LD 26 Unusual Occurrences

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Unusual Occurrence Defined

- Unscheduled event
- Involving potential injury or property damage
- Which requires a law enforcement response
  - Happens infrequently and requires a large scale response

What Are Some Examples of Unusual Occurrences

Examples

- Acts of nature

  Earthquakes, floods, tidal waves, tsunamis brush fires, or landslides

- Technological incidents
  - Electrical power emergency, traffic signal malfunctions, fires, gas leaks, or explosions

Japan Tsunami

Japan Tsunami

Examples

- Large scale incidents
- Incidents brought on by humans
- Aircraft crashes, train wrecks, or hazardous materials leaks
- Terrorism, civil disturbances, or criminal acts (bombs, school shootings, etc.

Role of Law Enforcement

- Establish and maintain law and order
  - Prevent looting, assume care of custody of prisoners
- Identify necessary resources
  - Mobilize and deploy required response personnel
- Enforce emergency rules and regulations
  - Protect vital installations, control individuals within the affected area
- Provide emergency care for sick and injured
  - Assist in rescue operations

Role of Initial Responding Officer

- Quick and safe assessment
- Verify nature of emergency
- Determine extent of the area affected
- Determine what resources that will be needed to control the identified hazard(s)
- Assume role of incident commander

Incident Command

- Initial responding officer must assume preliminary incident command and take necessary steps toward establishing control of the situation

Incident Command

- Establish Command Post
- Initiate appropriate notifications
- Identify a perimeter
- Isolate the hazard
- Control ingress/egress to the area
- Continually gather and communicate information
- Implement a plan of action
- Reassess and evaluate effectiveness of operation and make necessary modifications

Preliminary Command Post

- Should be located outside the perimeter of the involved area
- Have adequate parking and access
- Be near necessary facilities (water, restrooms, power, etc.)
- Large enough to accommodate all necessary functions (communications, etc.)
- May be moved if necessary

Resources

- Additional law enforcement agencies
- CHP
- Fire Department
- Utility companies
- Department of Public Works
- Transportation agencies (e.g. Caltrans)
- EMS
- Coroner
- Private Industry
- Volunteer organizations

Perimeters

OUTER PERIMETER

- Surrounds area involved
- Seal off area to prevent injuries
- Large as can be reasonably controlled by available resources

AREA/INNER PERIMETER

- To deal with multiple hazards such as downed power lines
- Further isolate areas within an area perimeter to protect emergency workers

Ingress/Egress

- Access to the affected area within a perimeter should only be available to responding emergency vehicles/resources
- Clear exit/entrance routes should be established
- Routes should be:
  - Easy to locate
  - Free from unnecessary traffic
  - Allow for best/safest direction of approach with respect to the incident hazard (e.g. upwind)

Other Considerations

- Ongoing assessment and communication
- Action Plan
  - Incident Commander's responsibility
- Incident Command System (ICS)
  - Establish control and organize a combined effort
  - Coordinate on-scene emergency operations
  - Coordinate multi-agency responses
  - Establish temporary or permanent command at the scene

Chapter 2 Fires and Explosives

Types of Fires

FUEL TYPE	EXAMPLES
Class A ▪ Common combustibles	Wood, paper, cloth, fibers, some plastics
Class B ▪ Flammable liquids: petroleum based materials	Gasoline, oil, grease, solvents, cooking oils, vinyls and some plastics
Class C ▪ Energized electrical equipment	Generators, appliances, wiring, hot electrical panels
Class D ▪ Combustible metals	Aluminum, magnesium, titanium, phosphorus, potassium

Chevron Refinery Fire

Officer Safety

- Because we lack
  - Protective clothing, breathing apparatus, specialized equipment, and technical training
- Our actions will generally be limited
- We should report significant information to dispatch for responding fire personnel

Information to Report

- Type of fire (structure, vegetation, vehicle)
- Smoke color
- Smoke and flame
- Flame color (whiter the flame, the hotter the fire)
- Weather conditions (wind, humidity, temperature)

Rescue Attempts

- Officers should make every attempt to alert potential occupants without entering the building themselves
- Agency policy may also dictate an officer's responsibilities at a fire scene

