

This Morning's Mass Casualty and Haz-Mat Incident in Knightdale

11/08/09 160 W, 2 I - + 10 - 10

Hazardous exposure inside the McDonald's at [7141 Knightdale Boulevard](#). Multiple patients complaining of chemical odor and coughing and irritated throats. Dispatched 10:11 a.m. and second EMS alarm soon requested. Knightdale Public Safety established fire branch outside building, with Knightdale 100 soon assuming command. Eastern Wake District 6 established medical branch in Walgreens parking lot, beside McDonald's. Total of 31 patients, all green tag. ThreeSix transported. Patient evaluation area subsequently moved to Wake EMS Truck 1, parked behind the Walgreens. Raleigh haz-mat team special called, and investigating cleaning chemicals as possible source. No other buildings evacuated. Fire units included Knightdale E131, E132, T138, 100; Raleigh Haz-Mat 2, Battalion 2; EMS units included EMS 7, EMS 11, EMS 15, EMS 31, EMS 62, EMS 63, EMS 68, EMS 124, M93, D1, D2, D3; D6, MD1, Truck 1. Who else? Pics from Legeros later. See any news station for current coverage.



And here's a hasty panorama. Click once or twice to enlarge:



For those of us not up to speed on terminology, what's "green tag" ?
I'm assuming it means some kind of minor injury not needing transportation?

Paul - 11/08/09 - 13:51

Ive heard of EMS box alarms but was told they were done away with. What is included in an EMS first alarm? If that terminology is even right.

KOM - 11/08/09 - 14:24

The Wake County EMS System recently implemented alarm levels, and we haven't had a chance to post about it yet. Information forthcoming.

Legeros - 11/08/09 - 14:34

Under triaging there are generally four types of patients-

Green – aka Walking Wounded, Minor Injury or Illness, Non Life Threatening, can be transported via bus or mass transit if needed.

Yellow – Intermediate (NOT EMT-I), Have injuries or illness, but can wait until the most life threatening are treated.

Red – Immediate, Life Threatening Injuries, 1st Care Priority

Black – Deceased or So Injured as to be consider not viable to use scare EMS resources when that is the case.

Steven ([Email](#)) - 11/08/09 - 17:20

Four of six district chiefs at this incident with all pt's reported as green tags? Sure hope there weren't any cardiac arrests or other serious calls during that time.

Joe - 11/08/09 - 23:29

So what exactly was it that caued it?

KOM - 11/09/09 - 09:29

The AP has reported that the cause was pepper spray placed as a prank on a hand dryer in the men's restroom, and which spread through the restaurant.

<http://www.thesunnews.com/564/story/1157..>

Legeros - 11/10/09 - 06:52

...while the N&O says the substance remains unidentified, http://www.newsobserver.com/news/local_s..

Legeros - 11/10/09 - 07:02

OK, here's the facts.... It was a top secret government experiment on the effects of mind control coupled with fast food consumption. (Gotcha, right?...) There are two things that can cause a crowd to have scratchy throats and watering eyes in public venue... (provided they are not flopping around on the ground or complaining of a STRONG chemical odor).... #1 is pepper spray and #2 pepper spray.

A.C. Rich - 11/12/09 - 21:19

HAZMAT MINDS UNITE!!

Silver - 11/12/09 - 22:04

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