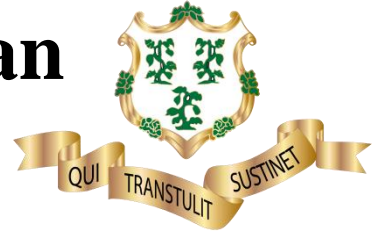


# New Haven Host Community FEMA Evaluated Exercise for the State Radiological Emergency Response Plan June 25, 2015



**City of New Haven**  
CONNECTICUT



with the Connecticut Department of  
Emergency Services & Public Protection,  
Division of Emergency Management &  
Homeland Security

and

Dominion Nuclear Connecticut



# Participating Organizations

New Haven Chief Administrator's Office

New Haven Emergency Management

New Haven Fire Department

New Haven Police Department

New Haven Dept. of Health

New Haven Dept. of Public Works

Southern Connecticut State University

SCSU Police Department

New Haven Community Emergency Response Team  
(CERT)

American Red Cross, CT/RI Regional Chapter

CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection,  
Radiation Division

CT Disaster Behavioral Health Response Network

CT Department of Developmental Services

CT Department of Emergency Services & Public  
Protection, Division of Emergency Management &  
Homeland Security

Dominion/Millstone Emergency Preparedness

UNH Emergency Management Program Students

Individual Volunteers from Connecticut Towns

## FEMA Host Community Exercise Demonstration Criteria

1.a.1 – Off-site response organizations use effective procedures to **alert, notify and mobilize** emergency personnel and activate facilities in a timely manner.

1.b.1 – **Facilities** are sufficient to support the emergency response.

1.c.1 – Key personnel with leadership roles for the Off-Site Response Organization (ORO) provide **direction and control** to that part of the overall response effort for which they are responsible.

1.d.1 – At least two **communication systems** are available, at least one operates properly, and communication links are established and maintained with appropriate locations. Communications capabilities are managed in support of emergency operations.

1.e.1 – **Equipment, maps, displays, monitoring instruments, dosimetry, potassium iodide (KI)**, and other supplies are sufficient to support emergency operations.

3.a.1 – The OROs issue appropriate **dosimetry**, KI and procedures, and manage radiological exposure to emergency workers in accordance with the plans and procedures. Emergency workers periodically and at the end of each mission read their dosimeters and record the readings on the appropriate exposure record or chart.

## FEMA Host Community Exercise Demonstration Criteria (continued)

3.b.1 – **KI and appropriate instructions** are available if a decision to recommend use of KI is made. Appropriate record keeping of the administration of KI for institutional individuals and the general public is maintained.

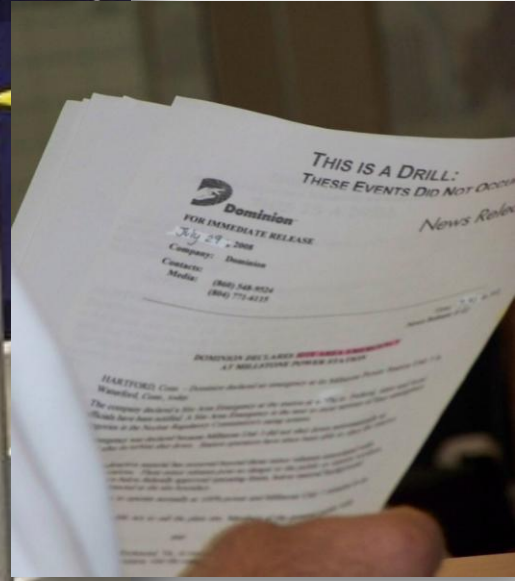
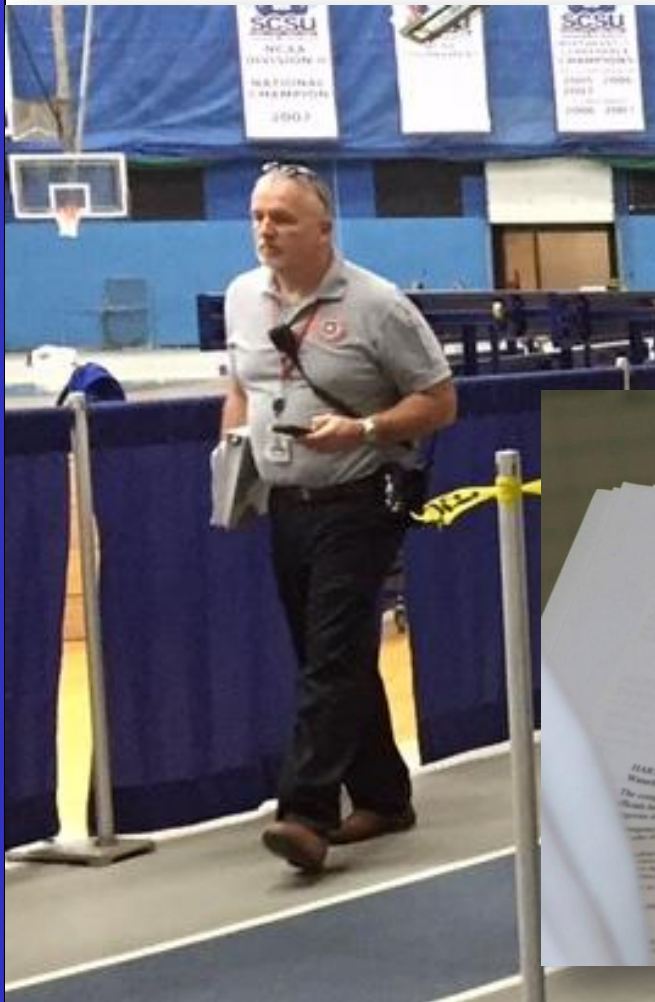
3.d.1 – Appropriate **traffic and access control** is established. Accurate instructions are provided to traffic and access control personnel.

6.a.1 – The **reception center** facility has appropriate space, adequate resources, and trained personnel to provide monitoring, decontamination, and registration of evacuees.

