DATE: 05/08/2023
TIME OF ALARM: 15:07
TYPE OF ALARM: Hazardous Materials Incident
LOCATION: 601 Marina Vista Ave. Martinez, Amtrak Station
RESPONSE: 2 Engines, Haz Mat 87, 2 Medic Units, Incident Support Unit, 2 PIO’s, 2 Battalion Chiefs, and 2 Assistant Chiefs
ASSISTING AGENCIES: Martinez PD, County Haz Mat, and Environmental Protection Agency.
TOTAL FIRE PERSONNEL AT SCENE: 16

While responding to an Emergency Medical call at the Martinez Amtrak Station, Contra Costa Firefighters discovered a Mercury spill in the Parking lot of the Train Station. Firefighters initiated a Hazardous Materials Response, assumed command, and isolated the area. HazMat 87 requested County Health Hazmat while enroute to the incident. State OES was notified for an OES control number. The EPA emergency response team was also requested to respond to the incident. Unified Command was established with Martinez PD and County HazMat. An AMTRAK representative was brought in as an Agency Representative. Train services were moved to an adjacent depot one block away. Perimeter check was performed to rule out any radiation using a dosimeter.

There were reports made to Martinez P.D. that someone was seen mopping-up the bus depot area near the train terminal prior to our arrival. Con EMS was notified that their Medic Unit Crew could possibly be contaminated and possible Emergency Department at Contra Costa Regional Hospital. Con Fire and County HazMat personnel responded to the hospital to check for contaminants at the Emergency Department and the Medic Unit. Using a Mercury meter, no off site contaminants were detected. All personnel returned to the Amtrak Station and entry was made to see how far the footprint of Mercury was using Mercury Meter. Main building was checked and had positive readings inside the structure where the mop and bucket was found. A contaminated mop was used by the janitor in the facility. Seven employees were evacuated from the main building and a decontamination corridor was set up for the evacuees. No contaminants were detected and the evacuees were also medically screened by Paramedics at the scene. Amtrak personnel were tasked with locating the janitor who was no longer at the scene. Engine 14’s was then evaluated for contaminants and cleared. Second entry was made for the depot and bus area where Sulfur powder was used to absorb areas that Mercury Meter picked up. EPA arrived at scene and scene turned over to County Health and EPA for additional clean-up using Contractors.

RespectfullySubmitted,

Scott Valencia, Battalion Chief, Battalion 2
And
Lon Goetsch, Assistant Fire Chief, District 1C
Contra Costa County Fire/Rescue