



HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY

“Specialists in Radiation Safety”

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Brian Dodd, Ph.D.

President

10313 Cogswell Avenue

Las Vegas, NV 89134-5209

Phone: 702-219-9021

Fax: 702-254-2346

Email: bdc.mail@cox.net

To the Editor:

The Health Physics Society¹ would like to offer its services to you to ensure the public is provided a balanced view of radiation protection issues and the potential health consequences of radiation exposure in light of the recent “dirty bomb” threats toward several NFL stadium sites. Although the threats were determined to be a hoax, having information readily available and knowing knowledgeable people to contact can mean the difference between panic and informed decision-making.

In an attempt to disseminate factual information, the Society is taking the opportunity to provide you with links to items on our Web site and to Web sites of other sources we deem credible. We believe this information reflects key points of interest for your readers. Our Web site also offers the “Ask The Experts” feature (www.hps.org/publicinformation/asktheexperts.cfm) where your readers can submit questions and receive prompt answers from health physicists knowledgeable in this area.

- The home page of the Health Physics Society: www.hps.org
- The home page of the Health Physics Society’s Homeland Security Committee: <http://hps.org/hsc/>
- Questions and answers on nuclear or radioactive devices: <http://hps.org/publicinformation/ate/cat66.html>
- Fact sheet on dirty bombs: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/fact-sheets/dirty-bombs.pdf>
- FAQ sheet on dirty bombs: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/radiation/pdf/dirtybombs.pdf>
- Fact sheet on potassium iodide: <http://hps.org/publicinformation/ate/faqs/ki.html>

Please contact our Media Liaison, Kelly Classic at media@hps.org or 507-284-4407 (office) or 507-254-8444 (cell), or me regarding this issue, or any issue involving radiological public health and safety.

Sincerely,

Brian Dodd, Ph.D., President
Health Physics Society

¹The Health Physics Society is a nonprofit scientific professional organization whose mission is excellence in the science and practice of radiation safety. Since its formation in 1956, the Society has grown to approximately 5,500 scientists, physicians, engineers, lawyers, and other professionals. Society activities include encouraging research in radiation science, developing standards, and disseminating radiation safety information. Society members are involved in understanding, evaluating, and controlling the potential risks from radiation relative to the benefits. The Society may be contacted at 1313 Dolley Madison Blvd., Suite 402, McLean, VA 22101; phone: 703-790-1745; fax: 703-790-2672; email: HPS@BurkInc.com. The Society’s Media Liaison can be contacted at 507-284-4407 (office) or 507-254-8444 (cell); email: media@hps.org.