6.b.1 – The facility/ORO has adequate procedures and resources to accomplish **monitoring and decontamination of emergency workers** and their equipment and vehicles.

## THE EXERCISE BEGINS

The New Haven Deputy Director of Emergency Management / Operations receives notification of an Emergency at Millstone Station from the DEMHS Region 2 Coordinator. New Haven is asked to activate their Host Community Reception Center.



The New Haven Fire Department mobilizes responders and cooperating agencies to activate the Reception Center at Southern CT State University.



# THE RECEPTION CENTER

Responders from New Haven Fire and Police arrive at the SCSU Field House to set up the Reception Center in preparation for incoming evacuees.



Bins containing supplies and procedures are brought into the Reception Center.

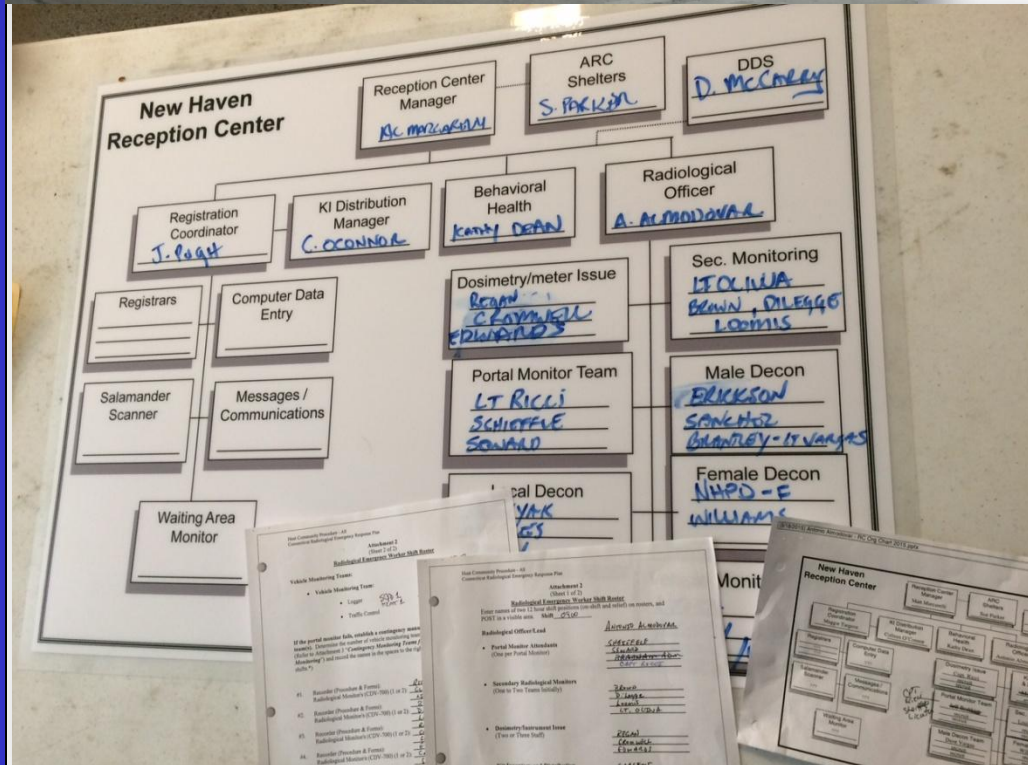


# RECEPTION MANAGER BRIEFING

Before setup begins, the Reception Center Manager gives a general briefing to outline the situation and describe basic precautions that responders must take.

He informs all present that evacuees are expected to arrive in New Haven in an hour.

Working with the Radiation Safety Officer, the Reception Center Manager assigns firefighters to all the necessary work stations.

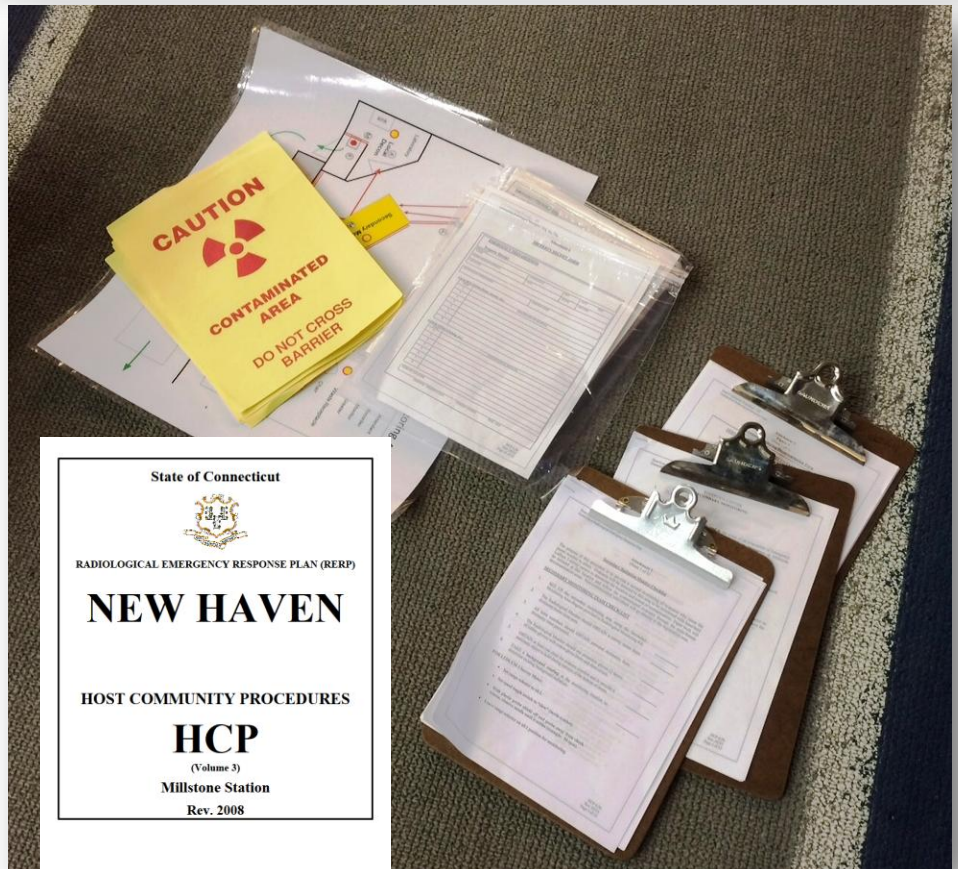






# SET UP OF RECEPTION CENTER

Following the briefing, Fire Department personnel get their supply kits and begin set up of the Reception Center. They work from procedures developed for each work station.