Vehicle Fires

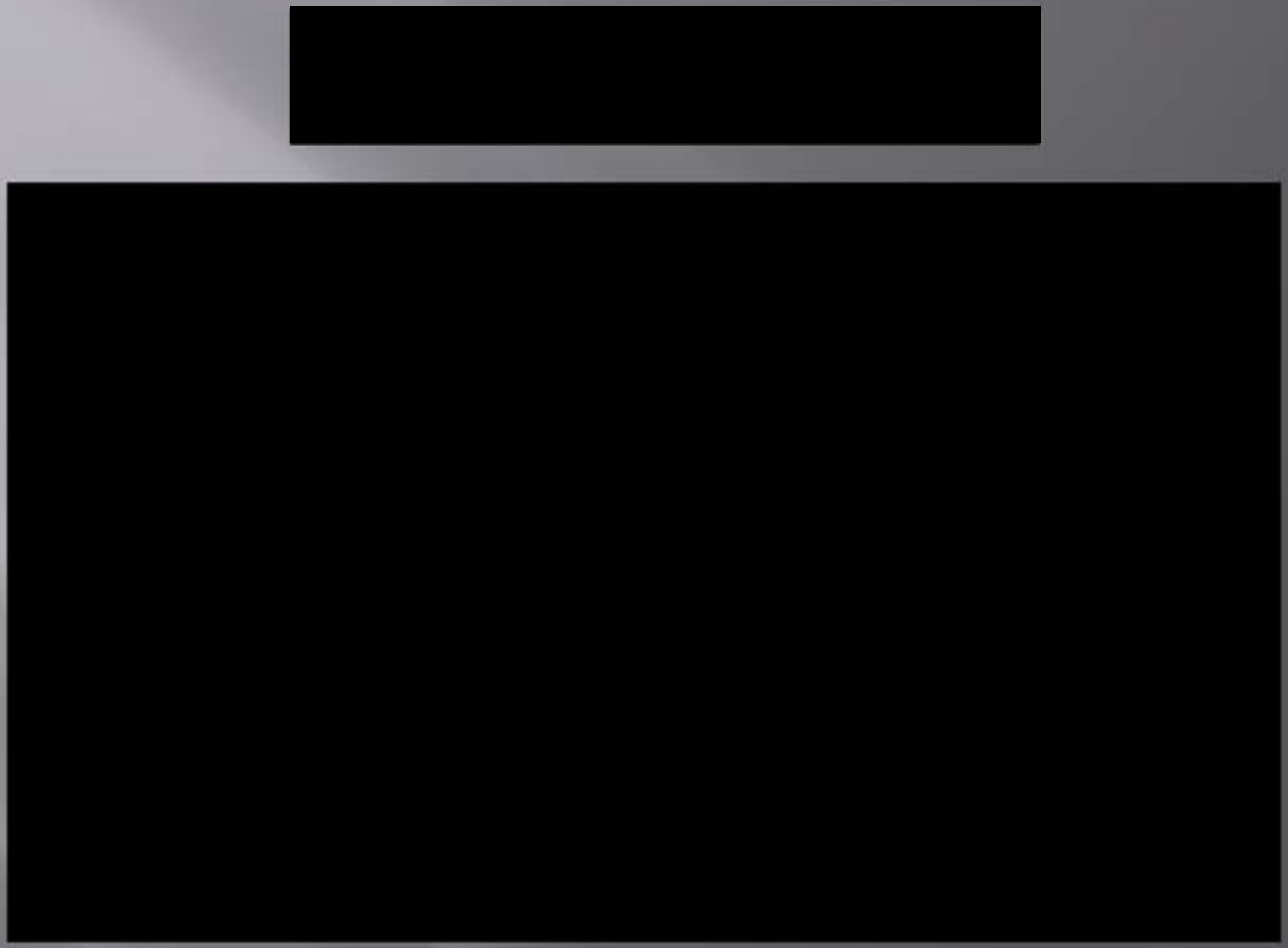
- May be toxic by-products
- Fire extinguishers may not be effective
- Establish a perimeter and make proper notifications

