

# Emergency Response

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## The U.S. Coast Guard National Strike Force

- Originally created in 1973 resulting from 1972 amendments to Federal Water Pollution Control Act.
- Supports responses under FWPCA and CERCLA (Superfund)
- Mandated by the National Contingency Plan.
- Approx. 160 people in 4 locations.

# What is the National Strike Force?

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A Coast Guard organization that supports our nation's ability to prepare for and respond to oil spills and hazardous materials incidents of any size....a vital part of the National Response System.



# Our Mission

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To provide assistance to USCG and EPA Federal On-Scene Coordinators while executing their responsibilities under the National Contingency Plan.



# NSF History

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- Created in 1973 – Federal Water Pollution Control Act - “Clean Water Act”
- Intended as collection of “Special Teams”
- 3 Strike Teams, geographically assigned
- Other “Special Teams”
  - NOAA SSC, PIAT
- NSF came to be a Coast Guard Team



# NSF History

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- 1980 – CERCLA
- Amended National Contingency Plan (NCP)
- Significantly Increased FOSC responsibilities
- Major new mission for the NSF.



# NSF History

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- 1987 – NSF reorganized
  - Reorganization = Increased efficiency
- 3 teams combined to make 2
- Atlantic Strike Team,  
Pacific Strike Team
- Under Atlantic/Pacific  
Area Commanders
- New Response  
Standards ( 2 + 2)