## SET UP OF RECEPTION CENTER

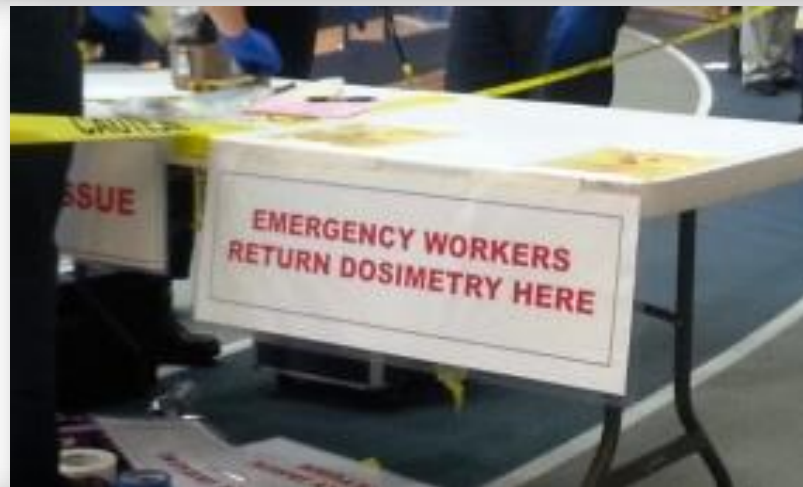
Barriers are put in place to maintain the boundaries between clean and potentially contaminated areas.

Signs are posted outside the Reception Center to direct evacuees to proper building entrances and to Decon, which is adjacent to the Field House.



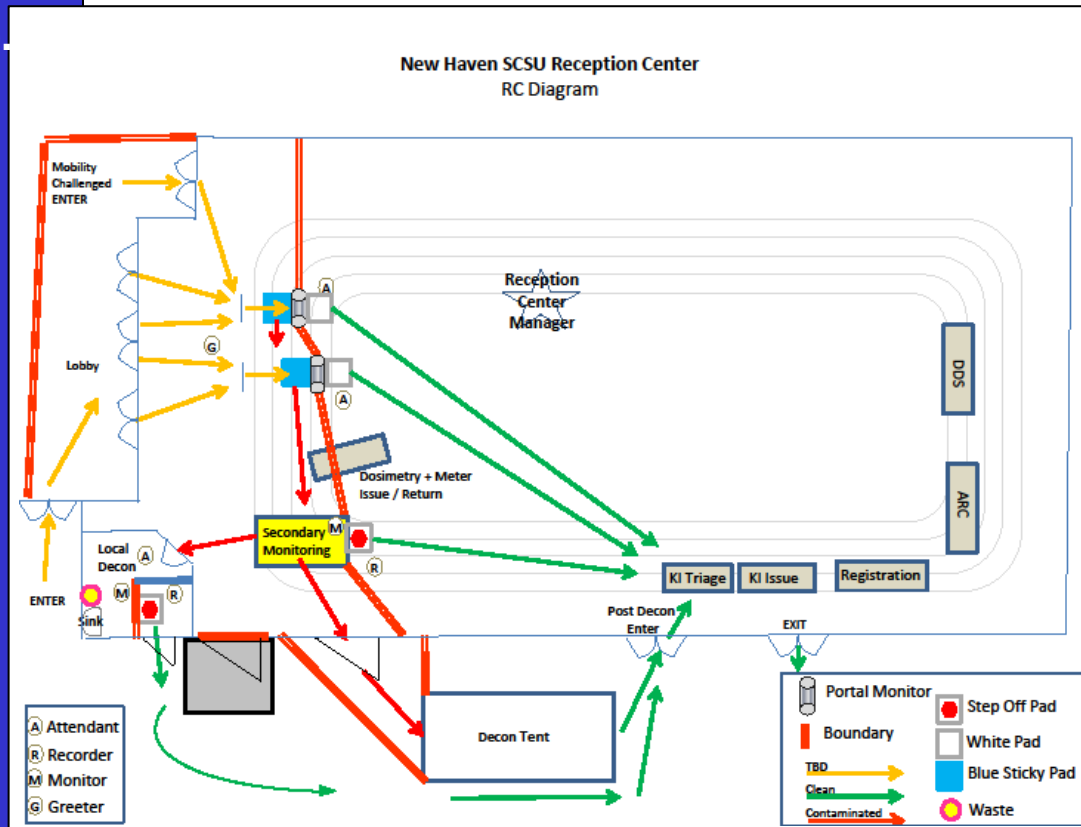
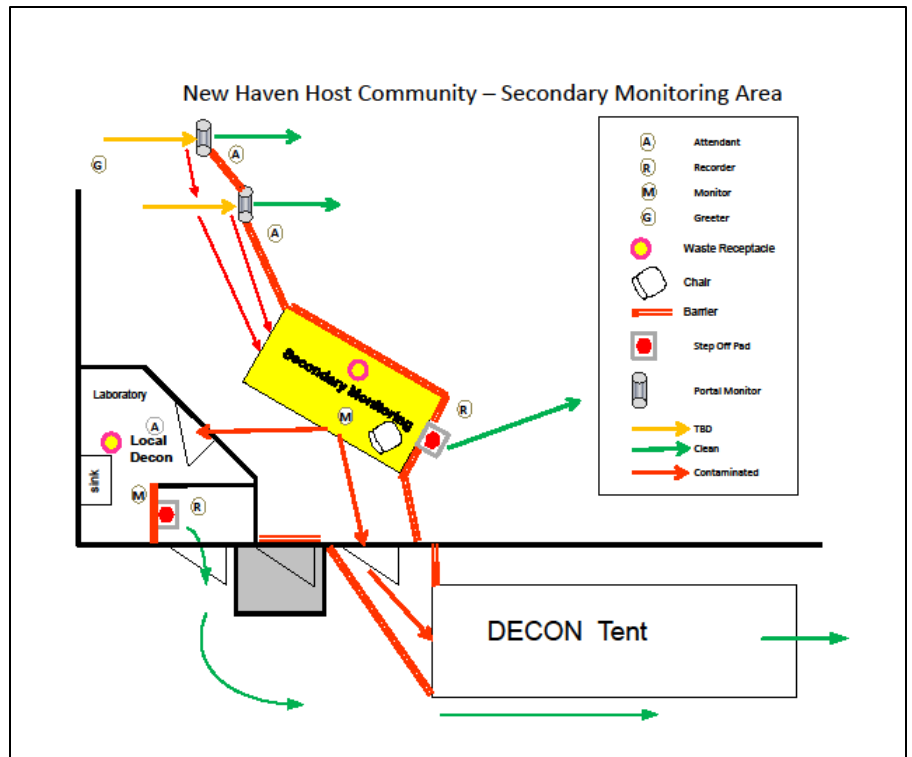
## SIGNS

