



Personal Radiation Detector Course (PRD) PER-243

This operations-level preventative radiological and nuclear detection course is delivered throughout the nation to jurisdictions approved by Federal Emergency Management Agency/National Preparedness Directorate (FEMA/NPD) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security State Administrative Agencies (SAAs).

Course Description:

This course is designed to train law enforcement and public safety officers to employ department-procured and issued personal radiation detectors (PRDs) within the bounds of the jurisdiction/agency operational environment, including local instruments, procedures, and legal considerations. The course provides training and extensive hands-on practice with actual radioactive material so that personnel employing a PRD in detection and interdiction missions will be able to do the following:¹

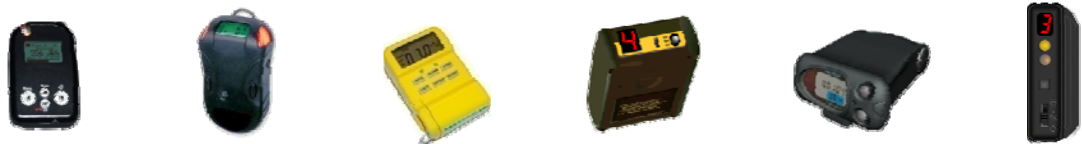
- ◇ Detect and locate the presence of radiation and/or radiological material.
- ◇ After receiving an alarm, identify and distinguish between the following:
 - False alarms
 - Alarms due to background radiation
 - Alarms due to legitimate causes
 - Alarms due to illicit radiological/nuclear material
- ◇ Upon detecting, locating, and assessing the alarm, measure the approximate radiation level that generated the alarm.
- ◇ Use radiological/nuclear material recognition factors to assist in assessing the situation.
- ◇ Upon discovering the illicit use of radiological/nuclear material, initiate organizational protocols to ensure the health and safety of responders and the public.



After an initial survey around the vehicle, an officer pinpoints the location of the hidden radioactive material.

Equipment:

Each attendee will be issued a PRD instrument for use in the course. Each delivery of the PRD course will use one specific make and model of PRD, which will be the same as (or similar to) the instruments owned and issued by the agency being taught. The host agency may choose to provide the PRD instruments to be used in the course. See contact information for the current course availability on specific models of PRDs.



Examples of some PRD models taught in this course

¹This is a "live agent" course using radioactive materials. This course is designed and monitored so attendees receive only minor radiation doses (lower than a chest X-ray or a typical round-trip airline flight across the U.S.). This course complies with ANSI N42.37-2006, "American National Standard for Training Requirements for Homeland Security Purposes Using Radiation Detector Instrumentation for Interdiction and Prevention."

Cost, Course Length, and Delivery:

All training and course materials are provided at no cost to eligible participants. This course is 7 hours. All training is provided at the participants' location by a Mobile Training Team.

Target Audience:

- ◇ Law Enforcement
- ◇ Emergency Medical Services
- ◇ Fire Service
- ◇ Hazardous Materials (HazMat)
- ◇ Public Works
- ◇ Other skilled personnel that provide immediate support services during prevention and deterrence of radiological/nuclear detection and interdiction operations

Enrollment Information:

In order to have a training class delivered in your jurisdiction, a request must be provided to the designated U.S. Department of Homeland Security State Administrative Agent (SAA) Training point of contact. For the training coordinator in your area, contact the FEMA/NPD Help Line at 800-368-6498.

Certificate:

A certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the course, acknowledging 0.7 continuing education units (CEUs) sponsored by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Upon request, CTOS can provide a letter verifying course completion and eligibility for CEUs.

Course Scheduling:

Coordination between Counter Terrorism Operations Support (CTOS) and the hosting jurisdiction is required at least 8 weeks prior to the course delivery.

Prerequisite:

Attendees should be law enforcement, public safety officers, and other personnel who are issued a PRD, whose duties place them in locations where illicit radiological/nuclear material may be hidden, transported, assembled, and/or employed by terrorist elements.

Eligibility:

It is the responsibility of the jurisdiction to select the course participants.

For More Information, Contact CTOS at:
National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Site Office
Counter Terrorism Operations Support Program
P.O. Box 98521, M/S NLV126, Las Vegas, NV 89193-8521
877.WMD.CTOS (963.2867) • 702.295.3224
Fax: 702.537.2639
E-mail: ctosmtreg@nv.doe.gov
www.ctosnnsa.org

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