

International Mass Fatality Management Conference



New York City

April 25-27, 2012



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2012 International Mass Fatality Management Conference



Dear Colleagues:

New York is only one of the many areas in the world to suffer the tragedy of sudden death for large numbers of its citizens. In Japan, Haiti, Thailand, Indonesia, New Orleans, Turkey, and Iraq, people have suffered the fear and grief that comes with large scale disasters, when suddenly our loved ones are swept away from us, often lost and unidentified. These are frequently referred to as “Acts of God” or “forces of nature”, unavoidable and therefore, somehow, acceptable. What can we do?

Avoidable or not, these tragedies are compounded when the dead cannot be returned to their families because of difficult recoveries or identification. This is where we can do something — we who manage mass fatality events cannot stop disasters, but we can use our skills and technologies to alleviate some of the grief families feel by returning the victims to them, allowing them to observe the rites and practices that bring them comfort.

Our service in the management of mass disasters is a noble obligation and is one personification of a slogan you will often see here at the Office of Chief Medical Examiner: Science Serving Justice.

We are pleased that you have joined us for this conference, and will strive to share what we know and to learn from you, that we all may serve decedents and their families with compassion and excellence.

Charles S. Hirsch MD
Chief Medical Examiner
City of New York

Welcome to the 2012 International Mass Fatality Management Conference



Dear Colleagues:

As the lead for the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Initiative for Mass Fatality Management, I am delighted that we are able to host this one-of-a-kind forum. Rarely do we have the opportunity to reflect collectively on the operational challenges involved in our work, and to consider new approaches to collaborative action.

Visionary political leadership and federal funding have allowed us to take some bold steps in the area of mass fatality management. We are proud to be pioneering a cross-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary mass fatality response system in the New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania region. This region, encompassing 4 states and 22 distinct jurisdictions, has crafted a regional response system plan that maximizes coordination, communication, and unity of effort. It is a monumental undertaking, designed not only to share hard assets, technical personnel and knowledge, but to also address many of the complex management issues that arise in effective disaster victim identification.

The Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Team is committed to developing and sustaining a system that will serve as a model for the nation. Our mandate is multi-tiered and ambitious, and we continue to learn how to integrate our systems.

We look forward to sharing this process with you and learning from your experiences as well. It is our greatest hope that in bringing together leaders in the field, this Conference will provide a space for productive dialogue that, in turn, will produce better solutions for the people we serve: the families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank DePaolo', with a horizontal line underneath.

Frank DePaolo, PA-C

Assistant Commissioner, NYC Office of Chief Medical Examiner

RCPT Project Lead, Regional Catastrophic Mass Fatality Management Response System

Regional Mass Fatality Management Response System

Executive Summary

The Medical Examiner/Coroner (ME/C) jurisdictions in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania developed a Regional Mass Fatality Management (MFM) Response System as a mechanism to rapidly and efficiently coordinate regional response among affected ME/C jurisdictions following the occurrence of a catastrophic event resulting in numerous fatalities.

Goal of the Regional MFM Response System:

To create a structure/mechanism that allows jurisdictions to work together toward the common MFM goal—*to document, recover, investigate, store, mitigate any hazards, and process decedents for the purpose of facilitating the accurate identification of decedents and returning decedents to their legal next of kin (NOK), when possible, for appropriate decedent final disposition.*

This System leverages the competencies of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from a variety of disciplines, while avoiding duplication of complex capabilities. It takes an all-hazards approach that not only enhances agency interoperability but also ensures maximum coordination between local, state, regional and federal stakeholders.

Mission Objectives:

MFM is directly shaped by mission objectives that hold true for each type of Mass Fatality incident (MFI). These mission objectives include:

- Establish jurisdictional authority with regard to MFM operations
- Ensure all MFM operations are conducted in a safe manner
- Provide family and friends of potential victims with a single, centralized mechanism for reporting and communication directly with the government
- Provide families with factual and timely information in a compassionate manner, in advance of any public media release of decedent information
- Establish and support a system within the Family Assistance Center (FAC) that allows for the accurate and efficient acquisition of antemortem data to facilitate the victim identification process
- Conduct MFM tasks in accordance with established forensic standards or best practices.
- Conduct the rapid return of decedents to their legal next of kin (NOK), when possible
- Provide an ongoing mechanism for decedent family outreach

Scope:

This plan provides guidance to ME/Cs and emergency planners in three areas:

- **The Regional MFM Response System Playbook**—Addresses the need to identify and synchronize key decisions among regional partners, provides a mechanism for determining the best means of sharing resources, and supports the affected ME/C by providing guidance regarding the use of regional capabilities.
- **The Local MFM Concept of Operations**—Describes the goals and objectives required to successfully manage an MFI at the local level.
- **The Federal Integration Plan**—Identifies the type of fatality management support the Federal Government may be able to provide to an affected area following a catastrophic event.

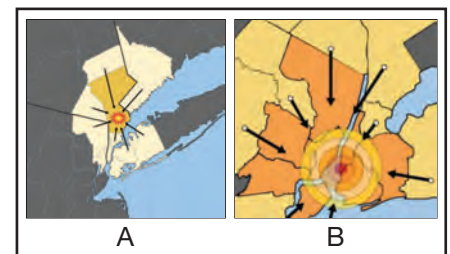


Figure. (A) Single Jurisdiction Affected by Disaster Requiring Regional Support (B) Multiple Jurisdictions Simultaneously Affected Requiring Regional Support

Mission Statement

The primary objective of this conference is to bring together international and domestic experts and leaders in mass fatality management to explore past incidents, discuss lessons learned and define best practices to enhance future responses and decision-making in these complex disasters.