Inside the Reception Center, additional signs provide guidance for evacuees and also responders. The signs indicate where important processes take place, and help with traffic flow.



# RECEPTION CENTER SET-UP

Fire Department personnel use the diagrams in their plan to set up all areas of the reception center. The personnel portal monitors, Secondary Monitoring and Local Decon are located in the Field House, along with Registration, KI Issue, Red Cross and Department of Developmental Services (DDS).



# RECEPTION MANAGER BRIEFING

When the Reception Center is ready, the RC Manager provides a second briefing to introduce agencies and organizations that support the New Haven Host Community Reception Center.



Among these are the Red Cross, DBHRN (Disaster Behavioral Health Response Network), the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), and CERT.



## COMMAND and CONTROL

Command and Control of the Reception Center are under the New Haven Fire Department in cooperation with the New Haven Deputy Director of Emergency Management / Operations.

The Reception Center Manager will maintain communication with all branches of the Reception Center, including the Radiological Officer, the Registration Coordinator, and Vehicle Monitoring.



Photo courtesy of the  
NEW HAVEN INDEPENDENT

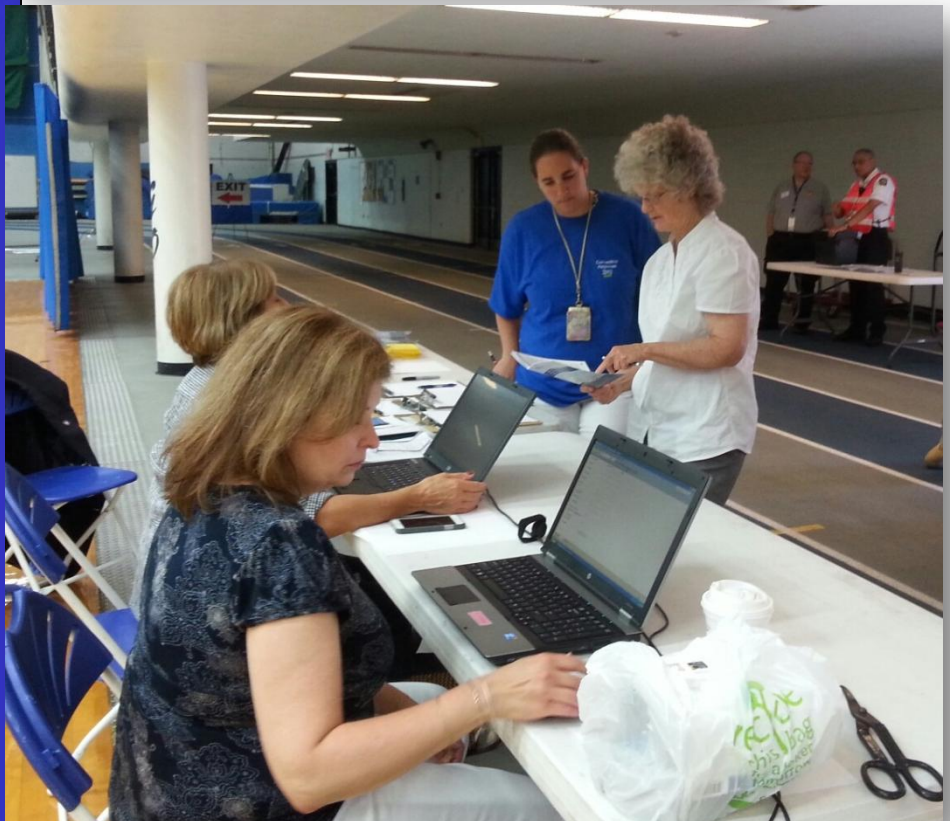


## COMMAND and CONTROL

Once the reception center is declared activated, areas where evacuees first walk will be considered potentially contaminated. These areas involve monitoring and decontamination. Responders assigned to these areas work under the Radiological Officer.



Evacuees who do not alarm the portal, or who are “clean” exiting Secondary Monitoring or Decon will proceed to the Registration area. This area will include KI Issue, Red Cross and DDS.



## TRAFFIC CONTROL and SECURITY

New Haven and SCSU Police are assigned to the Reception Center for security and access control.



They are ready to deal with any impediments that could delay traffic coming to the Reception Center.