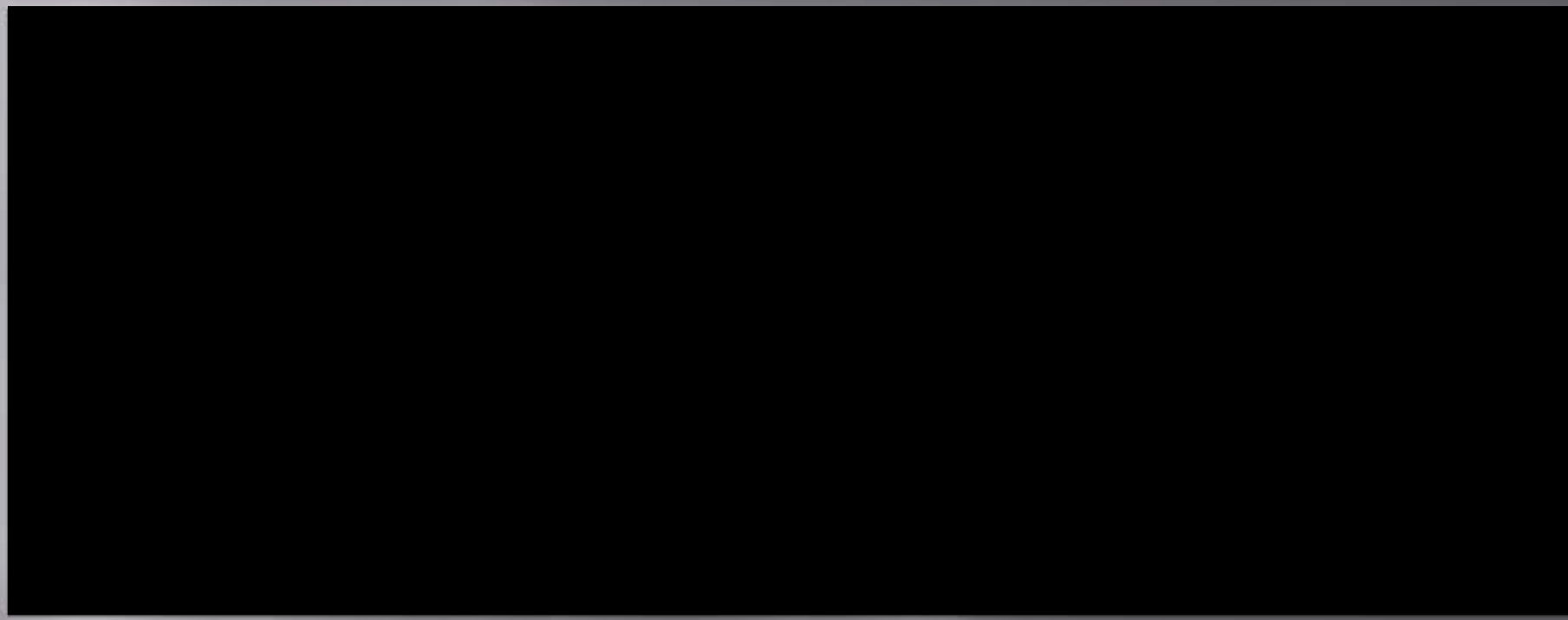
Scene Security

- Fire scene could be a crime scene
- If it is suspected that a fire is of suspicious origin, efforts should be made to:
  - Record conditions upon arrival
  - Protect the integrity of the evidence
  - Make appropriate and timely notifications to investigative personnel

