

Medical Management of the 39th Republican National Convention and Lessons Learned

R.J. Frascone, M.D. FACEP
Gathering of Eagles XI

"The security for the convention was going to be inadequate because the Twin Cities didn't have the police resources, and the feds weren't coming through with enough extra. None of the big shots would get hurt, of course, because they'd be blanketed by gun-toting Secret Service thugs, but the town, in Lucas's opinion, was toast. Whoever'd had the bright idea of inviting the convention to St. Paul, he thought, should have had his head X-rayed until it smoked".

Lucas Davenport from
Phantom Prey by John Sanford
April, 2008
Putnam

We heard from both Boston and New York (DNC/RNC 2004, respectively)...

“It was a lot of fun...”

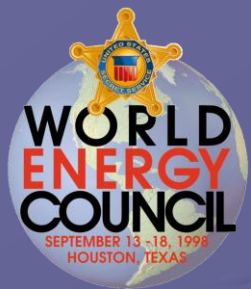
But we would never, ever want to do it again!”



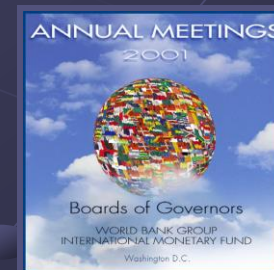
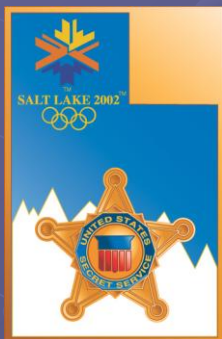
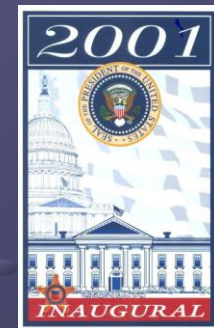
**WELCOME
DELEGATES.
WE'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR
YOU SINCE
1892.**

Qwest 
SPIRIT OF SERVICE™

09/05/2



National Special Security Events



This was a **HUGE** fricken event!!!

2008 RNC

(Final Numbers)

- 20,000 media (Media took over River Center and Roy Wilkins auditorium)
- 5,000 delegates
- 15000 protestors
- **1000 anarchists**
- USSS Protectees, 200 + Congressional Members, 20-30 Republican Governors, RNC VIP's/Delegates, Cabinet Members, Celebrities, etc. Boston

Scope

- Main DMAT: 6 MD's, 8 RN's, 6 paramedics, 1 pharmacist, 1 RT, 1 logistic and 1 communications specialist to support MMMU
- 24 DMAT personnel divided into 2 groups attached to Federal decontamination teams (CBIRF-170 U.S marines)
- 2 MD's, 2 RN's and 2 paramedics to LEC with tenting and supplies for medical treatment and decontamination prn

Scope

- 5 strike teams each composed of 2 MD's, 2 RN's and 2 paramedics equipped with vehicles, ALS packs, defibs with 12 lead, communications, foul weather gear etc
- 20 DMAT personnel split equally between SJH and UH
- 6 DMAT personnel at Regions Hospital (Lead hospital/Level I Trauma)

Scope

- 750 Impact ventilators
- 2 hour push pack response or on ground at MSP (747 full of medical equipment)
- 500 Cyanokits, 250-500 Ca EDTA and 500 Prussian blue tx's
- 1 Federal Medical Station on call

Scope

- 13 MFF's- 80+ police with 2 tactical medics per
- 6 cut teams, both police and fire
- 420 police inside XA
- 1000 USSS agents in and out of XA
- 400 busses each with an officer
- 500 officers outside of building
- 4 JHAT's (Joint Hazard Assessment Teams)- FBI, USSS, SPPD, SPFD, Haz Mat
- 4 JHERT's (Joint Hazard Explosive Response Teams)- FBI, USSS, SPPD, DOE, bomb squad

Scope

- MACC (Multi Agency Communications/Coordination Center)- 140 seats with hosp reps
- Interior Command Center
- Exterior Command Center
- JOC (Joint Operations Center)
- JIC (Joint Information Center)
- EOC (Emergency Operations Center- multiple)
- USAR (Urban Search and Rescue team)
- F16 and attack helicopters in air at all times
- 10 Coast Guard gun boats on river
- White House medical team
- Capitol medical team
- DOD, US Capitol police CDC, DHHS, National Guard, FAA, Metro Transit, MDH, All local sheriffs' dept's, police and fire depts., State Patrol, TSA, railroads Dept of State, etc. etc. etc.
- Countless, carpenters, electricians, lighting, sound, technicians and general construction workers
- Army of food workers



This is what it looked like....





