

- If you have open cuts or lesions on your hands, disposable latex gloves may be appropriate.
- Surgical masks, eye protection or gowns are *not* necessary or recommended.

***If a letter contains powders or a written threat, take the following steps:***

- Do *not* shake or empty the envelope.
- Isolate the specific area of the workplace so that no one disturbs the item.
- Evacuation of the entire workplace is *not* necessary at this point.
- Call your local law enforcement agency. They will provide further instructions. Wash your hands with soap and water for one minute.

**Government Readiness**

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) coordinates preparedness for and response to natural disasters such as earthquakes, fires, and floods by activating the California Emergency Management System used by all California public safety agencies. OES also coordinates state-level terrorism preparedness, response, and recovery. The California Terrorism Response Plan was activated early on September 11, 2001 and will remain in force as long as necessary to ensure swift response to any incident in the state.

OES is the most experienced, innovative, and effective emergency management agency in the world. In the past 15 years, OES has successfully managed response and recovery to more than 22 presidentially declared disasters, including the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, which was the most costly disaster in U.S. history until September 11, 2001.

California's nearly 80,000 sworn peace officers, more than 60,000 firefighters, and thousands of emergency management personnel, combined with the State's multi-disciplinary approach to emergency response, give California a robust and formidable capability to deal with any disaster or emergency.

***For More Information***

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
[www.oes.ca.gov](http://www.oes.ca.gov) (click on "Terrorism") – This site contains a comprehensive collection of Web links from the State, Federal, and private sectors.

Centers for Disease Control Bioterrorism Website  
[www.bt.cdc.gov](http://www.bt.cdc.gov)

Los Angeles County Public Health  
 Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response  
[www.labt.org](http://www.labt.org)

American Red Cross  
[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

**Safety Information and Referral Line**

OES operates the Safety Information and Referral Line to provide non-emergency information on terrorism and related issues. Call 1-800-550-5234 (TTY 1-800-550-5281) for recorded messages (24-hour service). Trained technicians are available to answer questions directly during peak hours.



**City of Santa Clarita**  
 Emergency Management  
 23920 Valencia Boulevard, Suite 110  
 Santa Clarita, CA 91355  
 (661) 286-4093  
[www.santa-clarita.com](http://www.santa-clarita.com)



**Be Aware ...  
 Plan, Prepare**

Many of us have been at least a bit frightened after the earthquakes, floods and wildfires that have hit California in recent years. We wouldn't be human if we hadn't been. Fear is a natural reaction – one that domestic and international terrorists use as a weapon against us to achieve their political and social goals.

Much of the fear caused by terrorism – or the threat of it – is based in the uncertainty of when it will occur, whether we, our loved ones or friends will be injured, or whether the business we own, or that employs us, will be targeted. We feel we have no control over our fate.

As individuals and business owners, we can take control of our fate by taking some of the same actions we take to prepare for earthquakes, floods and fires – store a three-day supply of food and water, make sure we have flashlights, portable radios and spare batteries; and identify an out-of-town contact and place to reunite if we are separated from loved ones. We also can seize control by becoming more aware of surroundings and reporting suspicious activity to local officials.