

Coroner Logistical Issues

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Search and Rescue

- **Pandemic**
 - **Local Law Enforcement**
 - Responding to 911 calls
 - Responding to welfare checks
 - **Health care facility**
 - Ambulance & drive up
 - Admissions

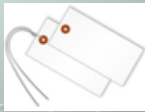
Search and Rescue


- **Mass Fatality**
 - **First responders**
 - Law enforcement
 - Fire department
 - EMS
 - **State resources**
 - ADFS
 - SMORT
 - AL DPS
 - National Guard
 - **Out of State resources**
 - DMORT
 - Mutual Aid States
 - Private organizations

Search and Rescue

- **Logistical concerns**
 - **Manpower availability**
 - **Equipment & supplies**
 - **Scene location & jurisdiction**
 - **Scene safety & security**
 - **Weather**

Tagging of Decedents



- **Permanent tag**
 - Tyvek - puncture-proof, water-proof, mildew resistant and not affected by most chemicals.
- **Indelible marker**
- **Unique simple numbering system**
 - HR - #
 - Can add additional info – team letter, year, county
- **Attachment method**
 - Zip tie 

Body Removal

- **Pandemic**
 - EMS?
 - Funeral homes
 - Private transport services
 - ADFS?
 - ADPH?
 - DMORT?
 - Mutual Aid States?
 - Private industry?
- **Mass fatality**
 - **Funeral homes**
 - **SMORT**
 - **ADFS**
 - **ADPH**
 - **DMORT**
 - **Mutual Aid States**
 - **Private industry?**

Body Removal

Logistical concerns

- Priority use of resources
- Manpower availability
- Equipment & supplies
- Scene location
- Scene safety & security
- Weather



Investigation of Death

Pandemic

- Local Law Enforcement
- Coroner/Medical Examiner
- Sources
 - Family
 - Neighbors
 - Health care facilities
 - EMS

Mass fatality

- Local Law Enforcement
- Coroner/Medical Examiner
- State/Federal agencies
 - DPS & ABI
 - FBI
 - NTSB

Documentation

Standard Coroner's report

- Coroners Association has no standard report

Issues

- Natural vs. Non-natural
- Decedent information
- Incident & scene information
- Decedent disposition

Pronouncement of Death

Physician - Coroner - Medical Examiner

- Determination vs. Pronouncement

Time of death vs. time pronounced

- Date/time found vs. date/time of death
- Time of incident vs. time pronounced
 - Survival time?



Decedent Identification

Identifying

- Visual with supporting documentation
 - Photo ID, family, neighbors, law enforcement
- Photograph of identifying marks, scars, tattoos

Issues

- Available information
- Body condition

ADFS



Protocols

Do you have one???

- Can your daily procedures be modified?
- Develop protocols for Pandemic & Mass fatality events
- Need for outside assistance?
 - When?
 - What resources needed?
 - Source of assistance

Protocols

- **Pandemic**

- Need to address capabilities and procedures for managing numerous deaths and loss of manpower over a prolonged period

- **Mass fatality**

- Need to address capabilities and procedures for managing numerous deaths occurring in a single event