

City of Milwaukee Health Department

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PRESS RELEASE

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Health Department Makes Recommendations Regarding Suspicious Letters or Packages

Milwaukee, WI – In light of the national incidents involving white powder or similar substances, the Health Department recommends, in accordance with the State Department of Health and Family Services and the FBI, that your agency takes the following precautions if you received a suspicious letter or package:

What to do if you receive a suspicious letter or package?

- Handle with care; don't shake or bump it.
- Isolate and look for a combination of the following indicators:
 - No return address
 - Restrictive Markings
 - Possibly mailed from a foreign country
 - Excessive postage
 - Misspelled Words
 - Addressed to title only or incorrect title
 - Badly typed or written
 - Protruding wires
 - Lopsided or uneven
 - Rigid or bulky
 - Strange odor
 - Wrong title with name
 - Oily strains, discolorations, or crystallization on wrapper
 - Excessive Tape or String
- Don't Open, Smell or Taste
- Treat it as suspect – call your local police and health departments.

What to do if you open a letter or package and see suspicious material:

- Carefully put the letter/package down
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water
- Call your local police

Additional information regarding terrorist threats can be found at the www.ci.mil.us/citygov/health/FAQ-BioThreats.htm or at www.cdc.gov.