## DOSIMETRY AND METER ISSUE

Dosimetry is issued to radiological emergency workers, including CERT and DBHRN members who may assist in radiological areas.

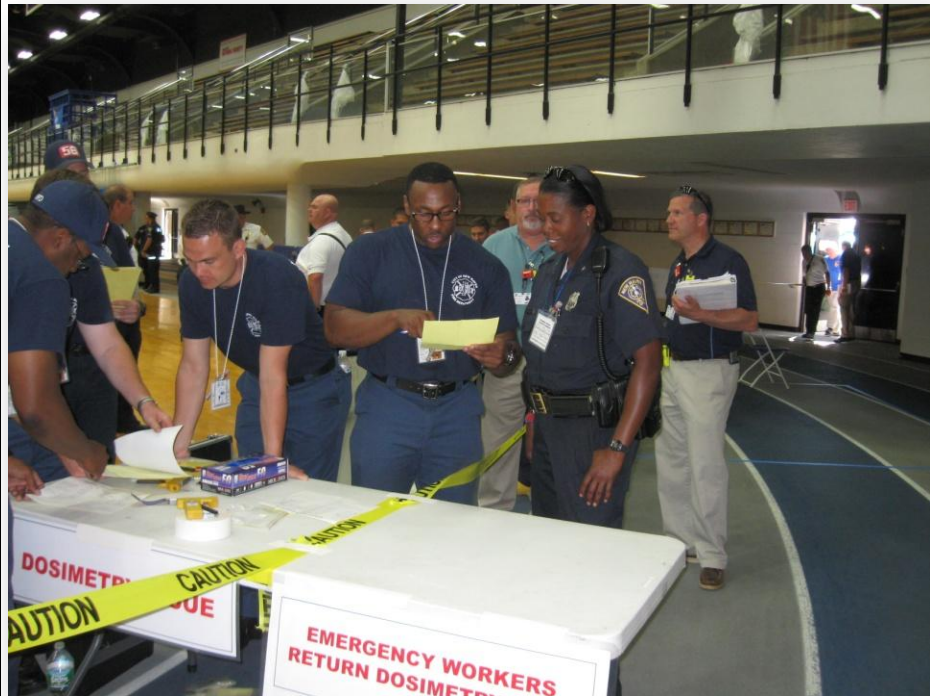


Each team receives a complete briefing when they receive their dosimetry packets.



# DOSIMETRY

Emergency workers complete the paperwork for their assigned dosimetry packet, and female workers are briefed on special dose limits.



Radiological emergency workers are instructed by radio to check their dosimetry periodically.

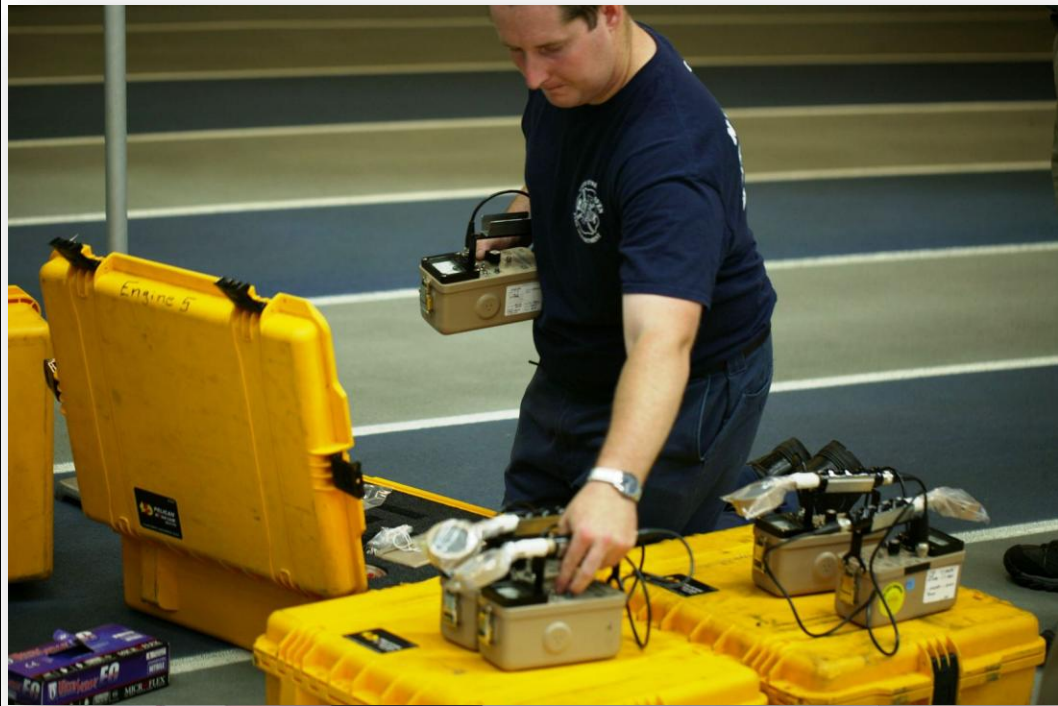


## DOSIMETRY AND METER ISSUE

Radiological equipment must be checked for operational readiness before use.

Ludlum 3 survey meters are issued to Secondary Monitoring, Female and Male Decon, Local Decon, and Vehicle Monitoring.

A check using a hand-held meter will be required before an evacuee is certified non-contaminated or “clean.”



# VEHICLE MONITORING

The first area to see evacuees is Vehicle Monitoring, where teams set up a portal monitor in the entrance to the parking garage.

Vehicles will drive through the portal slowly. If contamination is detected, the portal monitor will alarm.

Drivers are instructed to park in the designated clean or contaminated parking areas.



# PERSONNEL PORTAL MONITORS

Portal Monitors are assembled near the entrance of the Reception Center to monitor incoming evacuees.

Each portal is checked with a radiation source for proper response.

