Suspicious Letters & Packages

Being Prepared
Training Objectives

• Review historical perspectives
• Understanding the various types of packages
• Identifying a suspicious letter/package
• Protective measures
• Contacting authorities
Historical Perspective

• First mail bomb was in Denmark
• Unabomber
• Anthrax Letters
• Recent mail bombs in Maryland
Jan. 6, 2011 Lone Wolf Likely Behind Dangerous Md. Packages

- (CBS/ AP) ANNAPOLES - Two mail packages caused some kind of incendiary reaction when opened, burning the fingers of two employees in separate incidents at two state office buildings in Maryland at almost the same time Thursday afternoon. Officials say there is no apparent connection to any domestic terror group and that the mailings appear to be from an angry individual who has a specific grudge against the Maryland State government...
Types of Packages

• Explosive Devices
• Chemical Agents
• Radiological Agents
• Biological Agents
Identifying
Inappropriate or Unusual Labeling

• Excessive Postage
• Handwritten or poorly typed addresses
• Strange return address or no return address
• Incorrect titles or title without a name
• Not addressed to a specific person
Inappropriate or Unusual Labeling

• Marked with threatening language
• Postmarked from a city or state that does not match the return address
• Marked with exceptions, such as “Personal”, “Confidential”, or “Do Not X-Ray”
Unusual Packaging Characteristics

• Protruding wires, aluminum foil, stains, strange odors
• Unusual weight given size, lopsided or oddly shaped
• Powdery substance felt through or appearing on the package or envelope
• Excessive packaging material such as masking tape, string, etc.
• Ticking sound…
Suspicious?
Suspicious?
Suspicious?
09-11-01
This is next
Take Penicillin now
Death to America
Death to Israel
Allah is great

09-11-01
You can not stop us.
We have this Anthrax.
You die now.
Are you afraid?
Death to America.
Death to Israel.
Allah is great.

Tom Brokaw
NBC TV
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10112

Editor
New York Post
1211 Ave. of the Americas
New York NY 10036

4TH Grade
Greendale School
Franklin Park, NJ 08873

Senator Daschle
509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
How To Handle a Suspicious Package or Envelope

• Immediately notify supervisor & University Police Department by using a land line phone if possible
• Do not shake or empty contents of any suspicious package or envelope
• Do not carry the package or envelope, show it to others or allow others to examine it
• Put the package or envelope down on a stable surface; do not sniff, touch, taste, or look closely at it or at contents, which may have spilled
How To Handle a Suspicious Package or Envelope

• Alert others in the area about the suspicious package or envelope. Leave the area, close any doors, and take action to prevent others from entering the area.

• WASH hands with soap and water to prevent spreading potentially infectious material to face or skin. Seek additional instructions for exposed or potentially exposed persons.
How To Handle a Suspicious Package or Envelope

• If possible, create a list of persons who were in the room or area when this suspicious letter or package was recognized and a list of persons who also may have handled this package or letter. Give this list to the University Police
Police Response

- Gather as much intelligence on the situation as possible
- Assess the scene
- Isolate danger area
- Evacuate danger area
- Conduct WMD Threat Assessment/Investigation in cooperation with assisting agencies
- Unprotected responding LEO’s will not gather any suspicious substances or remove any suspicious packages
Contacting Us…

- **911 Emergency**
- 962-2222 Non-Emergency
- Anonymous e-mail
- Anonymous Tip Line 962-TIPS
- police@uncw.edu
- Nearest Call Box
- Text a Tip: text “Tip708”, your message and send to CRIMES (274637) or online www.tips708.com. This service is available in cooperation with the Wilmington Police Department.

Police Department
5126 Lionfish Drive  (Walton at Lionfish)