Mt. Diablo Fire

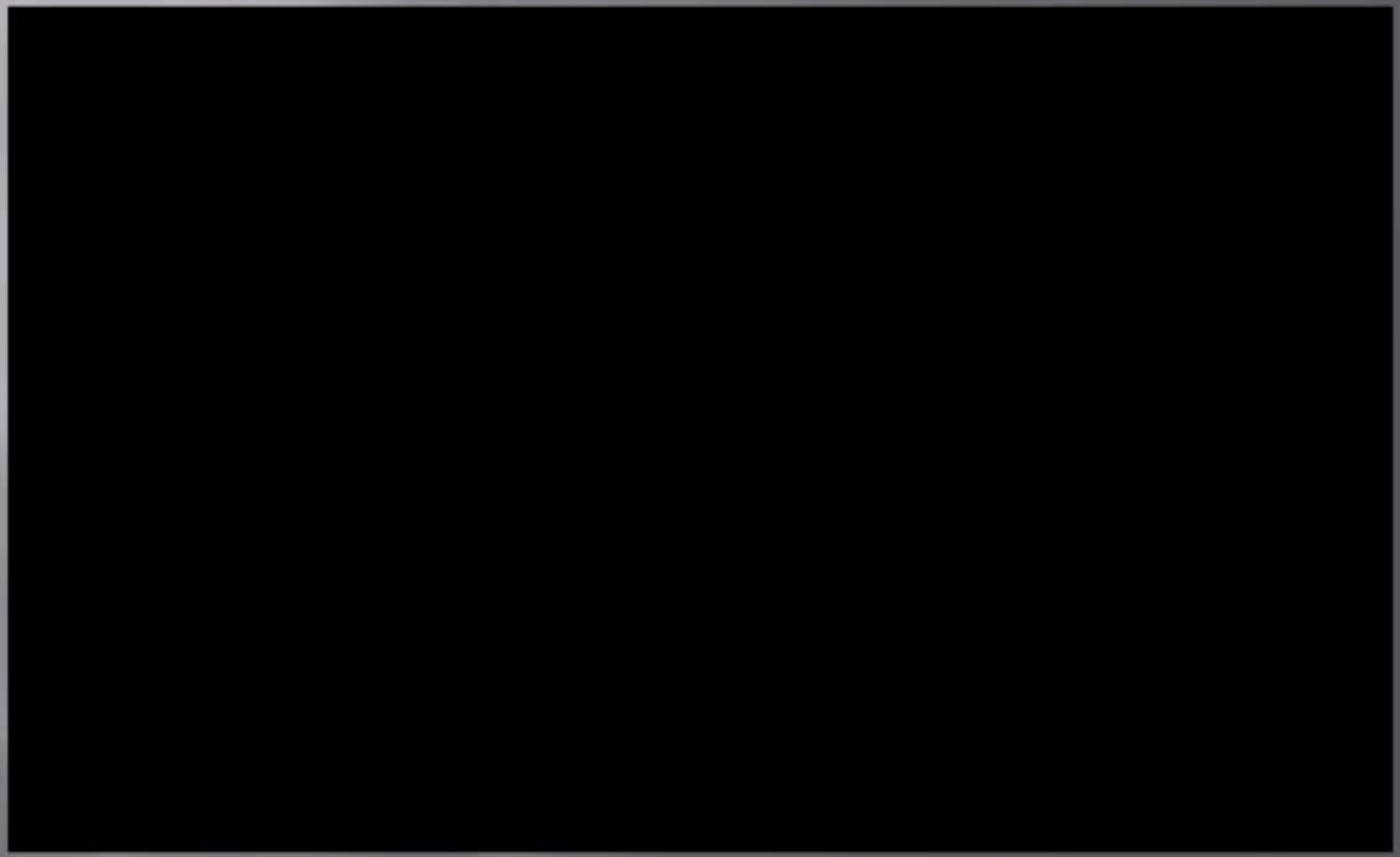
Explosive Devices/Bomb Threats

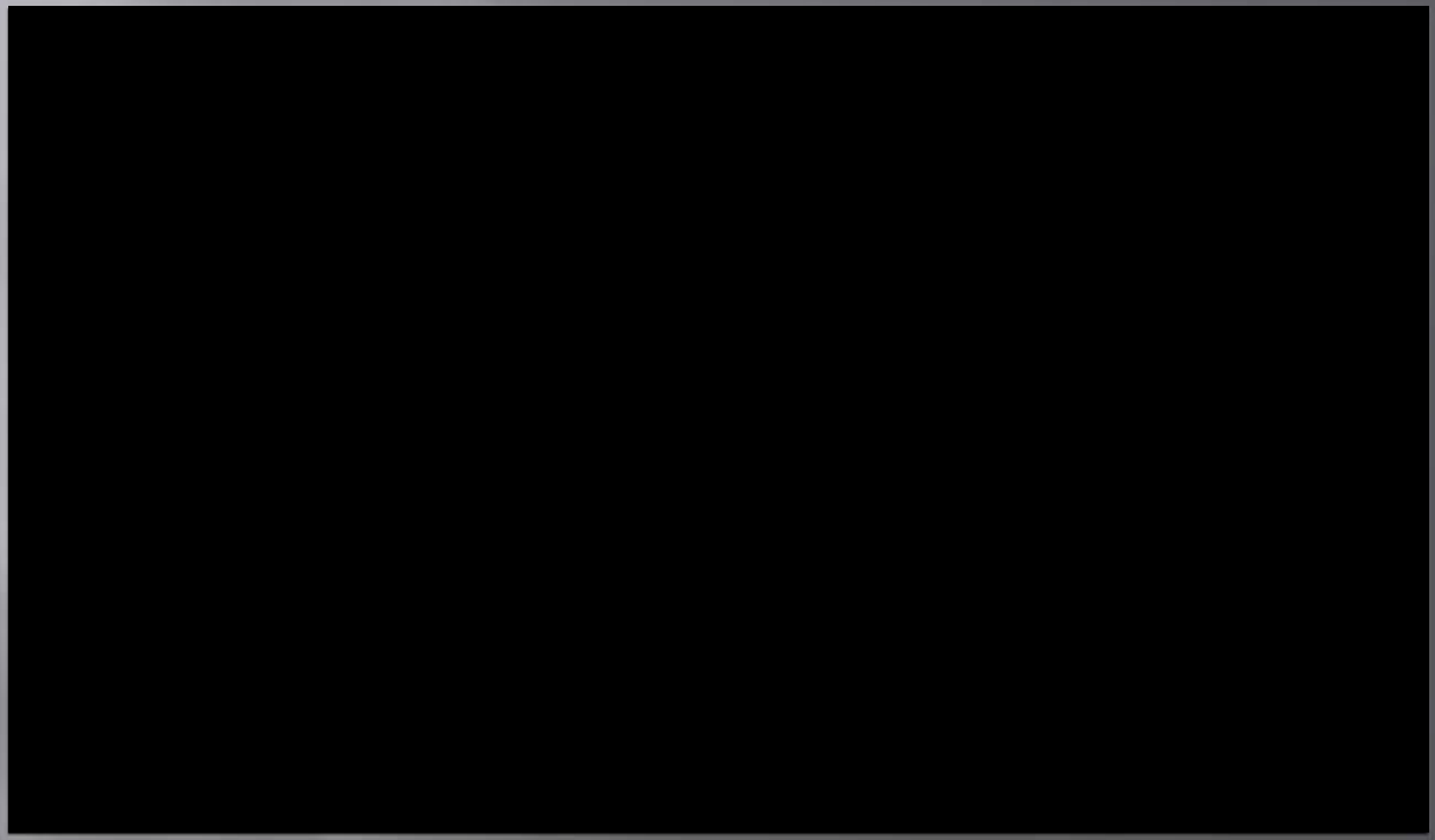


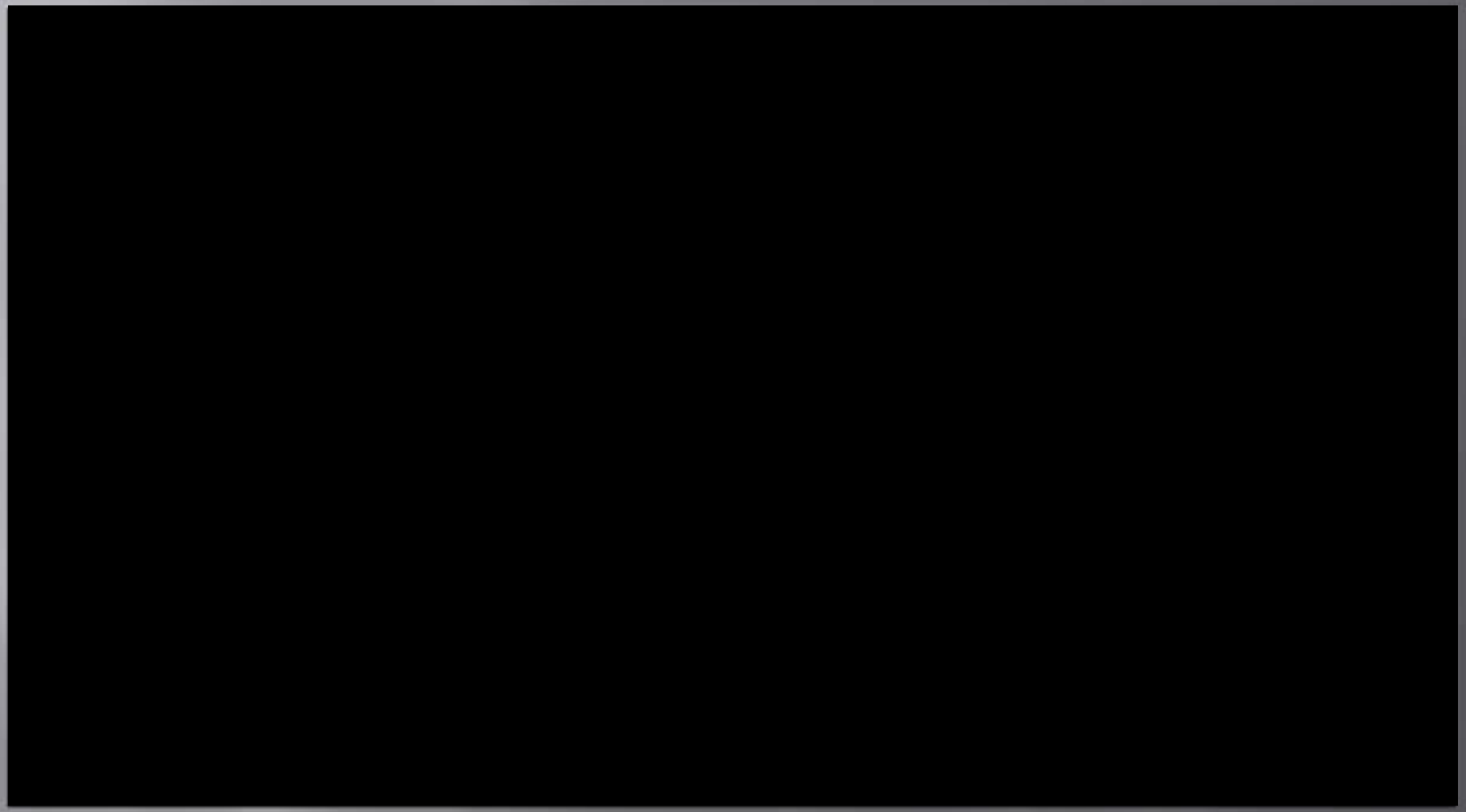


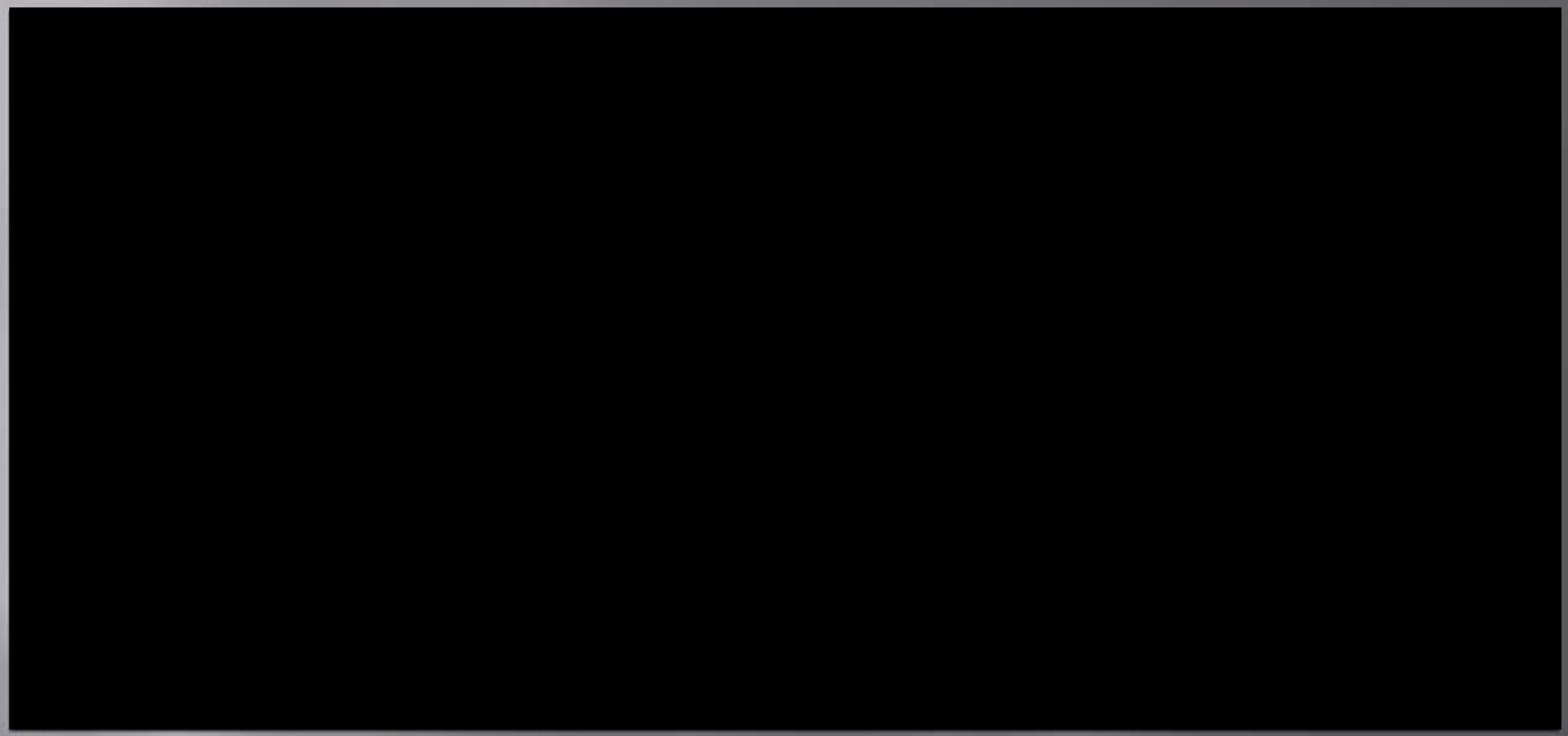
Post Blast Scenes

San Bruno Pipeline Explosion









Chapter Three

Aircraft and Other Unusual Occurrences

Response Considerations

- Maintain a safe position
  - Attempt to locate survivors
  - If you do approach, do so from the side and upwind
  - Stay clear of fuel tanks or under wing fuel tanks
  - Do not drive or walk along the actual crash path
  - Remain area of potential hazards
- Conduct an initial assessment
  - Attempt to get identifying information about the aircraft (type, tail number, color, capacity, type of cargo)

Small Aircraft Crashes

East Palo Alto 2010

On February 17, 2010,
a twin engine Cessna
took off from
Palo Alto Municipal Airport
around 7:45 AM
in a thick fog.

Asiana Airlines Plane Crash

More Footage

Investigative Authority

CIVILIAN/COMMERCIAL

- National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)
  - Determines the actual cause for the accident
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
  - Determine whether or not there have been any violations of FAA laws and regulations

MILITARY

- The branch of the armed forces to which the aircraft belongs
  - Has complete authority over security, scene management, and determining cause of the accident

Electrical Power Emergencies

Downed Power Lines

Response

- All downed lines should be considered energized (hot)
- Do not touch anything
- Do not change the environment (do not move anything)
- Ensure notification of utility company, EMS, public works, hazardous materials response teams