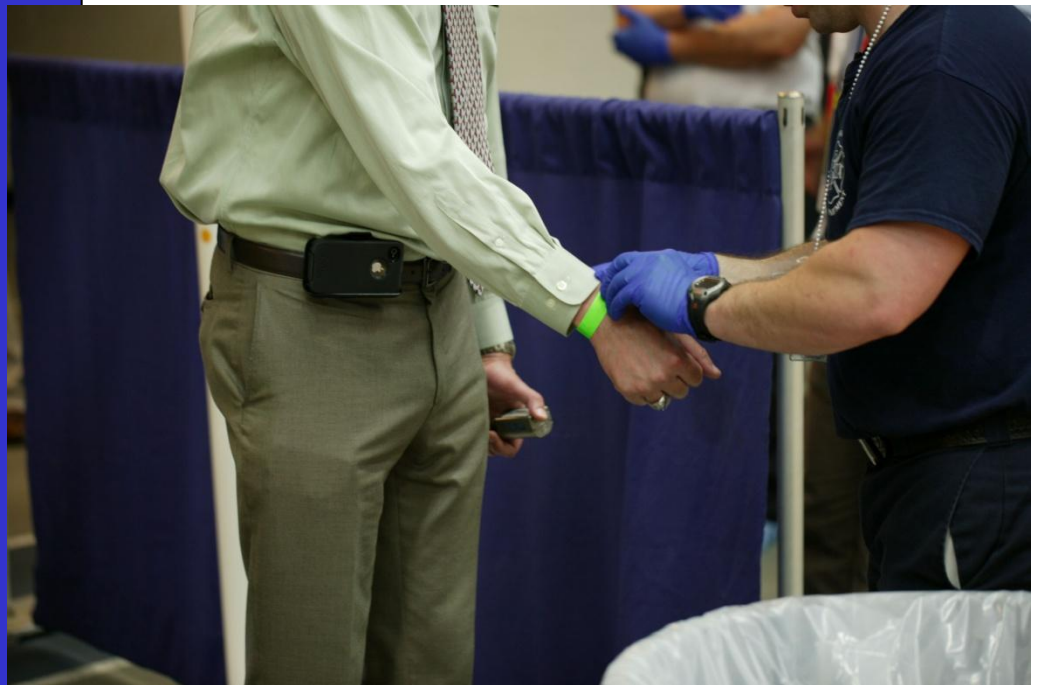
Once operational, the portals will be ready to monitor evacuees for any external radioactive contamination.



## MONITORING EVACUEES

All evacuees who pass through a portal monitor without sounding the alarm will receive a green wrist band.

The green wrist band is proof that evacuees are free of radioactive contamination.



## MONITORING EVACUEES

State and local Emergency Workers who come to the Reception Center will return their dosimetry at the Dosimetry Issue table after they pass through the portal monitor.



Emergency workers from the affected communities may be returning to the EPZ, and are not required to go to Registration.



## SECONDARY MONITORING

In the event the portal monitor DOES alarm, evacuees are sent to Secondary Monitoring, where responders use a Ludlum survey meter to determine the precise location of radioactive contamination in excess of 100 counts per minute over background.





## SECONDARY MONITORING

Evacuees are monitored from head to foot – the probe must be moved slowly at no more than an inch from the area being monitored.



Areas of contamination are marked on a form that accompanies the evacuee through the decon process.



## DECONTAMINATION AREAS

If radioactive contamination is detected at Secondary Monitoring, the evacuee must proceed to a decontamination area or station.



A Decon Tent is set up adjacent to the Field House to provide a place for full decontamination of males and females. The tent can also accommodate functional needs evacuees.



## DECONTAMINATION AREAS

Water lines are connected and signs are posted to show the lanes for showering of males and females. There is a corridor for functional needs evacuees, and a worker corridor as well.



## DECONTAMINATION AREAS

Assistance is provided to functional needs evacuees as they progress through decontamination.

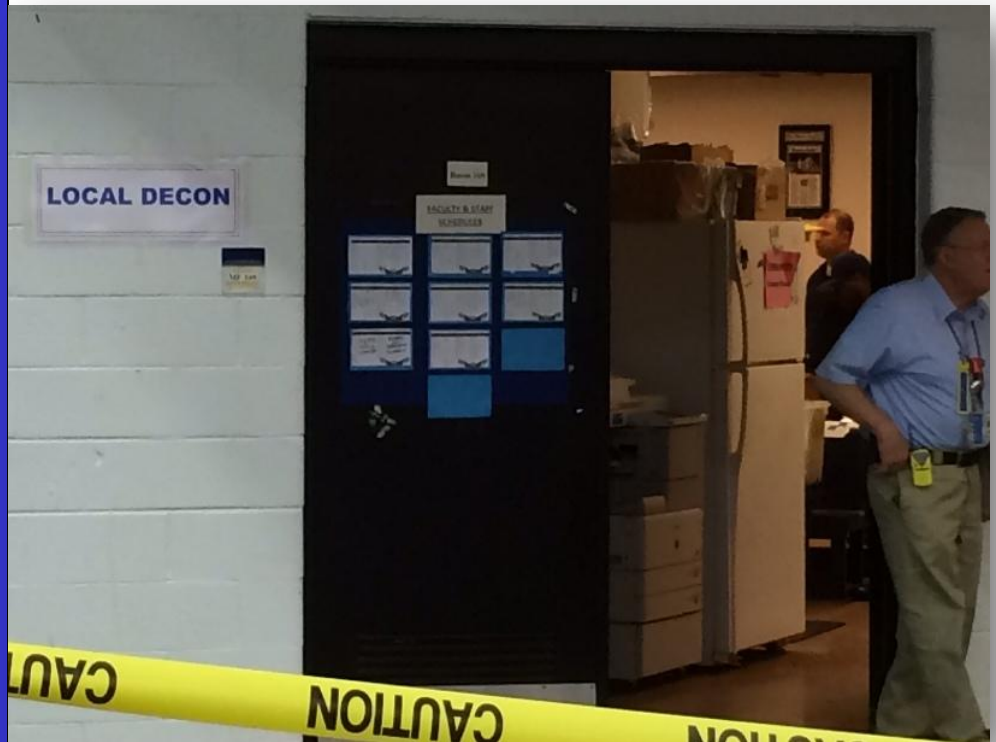


After decon, Fire Department staff re-monitor the evacuees to see if decontamination has been effective.



