In anticipation of possible terrorist attacks or large-scale emergency, TX-TF1 was selected by FEMA as one of six teams to deploy in support of the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. TX-TF1 had recently received equipment and training that enabled the team to perform search and rescue operations in a WMD-contaminated environment. As part of its selection as a FEMA-WMD urban search and rescue team, TX-TF1 received $300,000 in specialized WMD-response equipment from FEMA. The equipment includes atmospheric detection devices, personal protective equipment, decontamination equipment and pharmaceuticals to treat exposure to chemical or biological agents. The Task Force deployed as a Type I team, comprised of 70 members.

TX-TF1 had conducted training exercises in Disaster City® to test the team’s capabilities and preparedness for such a mission prior to deployment to the Winter Olympics, where the team was on stand-by from February 4-12, 2002, for quick response, if required. The Task Force members were deployed to Salt Lake City for 20 days and were sequestered near the Olympics. The team was on call 24 hours a day.

While in Salt Lake City, the Task Force conducted a myriad of training exercises to practice their capabilities in high-altitude and extreme cold/snow environments, including cold weather survival and avalanche victim location and detection.

The 2002 Winter Olympics was the first National Security Special Event, involving more than 7,000 federal agents and state and local law enforcement officers.

**Deployment Statistics**

- Deployment involved 70 personnel deployed for 9 days
  - 4 rescue squads
  - 2 technical search teams
  - 4 search canine teams
  - Communications personnel and equipment
  - Medical personnel and equipment
  - WMD and hazardous materials response personnel and equipment