PLEASE DO NOT
ENTER THE
DOCK AREA
UNLESS
YOU ARE
AUTHORIZED
PERSONNEL

PLEASE MOVE YOUR
VEHICLE IMMEDIATELY AFTER
LOADING / UNLOADING.
DOCK SPACE IS LIMITED.

DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL
RESOURCES















RNC Welcoming Committee

Crash the Convention! Sept 1-4, 2008

Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN

WHO WE ARE

The RNC Welcoming Committee is an anarchist / anti-authoritarian organizing body preparing for the 2008 Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minnesota.

CASH TO SPARE?

[Donate](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS LIST

To add yourself, email: [rnco8-subscribe \(a\) lists.riseup.net](mailto:rnco8-subscribe (a) lists.riseup.net)

ONLINE HOUSING BOARD

Looking for a place to stay? Have a place to offer? Visit the [online housing board](#) for all of your body storage needs!

CRASH THE CONVENTION

2008 Call to Action

On September 1-4 of 2008, the Republican Party is coming to Minnesota to celebrate their latest conquests in global domination and exploitation. We of the RNC Welcoming Committee want to make sure that this time the fear-mongers will be met with their own biggest fear: people mobilized, organized, and taking the future back into their own hands.

For those of you who abhor the rapid growth of racist militarized borders across stolen lands, the raids and deportations, destruction and commodification of our shared and living earth, police brutality and prison industry, fear propaganda and subjugation, exploitation and robbery of peoples worldwide, and all forms of injustice and oppression - we ask you to be prepared for 2008. This will require new alliances, strong networks, the awakening of those who've given up, as well as the mobilization of those who've never before taken action. Let's use this opportunity to make the changes we thirst for manifest and take root before us, making the

Republicans/Democrats (whatever you want to call them) obsolete

RECENT POSTS

- [Call for Radical 'Green' Space Organizing](#)
- [Online Housing Board for 2008 Protests](#)
- [Radio show now available for download](#)
- [Twin Cities Radical Community Meeting on Sexu Assault and the RNC](#)
- [In the TC? Live indoors? We need your help!](#)

PAGES

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‘Cops, SWAT, Horses, Bikes,
Hundreds here.....We’re
f**ked’ *, **

* Message posted on protestor text group.

** Later made into a MFF tee shirt.



Professional Anarchists

There job was to:

- Break things and
- Hurt people

Do not confuse these folks with your run of the mill protestors

The “Ambulance”

Medical Plan

Normal Medical Operations (City of St. Paul per plan)

- EMS will evaluate all pts outside of building and do preliminary triage to DMAT or to hospital
- DMAT will tx and release or re-triage to hospital
- **All east metro EMS traffic directed by MRCC**
 - MRCC is the control valve esp for Regions
- No control of walk-in traffic

The Venue (XA)

Medical Station Operations (per plan)

- Walk-in patients
- Sicker pts transported to HCS to tx and release or transfer
- Transfer to hosp by amb outside of door by interior medic/medic team roving team
- Critical patient accompanied by Medical Station staff
- Ambulance secured at Hospital

Outside the Building

- 2 SPF ambulances (1 and 1 with SSM) in venue area
- 2 SPF ambulances in non-vehicle area
- 2 gators
- SPF and scheduled mutual aid mix for city
- MASS decontamination capability (40,000) with CBIRF

Health Station Staffing (Peak)

- 2 Staff MD's
- 2 ML provider (resident or PA)
- 4 RN's
- 1 Security guard
- MD's, ML's and RN's worked overlapping hour shifts (12N to 10PM and 4PM to 12MN)



Drugs available with Pyxis

- Antibiotics
 - Amoxicillin
 - Azithromycin
 - Pen VK
 - Levoquin
 - Keflex
 - Bacitracin
 - Abx ophthalmic gtts
- Antihistimine/Decongestants
 - Diphenhydramine
 - Claritin or Allegra
 - Sudafed
 - Afrin
- Wound Care/Skin Care
 - Demabond
 - Bacitracin
 - Hydrocortisone 1% cream
- Steroids
 - Solumedrol
- Ophthamalogics
 - Abx gtts
 - Vasocon A
- Cardiac Medication
 - Lopressor oral
 - Cardiazem oral
 - Lipitor
 - NTG
- Pulmonary
 - Albuterol neb
 - Albuterol MDI
- Gastrointestinal
 - Zantac
 - Maalox
 - Imodium
- Antiemetics
 - Phenergan IV
 - Zofran IV
- Pain Medication
 - Percocet
 - Vicodin
 - Morphine
 - Fentanyl
 - Toradol
 - Aspirin
 - Tylenol
 - Motrin
- Saline