## DECONTAMINATION AREAS

If radioactive contamination is limited to the hands or forearms, the evacuee is directed to Local Decon.



Local Decon staff assist evacuees who will wash at the sink. The evacuees will be re-monitored and then are provided with a green wrist band to show they are free of radioactive contamination.



## DECONTAMINATION AREAS

During an emergency that calls for evacuation, some evacuees may bring their pets to the Reception Center. Monitoring and decontamination of household pets may be a major concern.



The State Animal Response Team (SART) came to participate and practice their protocols near the Decon Tent.



# REGISTRATION AND KI ISSUE

The last area for evacuees who have passed through the Portal Monitors or Decon and now wear a green wrist band is KI Issue and Registration.



Before they reach the Registration Tables, evacuees can get Potassium Iodide information from the New Haven Health Department.



# POTASSIUM IODIDE (KI) ISSUE

As per exercise scenario, the State Departments of Health (DPH) and Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) have determined that evacuees should take Potassium Iodide (KI).

Evacuees who did not take it before leaving the affected area are offered KI by the New Haven Health Department.

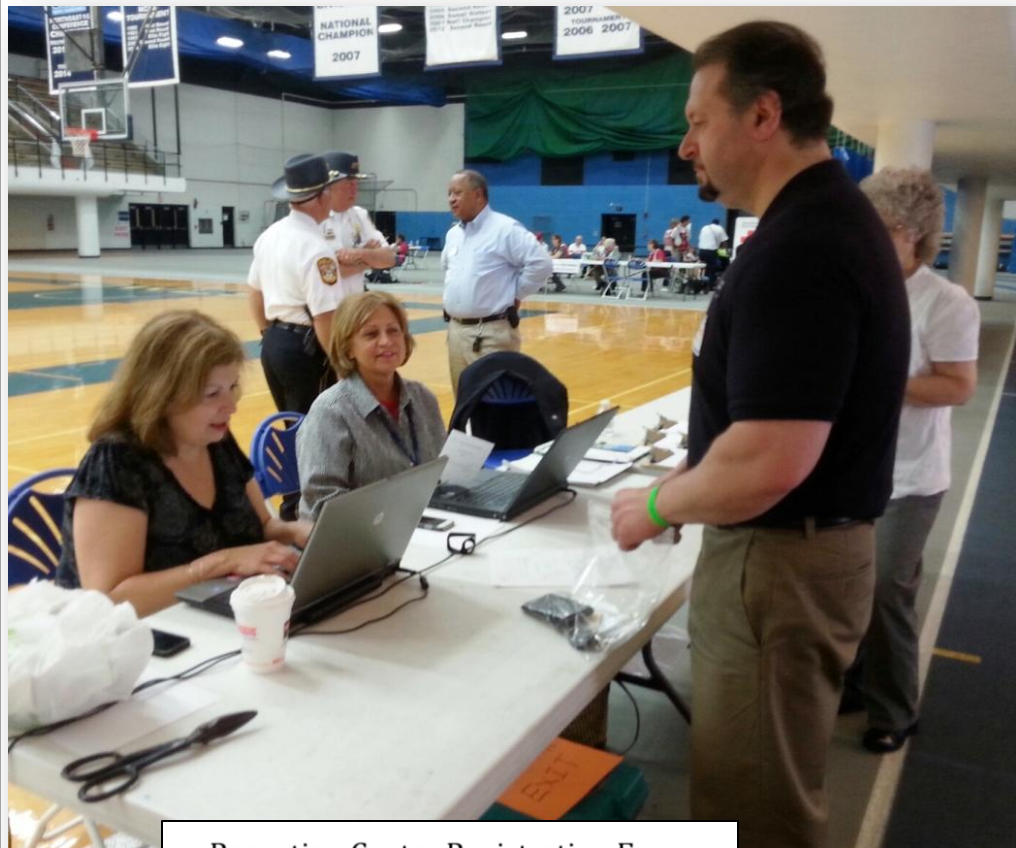




# EVACUEE REGISTRATION

At the next table, evacuees can be registered for the purpose of documentation and the reunification of family members.

Registrars take basic evacuee information on a multi-copy form.



## Reception Center Registration Form

Host Community:	
Last Name:	
First Name	
Cell Phone:	
Street Address/Apt. #	
City	
State and Zip Code	
Additional Family/Group Members Present:	
Referred to Red Cross for Shelter?	
Shelter Location: (completed by Red Cross)	
Decontaminated?	
Registrar Initials	
Date Added:	

Note: Aggregate Information may be collected for statistical purposes.

Original – Registration

Yellow – Individual

Green – Red Cross

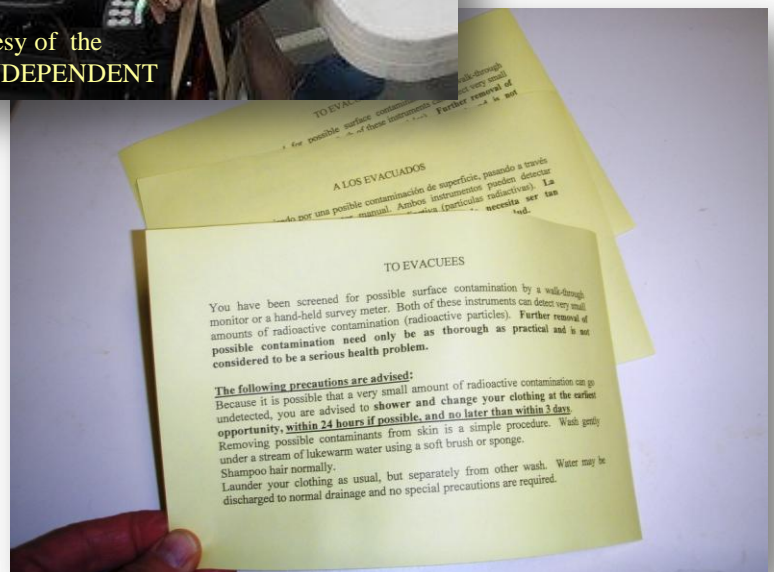
# COMPUTER ENTRY OF EVACUEE DATA

The Registration staff creates a database of information from the hardcopy forms completed by the registrars.