Hazardous Road Conditions

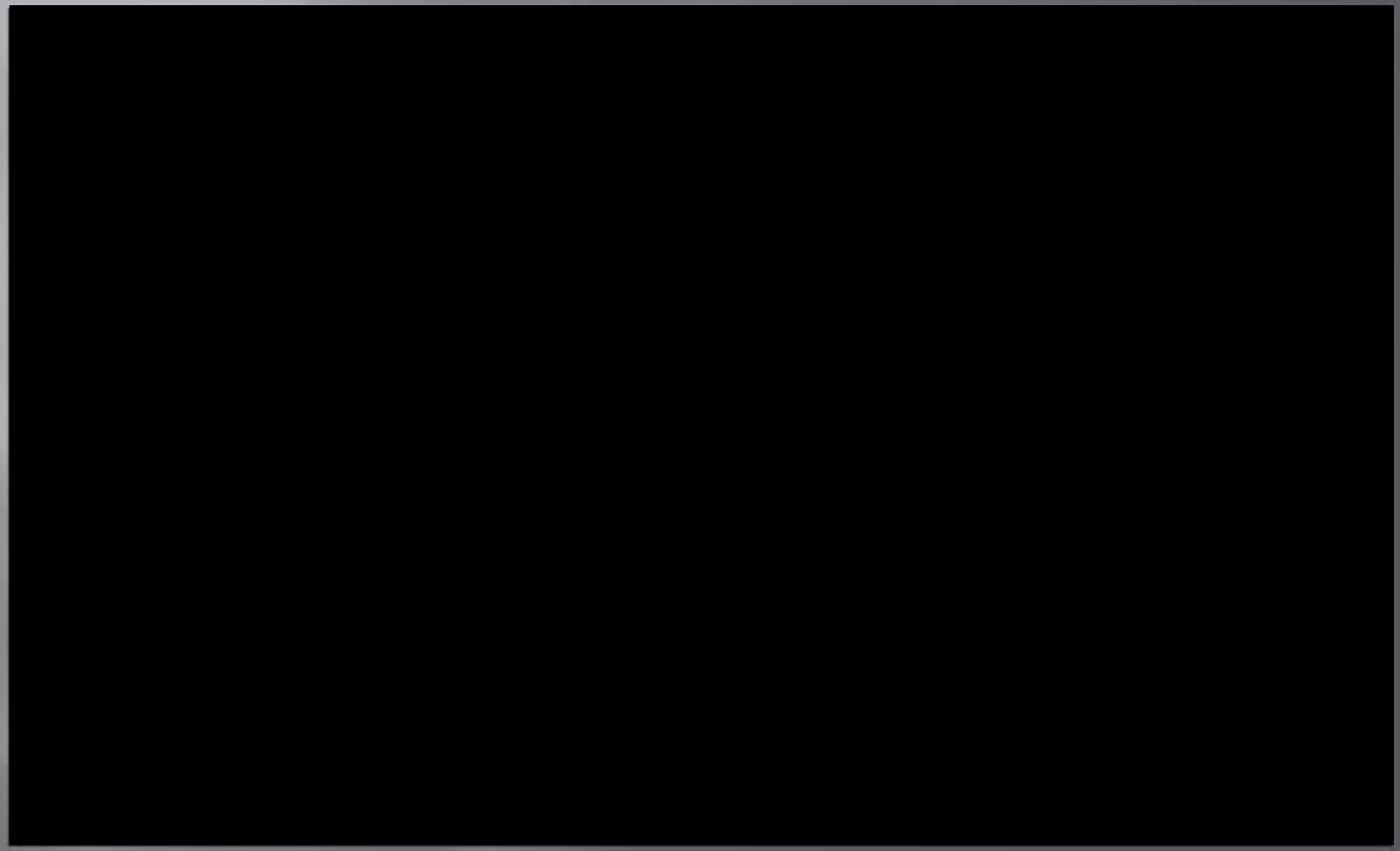
- Isolate area by establishing detours, using barricades
- Advise of road closures and need to use alternate routes
- Contact media to disseminate information
- Ensure proper notifications
  - Public works
  - Fire department
  - HazMat crew

Los Angeles Sinkhole

Animal Control Problems

- Attempt to locate the animal
- Attempt to determine whether it is dangerous or not
- Protect public safety by confining animal if possible or keeping people inside buildings
- Notify Animal Control
- Avoid head shots if possible if you have to dispatch the animal (head should be preserved for rabies test

Pitbull Attacks Police Officer



Pitbull Attacks 2 People

Gas Leaks

- Can be caused by gas line ruptures, leaking gas within structure, malfunctioning gas appliance
- Ensure notification of utility companies, public works, fire department
- Direct responding units to approach from upwind if possible
- Eliminate/restrict ignition sources (cigarettes, starting vehicles, flares, light switches, etc.
- Never enter a gas filled environment or touch or move anything until safe to do so.

Flood Events

Floods

- Make an initial assessment of the area
- Stay away from the flood water
- Update dispatch of changing conditions
- Ensure notification of public works, fire department public utilities, railroad companies
- Establish detours as needed
- Use appropriate warning devices (cones, barricades, etc.
- Assist with evacuation as necessary

Traffic Device Malfunction

- Assess magnitude of hazard
- Use appropriate warning devices: patrol vehicle, flare patterns, cones, portable stop signs
- Notification: Public works
- Request additional resources

Earthquakes

Earthquakes

- Consider the extent of damage may inhibit the response of additional assistance
- Normal emergency communication systems may be inoperative
- Aftershocks may represent continuing hazards
- May be required to engage in nontraditional activities
  - Heavy rescue operations, damage assessment, organizing civilian volunteers
  - Damaged dams/levees may necessitate evacuation

Earthquake Response

- Conduct initial assessment
  - Attempt to locate survivors
- Ensure safety
  - Use extreme caution when inspecting hazards
- Secure area
  - Isolate hazards, establish detours, utilize barricades
  - Limit ingress/egress to authorized personnel
- Maintain communication
  - Notifications
  - Utilize alternate communication systems if necessary

Loma Prieta Earthquake

CHP Video

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