

# PRESSRELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

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## City First Responders Receive Radiation Monitors

**Michigan City, IN** – Michigan City public safety officials greatly expanded their radiation detection capabilities on Wednesday with the receipt of four new Radiation Detection Monitors.

Michigan City Emergency Management Agency Director John Jones welcomed the addition of the new monitors. “Northwest Indiana is susceptible to radiation impacts from two principal sources: by distant fallout from an accident at a nuclear plant in Illinois or Michigan; or from an accident involved with the transportation of radioactive material through our region,” Jones said. “The training and equipment we received will help safeguard our citizens from undetected ingestion of contaminated food sources should an accident be reported near our borders.”

Jones explained that the monitors were donated and delivered to Michigan City in response to local training initiatives. “The four monitors delivered on Wednesday make five monitors in total that have been received by Michigan City in the past seven months at no charge. The monitors were an added benefit that came along with free training responders have received over the past several months,” stated Jones. “The monitors came as a pleasant surprise after we contacted the state and other cooperative agencies about hosting the training in Michigan City. The five monitors in total are valued at more than \$15,000.00.”

The members of the Michigan City Fire Department, the Michigan City Police Traffic Division and administrative staff along with members of the Emergency Management Agency Volunteers were among the more than 200 participants who participated in a three part 56 hour training series conducted in January, February, and September of 2005 respectively. The training was conducted by instructors from the University of Iowa, the Excelon Corporation and the Indiana State Department of Homeland Security through funding from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and hosted by the City of Michigan City.

Joseph Bell, Chief of the Terrorism Training Section of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's Training Division, delivered the four Radiation Detection Monitors on Wednesday.

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