International Mass Fatality Management Conference

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Post-9/11: Mass Fatality Management and Disaster Victim Identification

Host: Frank DePaolo, NYC Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)

Special Remarks: Commissioner Salvatore Cassano, NYC Fire Department

7:30 – 8:15	Breakfast and Registration
8:15 – 8:30	Introduction Honor Guard Presentation FDNY Ceremonial Unit
8:30 – 9:00	Keynote Hon. Rudolph Giuliani, former Mayor of New York City
9:00 – 10:30	Presentation: 9/11 World Trade Center Attack Charles S. Hirsch MD, NYC OCME Bradley Adams PhD, NYC OCME
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 11:45	Presentation: 9/11 Attack on the Pentagon Craig Mallak MD, Armed Forces Medical Examiner System
11:45 – 12:45	Presentation: Flight 93 Response Paul Sledzik, National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), former DMORT Commander
12:45 – 1:00	Speaker Panel Q&A
1:00 – 2:30	Lunch and Exhibits
2:30 – 4:45	Panel Discussion: Advances in DNA Technology Mechthild Prinz PhD, NYC OCME (facilitator) Mark Desire, NYC OCME Taylor Dickerson, NYC OCME John Planz PhD, University of North Texas Amanda Sozer PhD, SNA International Jennifer Kappeller, Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory Samuel Ferreira MD, Federal District Civil Police and Ministry of Justice - Brazil Tom Parsons PhD, International Commission on Missing Persons
4:45 – 5:00	Closing

International Mass Fatality Management Conference

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Mass Disaster and the International Response Community

Host: Barbara Butcher, NYC Office of Chief Medical Examiner

7:30 – 8:30	Breakfast, Registration and Exhibits
8:30 – 8:45	Introduction
8:45 – 9:15	Keynote Commissioner Joseph Bruno, NYC Office of Emergency Management
9:15 – 10:15	Presentation: International Incidents - DVI Tzipi Kahana PhD, Israel National Police
10:15 – 10:30	Break
10:30 – 11:30	Presentation: 2004 Southeast Asia Tsunami - MFM Pongruk Sribanditmongkol MD PhD, Chiang Mai University, Thailand
11:30 – 12:30	Presentation: 2011 Japan Earthquake - MFM Toshi Okuya, Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
12:30 – 12:45	Speaker Panel Q&A
12:45 – 2:15	Lunch and Exhibits
2:15 – 2:45	Keynote Kathryne Bomberger, Director-General of the International Commission on Missing Persons
2:45 – 4:45	Panel Discussion: Complex Policy Decisions in Large Scale Mass Fatality Incidents Barbara Butcher MPH, NYC OCME (facilitator) Discussion 1: Policy Dragan Primorac PhD, University of Split, Croatia Edward Gabriel, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Morris Tidball-Binz PhD, International Committee of the Red Cross Tom Parsons PhD, International Commission on Missing Persons Brad Billet, Deputy Commissioner of the Office of the Mayor, Commission for the United Nations Cynthia Gavin, Battelle Memorial Institute Discussion 2: Practice Tzipi Kahana PhD, Israel National Police Pongruk Sribanditmongkol MD PhD, Chiang Mai University, Thailand Toshi Okuya, Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Brigadier Helena Ras, South African Police Service Cheryl Ites, Joint Mortuary Affairs Center, U.S. Army Lee Green, Director of Joint Mortuary Affairs Center, U.S. Army John Nesler, Battelle Memorial Institute Frank DePaolo PA-C, NYC OCME
4:45 – 5:00	Closing
5:00 – 8:30	9/11 Memorial – Group Visit (limited availability)

International Mass Fatality Management Conference

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mass Fatality Management: Operational Issues and Perspectives on the Future

Host: Paul Sledzik, National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)

7:30 – 8:30	Breakfast, Registration, and Exhibits
8:30 – 8:45	Introduction
8:45 – 9:15	Keynote Chairperson Deborah Hersman, NTSB
9:15 – 9:45	Presentation: Introduction to Mass Fatality Management Operational Issues Paul Sledzik, NTSB
9:45 – 10:45	Presentation: Mass Fatality Management Operational Issues Elias Kontanis PhD, NTSB Eric Emery PhD, NTSB
10:45 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:00	Presentation: Disaster Victim Identification Scientific Working Group and Interpol Elias Kontanis PhD, NTSB Brigadier Helena Ras, South African Police Service
12:00 – 12:15	Speaker Panel Q&A
12:15 – 1:45	Lunch and Exhibits
1:45 – 2:45	Panel Discussion: Data Interoperability Tom Parsons PhD, International Commission on Missing Persons Kenneth Aschheim DDS, NYC OCME Kim Crumbliss, FBI Interoperability Initiatives Unit
2:45 – 3:00	Break
3:00 – 3:45	Mass Fatality Management Lessons Learned Frank DePaolo PA-C, NYC OCME
3:45 – 4:45	Panel Discussion: Perspectives on the Future of Mass Fatality Management and Disaster Victim Identification Paul Sledzik, NTSB (facilitator) Charles S. Hirsch MD, NYC OCME Barbara Butcher MPH, NYC OCME Frank DePaolo PA-C, NYC OCME Tom Parsons PhD, International Commission on Missing Persons Morris Tidball-Binz PhD, International Committee of the Red Cross Brigadier Helena Ras, South African Police Service
4:45 – 5:00	Closing – Kelly McKinney, NYC OEM

Host Bios



Charles S. Hirsch MD

Chief Medical Examiner
Office of Chief Medical Examiner

Dr. Charles Hirsch has served as the Chief Medical Examiner for New York City since 1989. He is also Chairman of the Department of Forensic Medicine and Professor of Pathology at New York University Medical School, and an adjunct professor of pathology at Cornell University Medical College.

