



Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Civil Support Team (CST)

Key Characteristics:

- Each team is certified by the Secretary of Defense
- 57 Teams (one per State, territory and D.C. (CA, NY, FL each have two))
- On alert 24/7/365
- Sophisticated technical reach-back system
- Interoperable with First Responders
- All WMD-CST personnel are HAZMAT TECH certified and receive over 650 hours of high-tech training
- Interoperability with FBI, DOE, USSS and other Federal agencies
- Conducts Counter WMD activities at special events such as National Special Security Events (NSSEs), and events with a Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR).



Overview:

In accordance with 10 USC § 12310, the Adjutant General or Commanding General may employ the WMD-CST to support the State, Territory, or District of Columbia response under the direction of the governor to support state, local or Federal authorities. Each WMD-CST is comprised of 22 full-time, Title 32 Active Guard & Reserve (AGR), Army (ARNG) and Air National Guard (ANG) personnel.

Mission:

Support civil authorities at a domestic incident site during specified events, which include the use or threatened use of a WMD; terrorist attack or threatened terrorist attack; intentional or unintentional release of nuclear, biological, radiological, or toxic or poisonous chemicals; natural or man-made disaster in the United States, Territory, or District of Columbia that result, or could result, in the catastrophic loss of life or property by identifying hazards, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measure, and assisting with the appropriate request for additional support.

Support Capabilities to the Incident Commander:

- Assessment and exploitation of potential/actual WMD sites
- A2LA accredited field-confirmatory mobile laboratory for rapid threat identification
- Laboratory reach-back support from national network definitive identification laboratories
- Robust communications interoperability (Secure/Unsecure)
- CBRN medical expertise (Physician Assistant and Medic on each WMD-CST)
- CBRN hazard prediction plume modeling
- Technical support on-site or from remote locations
- Training assistance

