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## Roseland Explosion & Soot Exposure — What To Do Now

Event: Explosion and fire at Smitty's Oil Supply (Roseland, LA) on August 22, 2025, with oily black soot fallout, chemical odors, and a 1-mile evacuation.

Goal: Protect your health, document losses, and preserve evidence so we can prove your claim.

### Health First

- If you have sore throat, cough, burning eyes, headache, nausea, skin rash, or breathing trouble, seek medical care today.
- Tell your provider: exposure to oily soot/chemical smoke from the 8/22/25 Roseland fire; bring this handout.
- Start a Symptom Diary: date/time, location, activity, symptoms, odors/taste in air, duration, meds used, work/school missed.
- Emergency: Call 911 for severe symptoms.

### Don't Clean Yet (Unless Necessary)

- Photograph/video all affected areas: roofs, gutters, porches, windows, furniture, vehicles (hood/roof/trunk), A/C condenser, play sets, pools, gardens.
- If cleaning cannot wait: tape off a 4x4 inch test spot at 3–6 representative areas. Collect a wipe sample (new cotton pad/gauze dampened with isopropyl alcohol or mild soapy water). Place in a clean glass jar or new zip bag, label with address, location, date/time. Then clean the rest gently with soap and low-pressure water. Save used rags/towels in bags (label them).
- Save your HVAC/AC filter (label & bag). Replace with a new filter and date it.
- Keep anything that contains soot (filters, rags, vacuum bags) in sealed bags; label with date, address, and location.

### Property & Expense Log

- Keep receipts for: evacuation costs (hotel, fuel, food), lost wages, childcare.
- Cleaning/restoration (home, yard, vehicles, pool, pressure washing), filter replacements.
- Spoiled food/medicine from power outages/evacuation.
- Repairs/replacements (paint, plants/landscaping, outdoor furniture, vehicles if stained/etched).
- Take “before cleaning” and “after cleaning” photos for each area and vehicle.

### Air Handling & Home Tips

- Run A/C on recirculate; keep windows closed during odor events.
- Replace indoor filters as needed (MERV 8–11); bag and label the old ones.
- Keep kids and pets off sooty surfaces; cover edible plants; do not eat from gardens until safely cleaned.

## **Stay in Touch**

- We will coordinate environmental sampling (soot wipes, soil, and, if needed, indoor/outdoor air) and handle insurance and agency communications.
- Do not communicate with company investigators or insurers without us present.

This handout is general guidance, not medical advice. Follow your physician's instructions. Preserve all evidence until we advise otherwise.