Key Findings:
In light of the recent improvised explosive device (IED) incidents, the Office of the ROIC offers the following:

When Responding to Suspicious Packages:

Responding officer safety is paramount! You cannot keep the public safe if you become injured.

- When responding to suspicious packages or individuals, maintain a safe distance, keep all civilian traffic a safe distance from the area and maintain dispersion if responding with more than one officer.
- Maintain 360-degree awareness to detect any other potential threats - do not get tunnel vision. Be prepared for other simultaneous threats.
- Utilize technology where possible to inspect area – such as video surveillance cameras, binoculars or scopes. Local experts are familiar with what is normal versus suspicious.
- IEDs can be hidden in common, everyday items such as flashlights, book bags, briefcases, laptops, etc.
- IEDs can be obvious with protruding wires, foul smells, smoke, melted materials, duct tape or antennas.
- Remember, IEDs can be initiated with timers, on command, or be victim triggered.
- IEDs usually include a container for the explosive materials, a power source, and a switch or circuit.

| Don’t pull on or trace suspicious wires | Don’t manipulate buttons or switches |
| Don’t cut wires | Don’t remove SIM cards |
| Don’t move suspicious device or bag | Don’t remove batteries |
| Don’t transmit unnecessarily on radio | Don’t answer ringing phones |

- Responders should follow local protocols when responding to suspicious bags or devices. Remember the “Five C’s” when dealing with improvised explosive devices (IEDs):
  - Confirm - the presence of the suspect item from a safe distance (report the incident)
  - Clear – all personnel away from the scene; including unnecessary responders
  - Cordon – off the endangered area to prevent unauthorized, and unintentional access
  - Control – the area of concern; divert all civilian traffic away from the location
  - Check – all personnel and the immediate area for secondary devices

Considerations for responding Law Enforcement:
The following indicators should be considered when responding to suspicious packages or persons:

- Individuals usually survey or prepare the site, prior to emplacement of an IED if time permits.
- Nefarious individuals may use decoys or hoax IEDs to lure responders closer to the real IED.
- IEDs are generally placed in a “kill box” or at choke point to maximize casualties.
- Terrorists and criminals often use secondary devices or daisy chained devices to affect responders.
- Be aware of IEDs on the person: wires may be protruding from clothing; watch for suspicious smells or stains on clothing; be alert for an individual attempting to ignite a package or item under clothing.
- IEDs may be covered with garbage, soda cans, dirt, cardboard or other natural items to conceal devices.
- Only properly trained responders should attempt to remove/render safe suspicious devices or packages.

Dissemination: Law Enforcement, Security, Emergency Responders and Critical Infrastructure Partners

Request for Information and Contact Information: Any agency with additional information regarding this topic, or questions regarding this product should be directed to the Office of the NJ ROIC Intelligence & Analysis Threat Unit at (609)963-6900, ext. 2053, or NJROIChreat@gw.njsp.org.