



News Release

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Sunrise Fire-Rescue Participates in Security Exercise in Port Everglades

(Sunrise, FL)- Sunrise Fire-Rescue participated in the “weapons of mass destruction” security exercise at Port Everglades in April. The full-scale scenario exercise was hosted by Broward County as part of federal security planning requirements for the MTSA-regulated facilities at the Port.

The Sunrise Fire-Rescue Hazardous Materials Team took part in this drill, known as “Operation Resilient Response,” along with more than 100 maritime and emergency response professionals representing federal, state and local agencies.

“Our HazMat Team is comprised of fully-trained and dedicated firefighter/paramedics,” said Sunrise Fire Chief Thomas DiBernardo. “The nine team members, along with executive staff, who attended the exercise, were able to gain valuable knowledge on the latest procedures in responding to this type of incident.”

This drill, funded by a U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant, simulated a County-wide emergency response to a deadly chemical leaking from a cargo container. Volunteers participating as victims brought a more “true to life,” component to the exercise.

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Sunrise Fire-Rescue HazMat Team members receive assignments for the drill while donning their protective gear in response to the scenario simulating a potential chemical leak. (L to R: Captain Don Dougherty, Lieutenant Daniel Larsen, Driver Operator Anthony Esposito, Captain Steven Grimstead and Driver Operator Joseph Rutkowski.