Dr. Hirsch received his BS from the University of Illinois, Urbana, in 1958. He attended medical school at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago and completed his residency in anatomic pathology at the Institute of Pathology, Case Western Reserve University. He held fellowships in neuropathology and forensic pathology at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Baltimore, MD. Following two years in the U.S. Air Force Medical Corps, Dr. Hirsch worked as deputy coroner for the Cuyahoga County Coroner's Office until 1979, when he became Director of Forensic Pathology for Hamilton County Coroner's Office. He was made Chief Medical Examiner for Suffolk County, NY, in 1985, where he worked until he was selected for his current position in New York City.

Dr. Hirsch is certified by the National Board of Medical Examiners and by the American Board of Pathology in Anatomic Pathology and Forensic Pathology. He holds a medical license from the State of New York. He is on the Board of Editors for *Human Pathology*, *The Journal of Forensic Sciences*, and *Cardiovascular Pathology*. Dr. Hirsch is a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and a Life Trustee of the American Board of Pathology.



Frank DePaolo PA-C

Assistant Commissioner
Office of Chief Medical Examiner

As Assistant Commissioner of NYC's Office of Chief Medical Examiner's (OCME) Emergency Management Division, Frank DePaolo has catapulted New York City to its position as a national leader in mass fatality management. In 2003, he established the Medical Examiner Special Operations Response Team (MESORT), a medical examiner-based, multi-disciplinary, hazmat-certified forensic team, the first of its kind in the nation. Mr. DePaolo oversees emergency preparedness and response for the agency, which includes ongoing World Trade Center Recovery Operations, continuity of operations (COOP), security management, and the Special Operations Division (SOD). He is the driving force behind the Unified Victim Identification System (UVIS), a data collection and integrated fatality management application that facilitates disaster missing persons reporting and victim identification.

Mr. DePaolo is the Project Lead for the FEMA Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant's (RCPG) Mass Fatality Management Response System Program. He was elected in 2010 to the position he currently holds as the First Vice President of the International Association of Coroners & Medical Examiners (IACME).

Mr. DePaolo is a graduate of the Sophie Davis Bio-Medical School Program at The City College, City University of New York. He is an adjunct professor of Forensic Medicine at the NYU School of Medicine. As a former medical officer with the United States Navy he developed expertise in medical consequences and countermeasures of chemical and biological agents. During his commission, DePaolo trained with the United States Army's Mortuary Affairs Center (MAC) at Ft. Lee, Virginia, and was one of only a few U.S. Naval Officers to earn the U.S. Army's "4V" Joint Mortuary Affairs Officer designation.



Barbara Butcher MPH

Chief of Staff
Office of Chief Medical Examiner

Barbara Butcher is Chief of Staff and Director of the Forensic Sciences Training Program at the New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME). She is responsible for overall agency management, strategy, and inter-agency relations. She has directed Medicolegal Investigations, Disaster Planning, Fatality Management, WTC 9/11 Victim Recovery, and Identification, Evidence, and Missing Persons. As Deputy Director of Medicolegal Investigations, she coordinated the remains recovery effort after WTC 9/11, helped manage the response to the crash of AA Flight 587, and investigated the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. In 2007 she consulted for the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, working with an international committee of experts to formulate policy and plans for mass fatality events. Following the 2004 Tsunami, she went to Thailand on behalf of WHO to assist in Victim Identification strategies, and returned to speak on Fatality Management to an international audience convened by the United Nations and WHO.

As an investigator at OCME, she investigated more than 5500 death scenes and 680 homicides. She lectures extensively at the New York City Police Department, government agencies and universities on death investigation, disaster planning, fatality management and identifications. She created and directs the Forensic Sciences Training Program at OCME, a NIJ-funded academy for national training in death investigation.

Ms. Butcher holds a Masters degree in Public Health from Columbia University in New York and a Bachelors of Science from Long Island University. She obtained advanced skills through special training at the FBI Academy and NYPD, and is certified through DHS in Incident Command, Mass Fatality Management, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Bioterrorism, and Terrorist Bombing.



Paul S. Sledzik

Director, Transportation Disaster Assistance Division
National Transportation Safety Board

Paul Sledzik is Director of the National Transportation Safety Board's Transportation Disaster Assistance Division. Paul joined the NTSB in 2004 after serving for six years as the team leader for the Region 3 Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where he managed a team of 100 forensic scientists and mortuary specialists in mass fatality response. During his career, he participated in the victim identification and recovery efforts in over 30 mass fatality events and transportation accidents. For fifteen years he served as a forensic anthropologist and museum curator at the National Museum of Health and Medicine of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

As a forensic scientist, he has consulted for the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command/Central Identification Laboratory, the National Center for Forensic Science, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Paul's scientific articles have appeared in several professional journals and textbooks. He earned a BA in anthropology from the University of Rhode Island in 1984 and an MS in biological anthropology from the University of Connecticut in 1988.

Keynote Bios



Kathryne Bomberger

Director-General
International Commission on Missing Persons

Ms. Kathryn Bomberger was appointed Director-General of the International Commission on Missing Persons in April 2004. She began working for the ICMP as the Deputy Chief of Staff in July 1998.

Prior to working with the ICMP, Ms. Bomberger worked for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and for the United Nations. Before entering the field of human rights, Ms. Bomberger worked for the United States Senate in Washington, D.C.