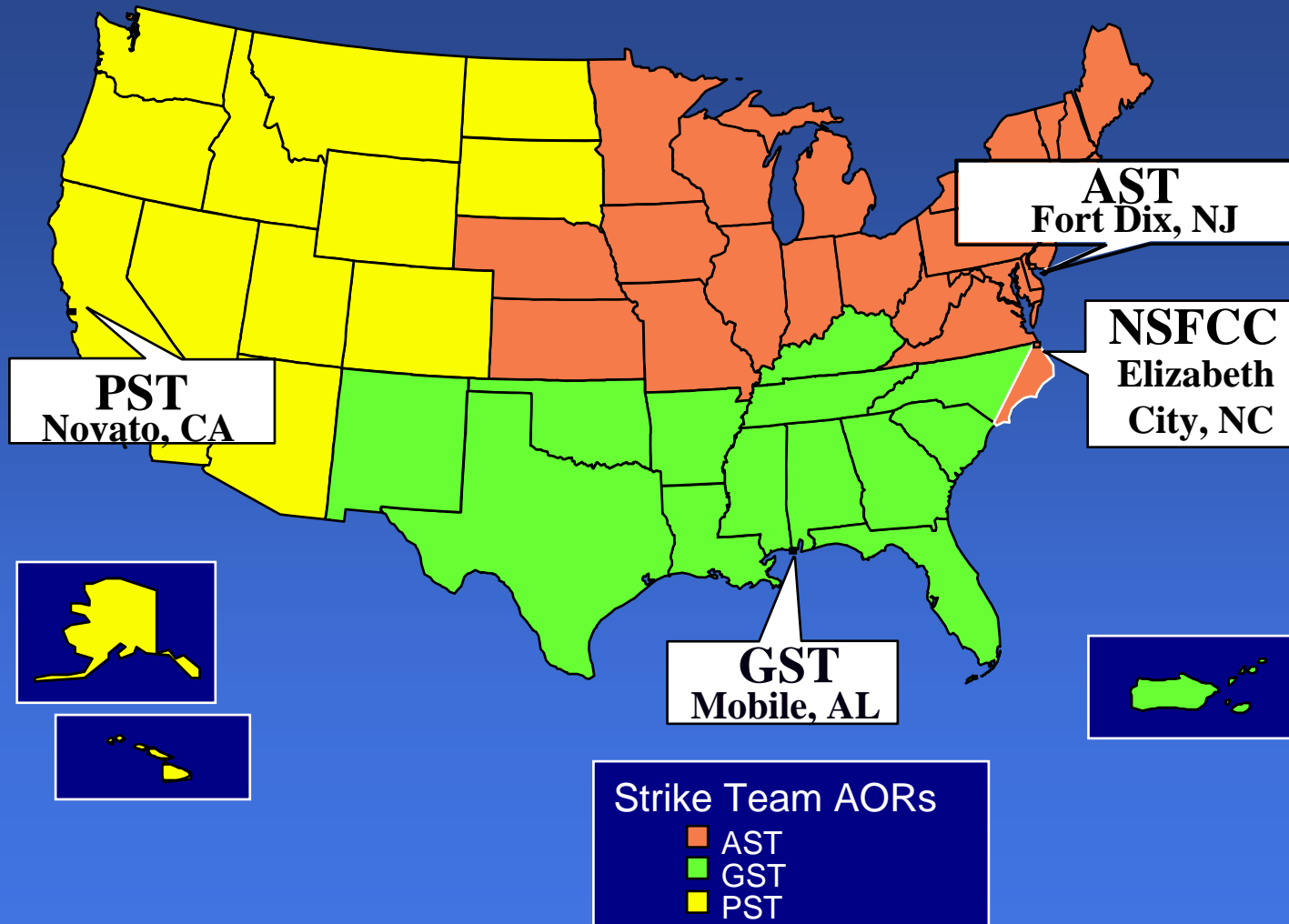
# NSF History

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- 1989 – EXXON VALDEZ
- Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90)
- Reestablishment of 3<sup>rd</sup> Strike Team
- Establishment of National Response Unit
- National Strike Force Coordination Center (NSFCC) Elizabeth City, North Carolina

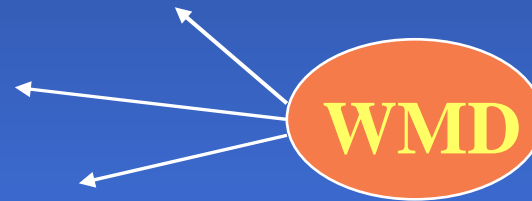
# National Strike Force Today



# NSF Capabilities

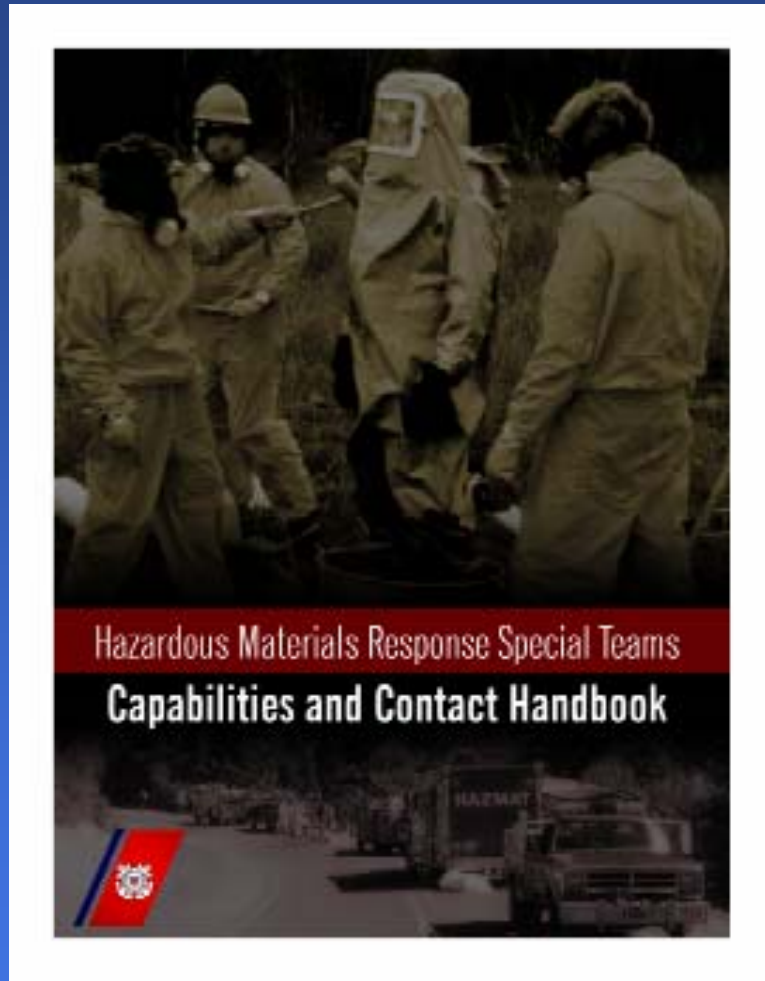
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- Crisis Management Support
- Cost Documentation
- Communications
- Oil Spill Capabilities
- Chemical Release Capabilities
- Biological Terrorism
- Radiological Incidents



