



# MCFRS SPECIAL OPERATIONS

## 5-MINUTE DRILL – UNEXPECTED HAZMAT SMOKE

Dallas Firefighters recently responded to a house fire where they encountered significant smoke color change and an unusual odor while operating. This was caused by involvement of an unlabeled container of “chlorine” in the fire structure. Six firefighters were exposed to chlorine vapors and transported to the hospital for respiratory issues. ([News Link](#))



## REMINDERS

- Hazardous chemicals can be ANYWHERE in and outside of structures from brush to houses to large industrial facilities.
- Any “strange” smoke colors at a fire should make you pause, get additional information if possible & adjust tactics as necessary as you may be dealing with a Hazardous Material or several involved.
- Unusual odors at a working fire means your lungs are probably being exposed to something pretty bad
- Be prepared for smoke movement that may affect personnel and citizens not in PPE or SCBA and adjust accordingly (i.e. Drivers, EMS, Command, etc.)
- EMS Evaluation should occur for any personnel exposed to chemical smoke and decontamination should become a high priority for any chemical fires