She holds a Master's Degree in International Relations with an emphasis on Middle East Studies from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and a Bachelor's Degree in History from the same university. On June 14, 2007, the President of France honored Ms. Bomberger as Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, as "the proof of attention and recognition of the French Government for [her work and] the exceptional achievements of ICMP."



Joseph F. Bruno

Commissioner
NYC Office of Emergency Management

In March 2004, Joseph F. Bruno was appointed Commissioner of the New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM). Among his first major initiatives, Commissioner Bruno successfully oversaw New York City's adoption and implementation of the Citywide Incident Management System (CIMS).

Commissioner Bruno has spearheaded significant planning and preparedness initiatives at OEM, including the comprehensive revision of the City's Coastal Storm Plan, which prepares the City for a worst-case scenario hurricane and enables shelter for more than 600,000 residents. Under the Commissioner's leadership, OEM also developed the "What if New York City..." campaign, a post-disaster housing competition that challenged teams of architects and planners to design temporary housing for dense, urban environments. The competition marked a critical step in New York City's effort to plan for long-term housing after a catastrophic disaster.

During his tenure, Commissioner Bruno has successfully coordinated the City's responses to a variety of emergency and planned incidents. In 2005, he headed the City's plan to maintain order during the transit strike – three days that left New Yorkers with no subway service and minimal bus transportation. After the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, he oversaw the development and operation of a Family Assistance Center to assist victims who migrated to New York City. Commissioner Bruno also managed the City's responses to the Queens blackout in 2006, the steam pipe explosion in midtown Manhattan and the tornado in 2007, two major crane collapses in 2008, the outbreak of the H1N1 virus in 2009, and two tornados and a microburst in 2010.

A lifelong New York City resident, Commissioner Bruno holds a BS in Economics from City College and a JD from St. John's University Law School.



Hon. Rudolph Giuliani

Former Mayor
New York City

Rudolph Giuliani was born in Brooklyn in 1943, attended Manhattan College (BA, 1965) in the Bronx, and New York University law school in Manhattan. In 1981, President Ronald Reagan appointed Giuliani Associate Attorney General, the third highest position in the Department of Justice. In 1983, Giuliani was appointed U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York. In 1993, Giuliani was elected the 107th Mayor of the City of New York. Giuliani's innovative and energetic approach to urban governance – in issues ranging from policing to privatization – has been studied and emulated by cities around the country, and around the world. In 1997, Giuliani was re-elected mayor of New York.

On September 11, 2001 Rudy Giuliani rallied the city and the nation in response to the worst attack on American soil since Pearl Harbor. With less than three months left in his term as Mayor, Giuliani marshaled all the resources at his command toward rescuing victims, maintaining order, and comforting the survivors. Giuliani was *Time* magazine's Person of the Year for 2001, and he received an honorary knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II of England in 2002. In May of 2003, Mr. Giuliani married Judith S. Nathan, then a Managing Director of Changing Our World, Inc., a national fundraising and philanthropic services company headquartered in New York.



Deborah Hersman

Chairman
National Transportation Safety Board

Chairman Deborah Hersman is recognized as one of the nation's most visionary and passionate safety leaders who advocates for safety across all modes of transportation. Among her many initiatives, Hersman has focused attention and actions on distracted driving, child passenger safety, and helping accident victims and their families. She emphasizes the NTSB's role as "the conscience and the compass of the transportation industry."

Chairman Hersman has been the Board Member on-scene for 19 major transportation accidents, chaired scores of NTSB hearings, forums and events, and regularly testifies before Congress. Her leadership has created a more transparent and accountable organization by significantly increasing the quantity and quality of NTSB information available on the agency's website, holding more public meetings to highlight safety issues, and embracing social media to communicate with stakeholders and citizens.

Chairman Hersman received BA degrees in Political Science and International Studies from Virginia Tech and an MS in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University. She holds a commercial driver's license (with passenger, school bus, and air brake endorsements) as well as a motorcycle endorsement.

Presenter Bios



Bradley J. Adams PhD, D-ABFA

Forensic Anthropologist
Director of the Forensic Anthropology Unit
Office of Chief Medical Examiner

An expert in the field of Forensic Anthropology, Dr. Adams is currently Director of the Forensic Anthropology Unit for the Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) in New York City.

In his position with the OCME, Dr. Adams and his team are responsible for all forensic anthropology casework in the five boroughs of New York City (Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx, and Staten Island). Dr. Adams and his team are also integral players in the ongoing work related to identification efforts of 9/11 victims. This includes monitoring and/or excavation of sites around Ground Zero, as well as analysis, tracking, storage, and release of all human remains associated with the World Trade Center attacks.

Prior to OCME, Dr. Adams was a Forensic Anthropologist and Laboratory Manager at the Central Identification Laboratory (CIL) in Hawaii from 1997-2004. While with the CIL, Dr. Adams directed large-scale recovery and investigation operations in remote locations across the globe in order to recover and identify the remains of missing U.S. military personnel.

Dr. Adams has served as an expert witness in Forensic Anthropology in multiple court cases. He has authored and edited several books and published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals on topics relating primarily to forensic anthropology. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Anthropology, a Fellow with the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, and a member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Forensic Sciences*.



Eric B. Emery PhD, D-ABFA

Coordinator-Medicolegal Operations
National Transportation Safety Board
Transportation Disaster Assistance Division

Dr. Emery currently serves as a Coordinator for Medicolegal Operations with the Transportation Disaster Assistance Division of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). He received his PhD in Anthropology from Texas A&M University and has been actively involved in search and recovery work since 1993. Dr. Emery joined the NTSB from the Department of Defense's Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command - Central Identification Laboratory (JPAC-CIL), where he worked in medicolegal operations as a human remains recovery leader since July 2001. He has conducted mass fatality investigation and recovery operations all over the world.