Photo courtesy of the  
NEW HAVEN INDEPENDENT

Further precautionary information regarding possible contamination is also provided to evacuees.



# AMERICAN RED CROSS SHELTER ASSISTANCE

The New Haven plan includes a list of Red Cross approved shelters for evacuees needing a temporary place to stay.

The Red Cross registers people for these shelters.



Photo courtesy of the  
NEW HAVEN INDEPENDENT

# AMERICAN RED CROSS SHELTER ASSISTANCE

*Safe and Well*, an internet-based program used successfully throughout the country, is available at the Reception Center.

The program allows evacuees to register online and notify relatives and friends of their location and status.



# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The CT Disaster Behavioral Health Response Network (DBHRN) is there to provide comfort to those with behavioral health needs and also help keep the overall ambiance of the center calm.



Their trained staff specialize in early intervention for behavioral health issues.



# Department of Developmental Services

The Connecticut Department of Developmental Services liaisons are on hand to provide assistance if clients of their agency arrive at the Reception Center.



## CERT and other VOLUNTEERS

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members work side by side with Reception Center staff, and are a great resource, assisting in many varied positions.



## VOLUNTEER EVACUEES

The roles of “Evacuee” and “Emergency Worker” from the Emergency Planning Zone are played by volunteers willing to participate in the federally evaluated exercise.



Volunteers report to the Evacuee Control area where they are issued cards outlining the roles they will play for the exercise.





# CONTROLLERS and EVALUATORS

Exercise Controllers and Evaluators are the “invisible” participants assigned to observe the actions of the Players. Qualified Observers add their input.

FEMA’s evaluation is based on criteria determined by the Extent of Play document and the implementation of the Host Community’s written Emergency Plan.



## Results of the FEMA Evaluation\*

“The New Haven Host Community Emergency Management, Fire Department, SCSU Police Department, and volunteers demonstrated knowledge of their emergency response plans and procedures and adequately implemented them. There were no deficiencies identified as a result of this exercise. There was one Area Requiring Corrective Action (ARCA) that was successfully re-demonstrated on-the-spot and closed; there are currently no open ARCAs as a result of the exercise.”

### ***“New Haven Host Community Reception Center***

The Reception Center staff was made up of multiple emergency response entities and volunteer organizations. They worked together exceptionally well and demonstrated excellent teamwork.

The Reception Center Manager/Incident Commander demonstrated excellent direction and control throughout the exercise. The Reception Center Staff did a terrific job of setting up their sections in preparation to receive evacuees from the Millstone Emergency Planning Zone communities of Lyme, Old Lyme and East Lyme.

All Reception Center Staff were very much engaged in their position responsibilities and successfully demonstrated knowledge of their plans and procedures. The Reception Center Staff did an excellent job of radiation exposure control and decontamination of evacuees and emergency workers, starting from vehicle monitoring onto portal and secondary monitoring and personal decontamination. Staff did an excellent job throughout the registration process, including but not limited to distributing potassium iodide, registering evacuees, facilitating reunification, and providing shelter and transportation referrals.”

## Results of the FEMA Evaluation\*

“The Reception Center Staff were very conscientious and dedicated to doing a good job as the results of this exercise report shows.

**a. CRITERIA MET: 1.a.1, 1.b.1, 1.c.1, 1.d.1, 1.e.1, 3.a.1, 3.b.1, 3.d.1, 6.a.1, 6.b.1**

**b. AREA REQUIRING CORRECTIVE ACTION: 6.a.1**

**c. DEFICIENCY: NONE**

**d. NOT DEMONSTRATED: NONE**

**e. PRIOR ARCA RESOLVED: NONE**

**f. PRIOR ARCA UNRESLOVED: NONE**

**AREA REQUIRING CORRECTION ACTION: 6.a.1 Evacuee Monitoring and Decontamination**

**CONDITION:** There were some instances in which cross-contamination occurred between the clean and contaminated areas in the decontamination station. In one instance, an evacuee transported a walking stick from the contaminated to clean area without it being surveyed for contamination. In another instance, a potentially contaminated evacuee stepped into a clean area prior to full completion of the survey process. In both instances, re-training occurred and staff then performed the operations properly.

**POSSIBLE CAUSE:** Staff may not have had training on some aspects of cross-contamination.

**REFERENCE:** Criterion 6.a.1”

## Results of the FEMA Evaluation\*

**“EFFECT:** Evacuees could have transmitted radiological contamination into clean areas, causing more people to become contaminated. Because the cross-contamination occurred after the decontamination station, those newly-contaminated people or areas would not be recognized as contaminated and may not have received proper attention.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DEMONSTRATED:** This issue was satisfactorily re-demonstrated and closed during the exercise. Staff received on-the-spot training and quickly recognized the need to ensuring no cross-contamination occurred. Staff were proactive in suggesting mitigating strategies for preventing the same situations in the future and committed to ensuring the effective operation of the station for the rest of the exercise.”

**\* Excerpt from FEMA’s executive summary and report dated August 13, 2015.**

**The Connecticut Department of  
Emergency Services and Public  
Protection, Div. of Emergency  
Management and Homeland  
Security,  
and  
The Dominion Millstone  
Emergency Preparedness  
Department  
would like to thank all the  
participants of the  
2015 New Haven Host  
Community Exercise.**

**JOB WELL DONE!**