands with soap and water, and move to another room.
- 2) Contact the police and give them a full description of the item and your observations of what made it or its contents unusual or suspicious.
- 3) Remain in the area so that the police and other emergency workers can assist you with treatment and decontamination if necessary. Note a description and, if possible, the names of the people in the immediate area who may have been in contact or close proximity with the item, and request/advise them to stay there until the police arrive.

4) Keep other people and animals away from the item. An animal may puncture, drag or cause the item's contents to be dispersed. An unaware person moving into or through the room or area may have the same unintentional effect.

5) Do NOT go to a hospital, doctor or other place until the police arrive and you have spoken to them.

In the unlikely event of a biological or chemical agent exposure, the area hospitals have disaster plans which provide for the mobilization of essential personnel for the purpose of treating persons who are affected.

According to the Centers For Disease Control (CDC), the U.S. water supply treatment process would kill the micro-organisms in biological weapons. The CDC also reports that they have a national stockpile of pharmaceutical supplies, which will be onsite within 12 hours of an incident for the purpose of rendering treatment to affected persons. The CDC requests that individuals should not obtain unnecessary supplies of medicine, as most of the pharmaceutical supplies have a limited shelf life, and they may be unintentionally denying a person in need of a particular medicine local access to it

The purchase and use of gas masks is not recommended. They are not designed so that one mask can be useful for every biological or chemical threat. The masks also require you to wear them prior to exposure. The filter canisters have a lifespan of only a few hours; and if they are not fitted properly, they will not afford you protection and may be a hazard to your health.

As this situation unfolds, we will keep you aware of the developments on this or related matters of concern to your well-being.

As Americans we have a proud heritage of rising to meet a challenge and overcoming adversity. We will persevere in this war through our collective efforts. The members of the Freeport Police and Fire Departments stand ready to serve and assist you during this trying time.

Michael E. Woodward
Chief of Police