In 2005, Dr. Emery graduated from the U.S. Navy's Center for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Diving (CEODD) on Ford Island, Hawaii, and in 2007, received his surface-supplied dive qualification from the U.S. Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center (NDSTC) in Panama City, Florida. He then served as the manager of JPAC-CIL's underwater human remains recovery operations, working in conjunction with salvage dive teams from both the U.S. Navy and Army.

Dr. Emery has helped develop interagency and international training programs in forensics and mass fatality recovery work, to include a five-year collaboration with the Department of Justice's International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) in Bogota, Colombia. Dr. Emery is a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Anthropology and an active member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. He has consulted for the U.S. Department of Defense's Forensic Sciences Working Group and is a qualified technical assessor with the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB).



Superintendent Tzipi Kahana PhD

Forensic Anthropologist
Israel National Police
Police Head Quarters, Jerusalem

Dr. Tzipi Kahana currently serves as Forensic Anthropologist of the Disaster Victim Identification Unit of the Israel Police. She earned a PhD from the Hebrew University, Israel and was trained at the University of Granada in Spain in Morphological and Developmental Sciences. Dr. Kahana also served as Forensic Anthropologist in the National Centre of Forensic Medicine in Tel Aviv.

Dr. Kahana has extensive international DVI experience, participating in victim identification in mass casualty scenarios since 1990, in Israel, Argentina, Thailand, New Zealand and various African countries.

Dr. Kahana has participated in many international workshops and training courses on emergency preparedness and management of disaster victim identification. She contributed as an expert to the development of several publications on emergency preparedness and mass casualty management. She also prepared and taught numerous courses in Forensic Anthropology and Odontology in the academic and the police milieus.



Elias Kontanis PhD

Coordinator - Medicolegal Operations
National Transportation Safety Board
Transportation Disaster Assistance Division

Elias J. Kontanis joined the NTSB Office of Transportation Disaster Assistance in April 2008 as the Coordinator for Victim Recovery and Identification. Prior to this position, he served as a forensic anthropologist, field recovery leader, and DNA coordinator at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command - Central Identification Laboratory (JPAC-CIL). During his tenure at the JPAC-CIL, Elias was responsible for leading search and recovery teams to recover the remains of U.S. service-members throughout Southeast Asia. Additional duties included laboratory analysis of human remains, personal effects, and material evidence in support of victim identification. He also served as a liaison with the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory and the FBI concerning DNA analysis efforts to facilitate victim identification; and as a field instructor with the DOJ International Criminal Investigation Training Assistance Program in Bogota, Colombia.

Elias served as a member of the Department of Health and Human Services Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team, where he participated in the victim identification efforts following the crash of EgyptAir flight 990 and the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center. Elias has also worked as a forensic anthropologist in the Republic of Cyprus with Physicians for Human Rights and has consulted for various jurisdictions, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and the Central Institute of Forensic Science - Thailand.

Elias earned a PhD in biology from Cornell University in 2005 and is a Registered Medicolegal Death Investigator. He holds an FAA advanced ground instructor certificate, and a commercial certificate for single-engine fixed wing aircraft, with an instrument rating.

Presenter Bios

Craig Mallak MD

Captain, U.S. Armed Forces Medical Examiner
Medical Corps, United States Navy

Captain Craig Mallak has served since 2002 as the U.S. Armed Forces Medical Examiner, with the responsibility of providing comprehensive death investigation services to the U.S. military and other federal agencies. He is responsible for providing oversight for the Department of Defense (DoD) Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) and the DoD Mortality Surveillance Division.

Captain Mallak graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in Criminalistics in 1982 and received his law and medical degrees from Creighton University in 1989. After completing his internship at Naval Hospital Oakland in 1990 he was assigned as a General Medical Officer in Japan and the Philippines. Following his tour with the Marines, he completed his residency in anatomic and clinical pathology at the National Naval Medical Center and completed his forensic pathology fellowship at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in 1997.

Since 2002, the Armed Forces Medical Examiners Office has been responsible for assisting in the investigation of the loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia, investigating U.S. deaths from Iraq and Afghanistan, identifying high profile terrorists, investigating deaths of detainees, and providing expertise in identifying victims of Hurricane Katrina and the Haiti earthquake.

Captain Mallak serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Medical Examiners, is a member of the College of American Pathologists Forensic Pathology Committee and is a fellow and past Chair of the Pathology/Biology Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. His personal decorations include three Meritorious Service Medals, three Joint Commendations Medals, and the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal.



Kelly McKinney

Deputy Commissioner of Planning
New York City Office of Emergency Management

Kelly McKinney joined the New York City Office of Emergency Management as Deputy Commissioner in January 2006. He oversees the Preparedness Division that includes the Health and Medical, Logistics, Transportation and Infrastructure, Plan Management and Human Services units. He is a professional engineer with public and private sector experience in hazardous materials remediation and industrial hygiene. Prior to joining OEM McKinney was the Associate Commissioner for Environmental Health at the New York City Department of Health. McKinney received an MPA from Columbia University and a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Kansas.



Mechthild Prinz PhD

Director, Department of Forensic Biology
Office of Chief Medical Examiner New York City

She started in forensic science, more specifically forensic DNA analysis, at the Institute of Legal Medicine in Cologne Germany. Aside from criminal casework, the institute performed a fair share of civil paternity investigations using DNA technology.

