

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2008

From: Jeffery Crowley

Subject: Initial and Final POLREP

Atlanta Federal Center 21st Floor Suspicious Package Incident
Atlanta, GA

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	
Reporting Period:	3/14/2008	D.O. #:	
Start Date:	3/14/2008	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:		Response Type:	Emergency
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:	3/14/2008	Incident Category:	Removal Assessment
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

On Friday, 3/14/08, OSC Crowley responded to the 21st floor of the Atlanta Federal Center (AFC) to a report of a suspicious package containing what appeared to be a sand like material. The package was discovered in the 21st floor mail room which is part of the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Current Activities

Upon arriving to the 21st floor, the OSC met up with SSA, Federal Protective Service (FPS) and General Services Administration (GSA). All postal workers who came in contact with the package were quarantined (at the request of Atlanta Fire Department (AFD)) to a far corner of the floor. The 20st, 21st and 22nd floor were evacuated. The OSC coordinated with the responding parties and told them of EPA's role and responsibilities.

When the OSC asked where the package was located, he was told that the bottle containing the sand was in the mail room (behind closed doors) and the box that the bottle was sent in was pulled out in the hallway, approximately 10 feet from where everyone was standing.

Once AFD hazmat arrived, everyone (including SSA, FPS, and the OSC) was quarantined to the loading dock area of AFC. Atlanta hazmat conducted an entry and determined that the bottle was a wedding invitation (sand and seashells with a rolled up initiation inside). Everyone was then cleared. The OSC then coordinated with GSA and FPS to determine who removed the box from the mail room. The OSC also spoke with the Fire Chief for the response to let him know we were involved and that if they need any assistance from us in the future to let us know.

Planned Removal Actions

No Removal Activities are planned for this Site.

Next Steps

The OSC will review the response plan for AFC incidents with GSA, FPS and building security.

Key Issues

The main issue was knowledge. The first responders did not know to leave the package alone and potentially exposed more people than need be by bringing the package out into a hallway.

response.epa.gov/afcsuspiciouspackage