

Utah State Fire Marshal's Office

Paul Christensen
Deputy State Fire Marshal
Hazardous Materials Section





What does the State Fire Marshal's Office do?

The Utah State Fire Marshal's Office is responsible for a variety of duties related to fire prevention, education, safety, and investigation within the state of Utah. Our primary goal is to ensure public safety by reducing the risk of fires, promoting fire safety awareness, and investigating fire-related and hazardous incidents.



What does the State Fire Marshal's Office do?

- ◆ Fire Prevention and Education
- ◆ Fire Code Development and Enforcement
- ◆ Plans, Permitting, and Inspections
- ◆ Fire Investigations
- ◆ UAV/UUV Drone Operations
- ◆ Licensing and Certification
- ◆ Hazardous Materials Management
- ◆ Technical Support and Consulting
- ◆ Emergency Response Coordination
- ◆ Public Outreach
- ◆ Fireworks Regulation
- ◆ Legislation and Policy Advocacy

Let's talk about HAZMAT!!



The Utah State Fire Marshal's Office's Hazardous Material Section (HMS) is responsible for managing and regulating hazardous materials. This is to ensure public safety and environmental protection within the state of Utah. Our primary focus is on preventing through training and responding to incidents involving hazardous materials. This is inclusive of chemicals, substances, and materials that could pose a threat to human health, property, and the environment.



Key Functions of the Hazardous Materials Section:

- ◆ **Training and Education:** The HMS provides training and educational resources to emergency responders, public safety personnel, and other relevant parties. This training helps them effectively respond to incidents involving hazardous materials and minimize potential risks.
- ◆ **Regulation and Enforcement:** The HMS develops and enforces regulations related to the storage, handling, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials. This involves working with various industries, businesses, and organizations to ensure compliance with safety standards and regulations.



Key Functions of the Hazardous Materials Section:

- ◆ **Inspections and Compliance:** Our section conducts inspections of facilities, storage sites, and transportation routes that handle hazardous materials. These inspections help ensure that safety measures are in place, regulations are followed, and potential risks are minimized.
- ◆ **UAV Operations for Hazardous Material Incidents:** In situations involving hazardous materials, drones can assess the extent of chemical leaks or spills without exposing human responders to potential dangers. They can also monitor air quality and the spread of hazardous substances.

Key Functions of the Hazardous Materials Section:



Emergency Response Planning: The HMS is involved in developing and coordinating emergency response plans for incidents involving hazardous materials. This might include creating strategies for containment, mitigation, evacuation, and communication in case of accidents or leaks.



Coordination with Other Agencies: The HMS collaborates with other state agencies, local governments, federal agencies, and organizations to share information, resources, and expertise related to hazardous materials and emergency response.

Key Functions of the Hazardous Materials Section:



Environmental Protection: We play a role in ensuring that hazardous materials are managed in a way that minimizes their impact on the environment. This might involve working to prevent soil and water contamination and ensuring proper disposal methods.



Investigations: In the event of accidents, leaks, or incidents involving hazardous materials, the section could be responsible for investigating the causes and contributing factors. This information helps improve safety measures and prevent future incidents.

- Grant funding and allocated funds allow us to provide training opportunities to you, the recipient, **FREE OF CHARGE**.
- Instruction is available for Emergency Management, Health Departments, Fire and Police Departments, Federal Partners, as well as those serving in our nation's military.
- Purchasing state of the art equipment to train responders the real-world application.
- Assisting our public safety family when complexity becomes a factor on scene.



Let's make it personal...here's our team



Art Deyo

Deputy Fire Marshal, Hazmat Section Manager

Came from a “little fire department in Southern California, where they ran a few calls”. Reality is, Art specializes in more stuff than I can even list. Art works extremely hard to make sure responders are trained to a progressive level and have any resources they need to remain safe in the field. Art is also a professional cat herder and literally has one of the best senses of humor out there.

Let's make it personal...here's our team

Wade Francis

Deputy Fire Marshal

Came from HAFB Fire with four decades of military service as part of it. Wade is that “salt of the earth” type of guy. Wade was an 85th CST 1st Sergeant that specialized in all things chemical, biological, and energetic. Wade is the type of guy that can quote the code from the book, just like you would want any WMD expert to do. Good dude to get your questions answered. Would do anything he could for ya! Like I said, salt of the earth.



Let's make it personal...here's our team

Ryan Putman

Deputy Fire Marshal, Investigations, and UAV
Operations Specialist

Came from South Davis Metro Fire and Utah's
Region 1 Hazmat Task Force. Currently
specializes in UAV Training and Operations
relative to fire investigation and hazardous
materials. Ryan is a shared resource between the
HMS and Investigations. Ryan also teaches UAV
operations, Part 107 classes, and is regularly
consulted as a subject matter expert.



Let's make it personal...here's our team

Paul Christensen

Deputy Fire Marshal

Came from Weber Fire District and Utah's Region 1 Hazmat Task Force. Currently specializes in chemical, biological, and radiation. I am known throughout the office as the "crazy Chernobyl guy". Prior to the past 18 months, I was teaching first responders radiation response methods within the exclusion zone of Chernobyl Ukraine. I have been a fire service and emergency medical services instructor for over 20 years.



I can truly say, we love what we do, and enjoy serving all the communities within the state of Utah. If there is any way we can be of assistance to you or your agency, we will gladly do so.



Q&A:

24-Hour Hazmat Help Line:
(801) 256-2499

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