LOW CLEARANCE

CODE PINK



442-RNY



USMC
L/CPL ALEXANDER S. ARREDONDO
SQUARE

Massachusetts
S2001



Handling of MCI's



Israeli Model



Israeli Model



- Event suspicious for terrorist action - usually an explosion
- "Bag and Drag" with further care enroute when possible
- Reporting possible secondary devices (all SPFD units cross trained with bomb squad)

RESULTS

Results

(Law Enforcement)

- 800+ arrests total with 283 on Day 1 with 119 felonies
- Multiple uses of gas, mace and flash bangs

Results (Medical)

Results

(XA)

- 195 pt contacts with 46 w/u's
- One lac repair and one paronychia done by the Chair of the Dept of Surgery
- Most cases minor: blisters (seemed like hundreds), back pain, URI's, minor HA's
- 7 transports from XA and 2 from RVA
- Transported pt's included: syncope, allergy, SOB, CP, psych, HA

Results (SPFD)

- Outside of RVA/XA transports (total/RNC related)
 - Sept. 1 - 149/44
 - Sept. 2 - 79/8
 - Sept. 3 - 83/6
 - Sept. 4 - 99/12
 - Totals – 410/70
- RVA/XA activity
 - Sept. 1 - 21
 - Sept. 2 - 12
 - Sept. 3 - 9
 - Sept. 4 – 20
 - Total - 62

Direct Protestor Support

Northstar Health Collective

(Estimates from John Hick)

- Street Medics:
 - 38
- Protestors assisted by Street Medics:
 - 1100
- Protestors decontaminated at assistance center:
 - 375
- Protestors receiving first aid at assistance center:
 - 65
- Protestors receiving wellness assistance (counseling, support, etc):
 - 85

Patients Seen by DMAT Personnel by location

- Ramsey County Corrections
 - 30
- Mobile Medical Unit
 - 20
- Hennepin County Corrections
 - 2
- Xcel Center (DMAT paramedics)
 - 2
- Federal Agency / FBI Support Team
 - 1
- **Total DMAT patients seen**
 - 55

Hospitals

- Regions: 34 RNC related pts with 3 admissions
- HCMC: 26 pts
- United: 3 RNC related pts with 1 admission
- SJH: 2 related pts

Lessons Learned

(Irreverent, with Prejudice and In No Particular Order)

- Republican women (and others) wear stupid shoes.
- When you hear, “This is a security medical/EMS/Fire event unless it becomes one.” Look out.
 - There is a mistaken belief that just because something is a contingency, it doesn’t have to be paid for. Of the 50M in funding, 34M went to police
- Credentialing was challenging to say the least

Lessons Learned

- I think all Americans have always instinctively have known that all Federal agencies hate all other Federal agencies. But what I didn't know is...
- Everyone inside a Federal agency hates everyone else inside that agency and all Federal employees live in fear of being fired, demoted or not promoted.
- It takes a lot of equipment to set up an aid station.

Lessons Learned

- It was nifty being called “Chief Medical Officer”
- DHHS is opulent. (Trip to DC)
 - Assistant secretary’s office
 - SOC
- The Federal Government has many rules some of which are arcane e.g. can’t treat folks in handcuffs

Lessons Learned

- NOBODY who was involved in this spoke anything that resembled English. People spoke ENTIRE paragraphs in acronyms. Pretty soon you start talking like them.
 - I would not want to be referred to as FLOTUS if I were the First Lady.