In 1991 she completed a PhD in Human Genetics and in 1994 moved to New York City to pursue a post doctoral fellowship. Since then she has been living in New York City, working for the Office of Chief Medical Examiner first as a supervisor, then as manager and now as the laboratory director. She participated in the WTC victim identification effort and served as the laboratory research manager. Dr. Prinz is a fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and a board member of the International Society of Forensic Genetics.



Toshikazu Okuya

Special Advisor to Japan's Ministry of
Economy, Trade, and Industry

Toshikazu Okuya serves as Special Advisor to Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). At his current position, Mr. Okuya advises on a range of issues related to economics, politics, energy security, and geopolitical architecture.

From 2009 to 2010, Mr. Okuya planned and developed new industrial and residential parks in Chennai, India, in collaboration with other Asian country developers. He was responsible for bringing various new investors and construction companies into the region.

Mr. Okuya has also been involved in policymaking for Japan's energy sector, including drafting amendment acts on energy supply plans such as the Electricity Business Act, the Gas Business Act, and the Electrical Appliance and Material Safety Act. Mr. Okuya has studied at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Presenter Bios



Brigadier Helena J. Ras

Head of the Victim Identification Center
South African Police Service

Ms. Ras has served for over 25 years in the South African Police Service, and has extensive experience in the forensic sciences and technology management fields. She is currently Head of the Victim Identification Center, South African Police Service.

For the last 15 years, Ms. Ras has been actively involved in DVI efforts, including a number of INTERPOL Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) deployments in the African region and elsewhere.

A member of the INTERPOL Standing Committee on DVI since 2001, Ms. Ras served as the Chairperson of the Interpol Steering Committee from 2004 until 2007, and is scheduled to resume this post in May 2012. She has also been serving on a number of international and national working groups in different forensic disciplines. Ms. Ras has received merit awards from the United Nations, INTERPOL and the U.S. Diplomatic Service Anti-Terrorism Assistance Program.

Ms. Ras graduated with honors from the University of Pretoria with a diploma in Forensic Auditing and Criminal Justice.



Pongruk Sribanditmongkol MD PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Forensic Medicine
Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

Dr. Pongruk graduated from Chiang Mai Medical School and received a PhD in Toxicology from Ohio State University. He began his career as an instructor in the Forensic Medicine Department at Chiang Mai University, and in 1995 was appointed Head of the Forensic Medicine Department. He has held a number of administrative posts within the University system, including Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Education, Associate Dean for the Planning and Personnel section, and Associate Dean for Research. Presently, he is the Director for the Medical Center of Excellence at the Faculty of Medicine.

In 2004, two days after a tsunami that destroyed much of Southern Thailand, Dr. Pongruk headed the Forensic Team from Chiang Mai University assisting with victim identification in the worst-affected region of Khao Lak. Subsequently, the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand invited Dr. Pongruk to coordinate efforts between Thai forensic teams and the International DVI teams that had arrived to assist in the response. Dr. Pongruk also became a member of the Tsunami Victim Identification Subcommittee.

Dr. Pongruk and his colleagues later received a research grant from the National Health Foundation of Thailand to conduct research on the information and experience gained from the tsunami and to review mass fatality management systems in many countries. Based upon the research, he and his colleagues developed recommendations for mass fatality management which were submitted to the Thai government. Dr. Pongruk has provided assistance in a number of other mass fatality incidents that have occurred in Chiang Mai and other provinces in the Northern Region of Thailand.

Day Program – Wednesday, April 25th

8:15 – 8:30 Introduction, Honor Guard Presentation, Welcoming Remarks

8:30 – 9:00 **Keynote Address, Hon. Rudolph Giuliani**

Former Mayor of New York City

9:00 – 10:30 **9/11 World Trade Center Attacks, Charles S. Hirsch MD and Bradley Adams PhD**

The World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001, required a prolonged recovery effort, one that continues over ten years later. This presentation will describe the actions taken to retrieve, process, and identify the remains of the victims of the World Trade Center disaster. The presentation will cover operating procedures on September 11th and in the years since the incident, including the development of a process to issue death certificates prior to positive identification of remains, recent innovations in DNA technology and their application, and the preservation of remains. Presenters will also guide the audience through recovery work performed at and around the World Trade Center site since 2006, including monitoring, excavation, and sifting operations.

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 11:45 **9/11 Attacks on the Pentagon, Craig Mallak MD**

This presentation will discuss forensic procedures enacted in the wake of the attack on the Pentagon on September 11th, 2001, including scene control, retrieval of remains and evidence, and the identification process. It will highlight the challenges and importance of forensic procedures during war time and introduce advances in forensic technology for application in future conflicts.

11:45 – 12:45 **Flight 93 Response, Paul Sledzik**

The crash of United Airlines Flight 93 in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, on September 11, 2001, posed some unique challenges to local authorities and the federal government. This presentation will convey the operational challenges and experiences concerning an event that involved oversight of multiple sites; coordination of local, state, and Federal resources and personnel; and establishing relationships with next-of-kin. It will also examine the challenges of the immediate and ongoing national attention on Flight 93 as a prominent mass fatality incident.

12:45 – 1:00 **Speaker Panel Q&A Session**

1:00 – 2:30 Lunch and Exhibits

2:30 – 4:45 **Panel Discussion: Advances in DNA technology, Mechthild Prinz, PhD (Facilitator)**

DNA typing is an integral part of the Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) process and has been proven to be essential in incidents with a high degree of fragmentation or in large-scale database-driven identification efforts. The panel will provide some background on the use of DNA for recent DVI efforts and use this as the starting point to discuss technical needs and recently-established process improvements.

