

# FIRE

## Fentanyl Investigation and Response Exercise

*The opioid crisis continues, as new forms of fentanyl-based derivatives are clandestinely developed which can thwart the ability of opioid reversing drugs such as naloxone. These derivatives are becoming adept as a weapon of terror. Loss of life will not be confined to addiction, but rather to innocent people in a plane, subway, hospital or government officials. This training will help to prepare personnel for the clear and present danger of both illicit and weaponized fentanyl threatening our National Security.*

MERIT Training Programs is known as one of the most thorough and thought-provoking training companies in the United States, combining challenging classroom information with realistic practical drills. As new derivatives of fentanyl edge closer to a weapon of terror, the FIRE training was designed to educate and prepare personnel for cascading mass casualty events.

FIRE Training is a three-day course which keeps students engaged with the threat of fentanyl exposure, trafficking and use as a weapon of terror. With the signature training of including up to date relative information coupled with practical training in real life scenarios, FIRE will become essential

### Curriculum

#### Day 1:

- Students are introduced to fentanyl and what is meant by derivatives. This is not intended as a chemistry training, but rather to educate students about how manipulation of a chemical can cause varying synergistic effects.
- Students will view clandestine fentanyl laboratories and identify items used in clandestine fentanyl manufacture.
- Students will be trained to identify the signs and symptoms of fentanyl (opioids) and the routes of exposure, dispelling misleading information without nullifying the dangers of exposure.
- Students will be presented information about opioid reversing drugs such as naloxone. Following with accounts of incidents where naloxone was utilized and the results.
- Illicit drug trafficking techniques will be presented focusing on the threat of exposures resulting from illicitly manufactured fentanyl.
- Students will be introduced to weaponized fentanyl incidents and steps necessary to combat them and prevent cross contamination.

### Day 2:

- Review information from the first day of training and answer any questions. Students will be presented with a quiz , which can be used as a study worksheet.
- Students will be introduced to new techniques and technology utilized in fentanyl and suspicious powder incidents.
- Students will be broken into groups for a classroom response practical. Each group will be presented with a scenario which will involve a fentanyl-based event. Students will be challenged to prepare for, and respond to the incident, based on the criteria presented.
- Students will complete a written exam to gage their comprehension of necessary information from the course. The exam will be reviewed during class. Once complete the instructor will brief the students for the final drill the following day.

### Day 3:

- The most challenging part of this course is bridging a student's current skills with new training. Based on the expertise of the class attendance, the instructor will design a realistic event(s) which will test the understanding of class information and abilities of the response teams. The focus of the practical training is to identify what is needed to create a more efficient and safe response.
- Class personnel will join with instructor to critique and offer opinions to strengthen the response steps necessary for an efficient and safe response.

### **Class Requirements from Agency**

Whereas most necessities for this class are easily provided including a classroom, tables, AV-equipment etc. An additional necessity will include realistic settings for the final practical drill. This may include an office, bus or other appropriate setting for the training event.

When possible, role players are utilized so the students can fully benefit from the scenarios. There is no threat to role players or chance for damages to offices or other settings. They are strictly used to enhance the training atmosphere for the students.

Daily, instruction times may vary dependent on class questions and or information processing. Instructors may, at their discretion, allow more time for students to digest important information or finish lecture early to permit appropriate time to master the information.

We endeavor to offer training which prepares personnel to accomplish specific tasks which will keep them safe in real-life situations. Please do not hesitate to contact me with additional questions.

John 'Jake' Kelton