

URGENT!

Second Chance Body Armor Files for Bankruptcy

WCPA seeking information from all Wisconsin agencies affected by this latest announcement.

Second Chance Body Armor, Inc. recently filed for bankruptcy as a result of lawsuits related to defective vests containing the synthetic fiber called Zylon. The company had previously recalled more than 130,000 vests made entirely with Zylon. At that time, other vests containing smaller amounts of the Zylon material were said to be safe and effective. However, recent testing of these vests suggests that they too may fail to perform and result in serious injury or death. Second Chance is urging its customers to replace the vests containing Zylon, saying they may not be safe. Second Chance, in undergoing reorganization and federal bankruptcy court, did not recall the remaining Zylon vests because it didn't have the money to replace them, leaving agencies in the lurch for funding the replacement. IACP President Joseph Este called upon the Department of Justice to investigate this matter and provide a prompt resolution to this matter.

On behalf of the WCPA, I've contacted the Wisconsin Attorney General's Office, who is investigating this matter and considering a class action suit on behalf of Wisconsin law enforcement. In an effort to determine how many agencies in Wisconsin are affected by this bankruptcy, the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association, on behalf of the Department of Justice, is seeking information from all affected agencies. **Agencies having the defective vests are asked to submit the following information to Executive Director Don Thaves no later than Friday, July 15th, 2005.** Provide the agency name, the number of vests, the model of the vests, and the cost of each vest. This information will be collected and forwarded to the Attorney General's Office on July 15th, 2005. All affected agencies are asked to provide this information in a timely manner to help us identify the impact of this issue on Wisconsin law enforcement. More information will be provided as this issue unfolds.



Randy A. Williams, President
Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association