Presentations will also cover current research and validation efforts for new DNA markers and technical platforms and their possible application to DVI. This will include large scale SNP panels for kinship analysis, possible deployment of mobile DNA testing devices, and database tools.

Panelists:

Mark Desire, Assistant Director
Department of Forensic Biology, NYC OCME

Taylor Dickerson, Criminalist
Department of Forensic Biology, NYC OCME

John Planz PhD, Associate Professor
University of North Texas
Associate Director
UNT Center for Human Identification

Amanda Sozer PhD, President
SNA International

Jennifer Kappeller, Supervisory DNA Analyst
Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory

Samuel Ferreira MD
Federal District Civil Police and Ministry of Justice - Brazil

Tom Parsons PhD, Director of Forensic Science
International Commission on Missing Persons

4:45 – 5:00 Closing

Day Program – Thursday, April 26th

8:30 – 8:45 Introduction

8:45 – 9:15 **Keynote, Joseph Bruno**

Commissioner, New York City Office of Emergency Management

9:15 – 10:15 **International Incidents – DVI, Tzipi Kahana PhD**

The identification of victims of suicidal bombings carries legal, social and cultural implications that must be taken into account by the agencies in charge of devising policy related to the task. This presentation will cover jurisdiction over casualties and the delicate balance between medicolegal procedures and rapid rehabilitation of the population. The Israeli population of 7.5 million includes a diverse range of religious groups, each of which has a distinct set of mortuary rules that have to be considered when performing thanatological procedures. Although Israel Police and to a large extent the Israel Defense Forces are guided by INTERPOL guidelines in the identification of mass casualty victims, certain procedures are modified to accommodate the religious and cultural demands of the local population. Such modifications are not only culturally appropriate, but also have the effect of maintaining a high level of resilience among the population.

10:15 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 11:30 **2004 Southeast Asia Tsunami – MFM, Pongruk Sribanditmongkol MD PhD**

On the morning of December 26, 2004, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake occurred north of Sumatra Island, causing a tsunami that struck several countries in the Indian Ocean. An estimated 8,500 victims were injured and 5,300 were killed in Thailand alone. During the first few weeks, inexperienced government and charity organizations assisted with recovery of remains, and the Thai forensic teams were able to identify about 500 individuals. Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) teams from other countries deployed to Thailand to assist in identification of foreign nationals. The Royal Thai Government ordered that the Victim Identification efforts be consolidated under one Thai Tsunami Victim Identification (TTVI) operation under the control of Thai authorities. More than 3,600 bodies not yet released were re-examined under TTVI protocol. As of today, about 300 bodies still remain unidentified, mainly due to the lack of available antemortem data. This presentation will discuss lessons learned from this incident, and provide recommendations for more efficient handling of such disasters that may occur in the future.

11:30 – 12:30 **2011 Japan Earthquake – MFM, Toshi Okuya**

The effects of the devastating earthquake and tsunami that occurred off the coast of Japan on March 11, 2011 were widespread and significant. This presentation will describe the actions of officials during all stages of the initial response and the immediate concerns presented by this natural disaster. The enormous scale of this incident precipitated a response from many countries and aid organizations, introducing challenges of integrating newly available resources and personnel. The current situation in Japan and long term operations will be discussed, including the development of improved mass fatality protocols and lessons learned from this disaster.

12:30 – 12:45 **Speaker Panel Q&A Session**

12:45 – 2:15 Lunch and Exhibits

2:15 – 2:45 **Keynote, Kathyne Bomberger**

Director-General, International Commission on Missing Persons.

2:45 – 4:45 **Panel Discussion: Complex Policy Decisions in Large-Scale Fatality Incidents, Barbara Butcher MPH (Facilitator)**

This panel will address the core issues that inform national policies and decisions when disasters overwhelm the existing ability to manage large numbers of fatalities. First, what are our moral and legal obligations to decedents? Do these obligations vary by country, or are they universal? Do our policies and commitments change depending on numbers and complexity, or are they basic to human decency? What part does international justice play in these policies, and are adaptations required for different political systems?

Easy international travel and the digital age have broken down national borders, making ours an increasingly global society. Is a traveler entitled to the services performed in their country of origin, like DNA identification and repatriation, or only to the services provided by a host country, which may or may not have the same resources for fatalities? Who is responsible for paying for these services? Is there a point where fatality management costs become unreasonable in light of maintaining services for the living?

Once we explore policies and our obligations to decedents, we will discuss the operational and practical barriers to achieving the goals we set for ourselves. The second part of the panel will be devoted to the “on the ground” issues that may prevent us from doing what we want to help the victims and families of decedents; the harsh realities of economics, politics, and scarce resources when the living may be in need.

Finally, who are the institutional partners in Mass Fatality Management, and how can we best use them to share assets on a global basis? How do the military, NGOs, medical examiners, police, scientists and emergency planners from different nations work together to respond to disasters that do not respect national boundaries?