# NSF Chemical Release Capabilities

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# NSF Response Policy

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## Response standards:

- 2 members dispatched immediately
- 4 members within 2 hours
- 12 members with equipment within 6 hours
- 2 Major Incidents on each coast concurrently

# Equipment Configured for Air or Road Transport



# Meet a Strike Team Member

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- First Class Petty Officer
- 6 – 8 years in the Coast Guard
- 4 year tour of duty

# Crisis Management Support

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- Incident Management
  - Incident Command System (ICS)
- Risk Communications
- Public Information & Assist Team (PIAT)



# Hazardous Materials Response

- Level A
  - Fully encapsulated suit
  - SCBA
- Level B
  - SCBA
- Level C
  - Protective Suit
  - Air Purifying Respirator



# Chemical Release Capabilities

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- Hazard Assessment
- Hazard Categorization
- Chemical Agent Detection
- Sampling/Analysis



# Hazard Assessment and Categorization

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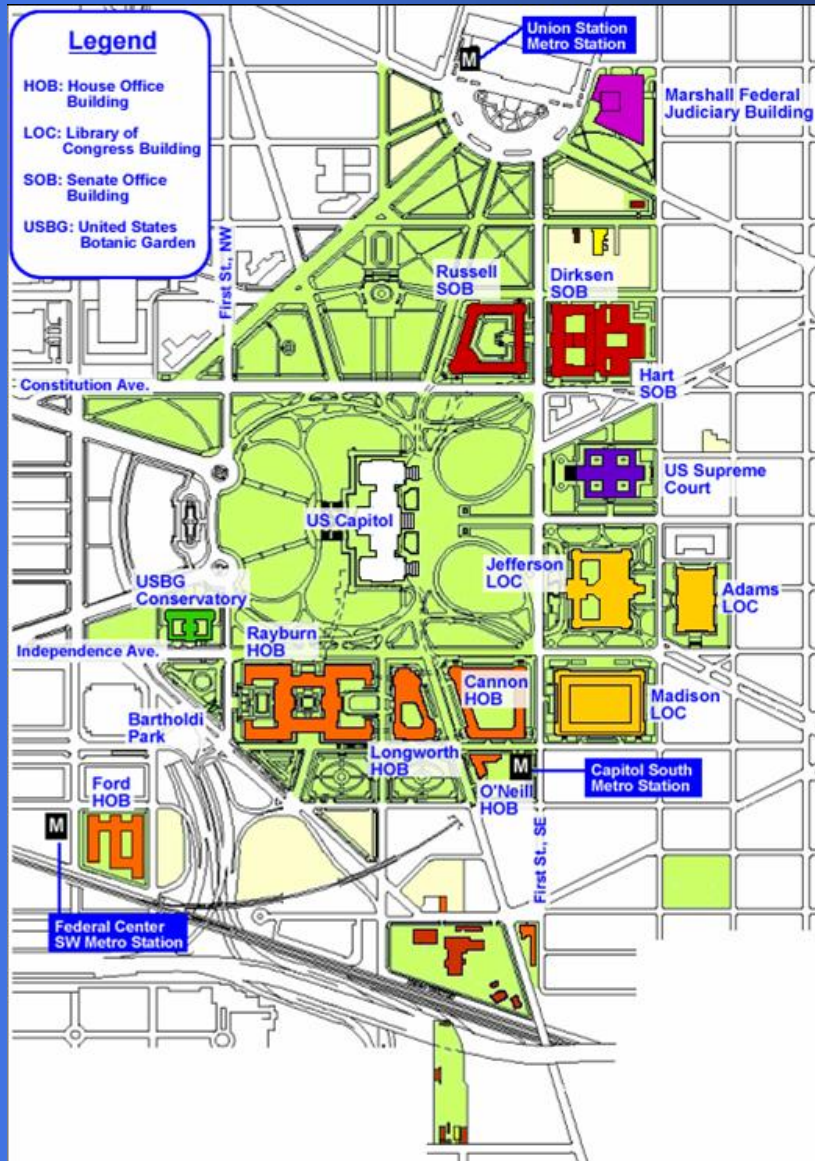


# Sampling/Analysis



# CAPITOL HILL ANTHRAX ATTACK

15 OCTOBER 2001 – 18 JANUARY 2002



# Anthrax Release (2001, Boca Raton, FL)

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