Acronym List – RNC Health and Medical

- AAR – After-action Report
- ACS – Alternate Care Site (field hospital)
- ASPR – Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (HHS division)
- ATF – Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (DHS)
- ATSDR – Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry
- BH – Behavioral Health
- BMC – Bomb Management Center (USSS)
- CBIRF – Chemical and Biological Incident Response Force (Marine Corps)
- CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- CERFP – CBRN Emergency Response Force Package (MN NG)
- COA – Committee on Arrangements
- CST – Civil Support Team (MN NG CBRN detection and response)
- DHS – Department of Homeland Security
- DMAT – Disaster Medical Assistance Team (HHS)
- DMERT – Disaster Mortuary Emergency Response Team (MDH)
- DMORT – Disaster Mortuary Team (HHS)
- DOD – Department of Defense
- DOE – Department of Energy
- DOJ – Department of Justice
- DPMU – Disaster Portable Morgue Unit (MDH)
- EMS – Emergency Medical Services
- EMSRB – Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board
- EOC – Emergency Operations Center
- EOD – Explosive Ordnance Disposal
- EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
- ESF8 – Emergency Support Function 8 – Health and Medical
- FAA – Federal Aviation Administration
- FBI – Federal Bureau of Investigation
- FCO – Federal Coordinating Officer (FEMA)
- FDA – Food and Drug Administration
- FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
- FMS – Federal Medical Station (HHS)
- FOUO – For Official Use Only
- HHS – Health and Human Services
- HMRU – Hazardous Materials Response Unit (FBI)
- HRT – Hostage Rescue Team (FBI)
- HSEM – Homeland Security and Emergency Management (MN)
- IAP – Incident Action Plan
- IAT – Incident Assistance Team (FEMA)
- IC – Incident Commander
- IRCT – Incident Response and Coordination Team (HHS)
- IMT – Incident Management Team
- IOC – Intelligence Operations Center (FBI)
- IOF – Initial Operations Facility (FEMA – precedes JFO)
- IST – Incident Support Team (FEMA – for US&R team)
- JFO – Joint Field Officer (FEMA)
- JHAT – Joint Hazard Assessment Team
- JHERT – Joint Hazard Explosive Response Team
- JIC – Joint Information Center
- JOC – Joint Operations Center (FBI, Health and Medical, USSS each have)
- JPA – Joint Powers Agreement
- JTF – Joint Task Force (DOD)
- JTTF – Joint Terrorism Task Force (MN inter-agency workgroup)
- LE – Law Enforcement
- LPH – Local Public Health
- LRN – Laboratory Response Network
- MAC – Metropolitan Airports Commission, Mission Assignment Capability (FEMA)
- MACC – Multi-Agency Coordination Center
- MDH – Minnesota Department of Health
- MCI – Multiple Casualty Incident
- MDH – Minnesota Department of Health
- MFF – Mobile Field Force (civil disturbance force – LE)
- MLPHA – Metro Local Public Health Association
- MMRS – Metropolitan Medical Response System
- MN-1 – MN 1 DMAT
- MOA – Mall of America, Memoranda of Agreement
- MOU – Memoranda of Understanding
- MTC – Metropolitan Transportation Council
- NDMS – National Disaster Medical System (HHS)
- NIMS – National Incident Management System
- NMRT – National Medical Response Team (WMD capable DMAT)

Acronym List – RNC Health and Medical

- NOC – National Operations Center
- NORTHCOM – North American Command (DOD)
- NSSE – National Security Special Event
- OEP – Office of Emergency Preparedness (MDH)
- OPSEC – Operational Security
- OSC – On-scene Commander
- PDD – Presidential Declaration of Disaster
- PFO – Principal Federal Official
- PH – Public Health
- PHL – Public Health Laboratory
- PIO – Public Information Officer
- POTUS – Protectorates of the United States
- PSAP – Public Safety Answering Point
- RAP – Radiological Assistance Program (Region V Illinois)
- RDD – Radiologic Dispersion Device (dirty bomb)
- RDN – Regional Distribution Node (for antibiotics, other SNS assets)
- RHRC – Regional Hospital Resource Center
- RRCC – Regional Response Coordination Center (FEMA Chicago)
- SIOC – Strategic Intelligence Operations Center (FBI – DC)
- SITREP – Situation Report
- SNS – Strategic National Stockpile (CDC)
- TBD – To Be Determined
- TF-1 – MN Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 1
- TFR – Temporary Flight Restriction
- TIC – Toxic Industrial Chemical, Tactical Interoperable Communication
- TSA – Transportation Security Administration
- US&R – Urban Search and Rescue (FEMA – Type 1 is most robust team)
- USSS – United States Secret Service
- VMI – Vendor Managed Inventory (CDC medical assets)
- VMAT – Veterinary Medical Assistance Team (HHS)
- HHS Assets
- DMAT – 35+ person team providing acute medical care capabilities
- NMRT – up to 60 person team providing decontamination and medical care capabilities
- Chempack – local and special event assets with nerve agent antidotes
- SNS – CDC 12 hour pushpack has medical treatment, biologic countermeasure and nerve agent countermeasures.
- VMI – vendor-managed inventory – additional antibiotic, ventilator, other medical assets
- FMS – field hospital 250 beds per – will NOT be deployed for RNC but available.

The FAT book

Lessons Learned

- I wish we would have had proparacaine, po steroids and tetanus toxoid. I'm glad we didn't have PT's.
- You lose control of your city.
- You must pick your windmills and insist on control when appropriate. Be prepared to go to the wall. Threaten going to the press if you have to.

Lessons Learned

- There were a ton of celebs here, all on their best behavior. It was fun meeting and talking to them.



Lessons Learned

- All of the delegates we spoke to had an extremely positive impression of St. Paul and the entire Twin City area.



Questions?