

Procedure
12.11

**EFFECTIVE
DATE
6-22-22**

**Eugene
Police Department**



Contaminated Uniforms and Equipment

12.11.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Safe handling of contaminated clothing and equipment is necessary to protect employees from dangerous biohazards. These procedures are designed to mitigate exposures and efficiently remove contaminants from the workplace. Refer also to *Policy 1005 – Exposure Control*.

12.11.2 SUBSTANTIAL CONTAMINATION

- a. If washable clothing is substantially contaminated by blood or other body fluids:
1. Remove the contaminated item to the “bio-hazard” barrel, located in the EPD Headquarters basement, in room L30 (“Bio-Hazard Room” next to the booking room L31.)
 2. Prior to placing the item in the barrel, first place the item in a clear bio-hazard bag, a supply of which is located on the shelf just inside the door of room L30. Then, place the bagged item in a red bio-hazard bag.
 3. Complete a “Contaminated Article Identification Tag”, located on the shelf just inside the door of room L30. **Each bag tag must include the name of the employee placing the clothing in the barrel.** Using the wire attached to the tag, secure the bag, and place the bag in the barrel labeled “bio-hazard laundry.”
 4. To help assure the return of clothing, it is recommended employees write their badge number in indelible ink on the shirt tail and inside waistband of their uniforms.
 5. Send an e-mail message to the *Eugene Police CSOs and/or the Quartermaster advising them that the items have been placed in the Bio-Hazard Room.
 6. Once the item has been decontaminated, employees will be advised where to retrieve their item(s).

- b. Put other contaminated equipment items which are not washable clothing (e.g., handcuffs, batons, shoes) in a red bio-hazard bag and follow directions 3-6 listed above.
- c. If an item is contaminated to the point it is beyond repair, place it in the white boxes labeled "bio-hazard waste" in the fleet maintenance room.
 - 1. If such an item is City-issued equipment or a personal item for which an employee seeks reimbursement, the employee's supervisor should be informed of the item's disposition and a memo must be written documenting the loss.
 - 2. Sharps containers needing disposal should also be placed in one of these boxes.
- d. Any item placed in either the bio-hazard barrel or the bio-hazard waste boxes (except a sharps container) must be first placed in a red biohazard bag, and the bag closed with tape or a cinch strap. Sharps containers must be taped shut.

12.11.3 MINOR CONTAMINATION

If contamination is minor (e.g., a small spot of blood) it may be removed without risk of personal contamination by donning disposable rubber gloves and cleaning it with soap and water or its equivalent. Allow the cleaned area to air dry.

12.11.4 PROCESSING CONTAMINATED ITEMS

- a. Processing contaminated items will be conducted by the Quartermaster or Community Service Officers (CSO). They will ensure that items for decontamination and bio-hazard waste are picked up in a timely manner.
 - 1. Items should be taken to Fire Logistics at 1715 W. 2nd Ave, behind the training center, where they are chemically cleaned. Contact info should be added to the tag on the bag with directions to contact CSO's or Quartermaster when decontamination is complete.
 - 2. Logistics will contact the Quartermaster or the CSO when the items are ready for retrieval.
 - 3. Items should then be placed on the Quartermaster counter. Email the EPD employee that their items have been cleaned and are ready to be picked up.

Chris Skinner
Chief of Police