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Bear Repellent Discharged in Hotel

SeaTac, Wash. - August 7, 2015- Nine people were treated with two being transported to a local hospital after a canister of bear repellent was accidentally discharged in a hotel room in the 19600 block of International Boulevard.

The Kent Fire Department RFA was dispatched to a local hotel at 10:30 this morning after employees reported that there was a possible chemical release that was making people gag and cough. The hotel was evacuated as the smell got stronger and spread to several floors.

The call was treated as both a hazardous materials investigation because of an unknown substance, and as a Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) due to the number of potential patients. MCI calls are classified by number of patients which automatically dispatches the correct number of medical units and ambulances.

All nine people examined and treated were hotel employees. Both people transported were sent in as a precaution.

The staff member who found the canister of bear repellent did not know what it was and discharged the aerosol accidentally.

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