Panelists:

Dragan Primorac MD PhD
Croatia

Edward Gabriel
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Preparedness
and Response, U.S. Department of Health and
Human Services

Morris Tidball-Binz PhD
Forensic Coordinator, Assistance
Division International Committee of the Red Cross

Tom Parsons PhD
Director of Forensic Science
International Commission on Missing Persons

Brad Billet
Deputy Commissioner
NYC Office of the Mayor, Commission for the United Nations

Cynthia Gavin
Senior Research Scientist
Battelle

Panelists – Practice:

Tzipi Kahana PhD
Forensic Anthropologist
Israel National Police

Pongruk Sribanditmongkol MD PhD
Associate Professor of Forensic Medicine
Director, Medical Excellence Center
Chiang Mai University, Thailand

Toshi Okuya
Special Advisor
Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry

Brigadier Helena Ras
Head, Victim Identification Center
South African Police Service

Cheryl Ites
Operations Officer
Joint Mortuary Affairs Center

Lee Green
Director
Joint Mortuary Affairs Center

John Nesler
Senior Research Scientist
Battelle

Frank DePaolo PA-C
Assistant Commissioner
NYC OCME

4:45 – 5:00 Closing

5:00 – 8:30 9/11 Memorial – Group Visit

Day Program – Friday, April 27th

8:30 – 8:45 Introduction

8:45 – 9:15 **Keynote, Deborah Hersman**

Chairperson, National Transportation Safety Board

9:15 – 9:45 **Introduction to Mass Fatality Management Operational Issues, Paul Sledzik**

Mass fatality responses are infrequent and involve agencies and individuals that do not often collaborate, particularly in disaster responses involving complex operational, scientific, and legal challenges; national and international media attention; and local and federal government interest. At the same time, responders must ensure an effective and compassionate process for addressing the unique needs of the family members affected by such events, often referred to as family assistance. This presentation will briefly examine some of the operational components of mass fatality response and discuss the National Transportation Safety Board's model for family assistance.

9:45 – 10:45 **Mass Fatality Management Operational Issues, Elias Kontanis PhD and Eric Emery PhD**

Disaster scenes can be broadly categorized as natural (e.g., earthquake, tsunami, tornado), technological accident (e.g., transportation accident, pipeline explosion, stadium collapse), or criminal (e.g. a hijacking, shooting, bombing, etc.). The recovery contexts that result from such events are often complex, presenting commingled biological remains, personal effects, and other diagnostic evidence distributed over areas ranging from a few meters to kilometers. Although the legal requirement for conducting identifications resides solely with the medicolegal authority in the jurisdiction where the disaster occurs, it is possible for high numbers of fatally-injured victims to quickly overwhelm the capabilities of these systems, particularly smaller medical examiner or coroner offices with few resources. Mass fatality incidents present a number of different operational issues that commonly require a multidisciplinary response in order to best facilitate the victim recovery and identification process, personal effects management, and other mass fatality management challenges. This presentation will focus on the primary functional areas: search and recovery, antemortem data collection, postmortem data collection, release of remains, and personal effects management, with an emphasis on quality assurance processes. The presentation will also draw on case studies to compare and contrast the two primary population conditions that will influence the medicolegal operation (i.e. open vs. closed).

10:45 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 12:00 **Disaster Victim Identification Scientific Working Group and INTERPOL, Elias Kontanis PhD and Brigadier Helena Ras**

Human-made and natural disasters today have an increasingly international dimension, in particular with regard to disaster victim identification (DVI). Member countries and INTERPOL have adopted measures to foster co-operation in DVI efforts to ensure accurate identification whenever possible. Accurate identification safeguards the basic human rights of victims and next-of-kin. INTERPOL continues to lead the development of joint strategies for disaster response, which are designed to maximize coordination and minimize duplication. As such, the Interpol DVI Standing Committee aims to improve the INTERPOL standard DVI Forms and Guide, to enhance effective dissemination of best practices, and to promote their implementation.

12:00 – 12:15 **Speaker Panel Q&A Session**

12:15 – 1:45 Lunch and Exhibits

1:45 – 2:45 **Data Interoperability, Dr. Tom Parsons, Kenneth Aschheim DDS, and Kim Crumbliss**

With the prevalence of biometric databases around the world, DVI managers must understand the importance of sharing information and data across databases and programs during a mass fatality response. For the identification process to work effectively, any biometric data employed must be universally available, and in a universally understood format. ADA/ANSI Standard 1058 (the Forensic Dental Data Set) was published in 2010 and last year, at the request of INTERPOL members, an international effort has been undertaken to expand access to the data

beyond DVI to include uses such as criminal investigations. The goal is to include Forensic Odontology in the next version of the ANSI/NIST ITL Standard for Information Systems Data Format for the Interchange of Fingerprint, Facial & Other Biometric Information. This panel will discuss data interoperability issues in three areas: odontology, fingerprint, and DNA. The panelists will discuss existing databases, their strengths and limitations, current aspects ensuring interoperability, and legal/ethical restrictions and concerns.

2:45 – 3:00

Break

3:00 – 3:45 **Mass Fatality Management Lessons Learned, Frank DePaolo PA-C**

A review and analysis of Mass Fatality Incidents (MFI) in the United States during the past decade provides a better understanding of the causes, typical number of fatalities by incident type, and associated risks by geographic location. By thoroughly examining previous MFIs and the lessons learned from these incidents, the medicolegal community can use this information to achieve more effective planning and preparedness. As such, preparation for the likelihood of such incidents, in the form of comprehensive and detailed response plans, is essential to the successful management of a MFI. Primary objectives for successful management of a mass fatality incident will be provided along with a discussion of the top ten lessons learned.

3:45 – 4:45 **Perceptions on the Future of Mass Fatality Management and Disaster Victim Identification, Paul Sledzik (Facilitator)**

Mass fatality events will occur in the future, whether the result of criminal actions, technological failure, or natural events. The panelists will discuss what DVI may look like in the future including the challenges that need to be overcome, expectations of societies and governments in the future, and approaches to assisting the affected family members.

Panelists:

Charles S. Hirsch MD
Chief Medical Examiner
NYC OCME

Barbara Butcher MPH
Chief of Staff
NYC OCME

Frank DePaolo
Assistant Commissioner
NYC OCME

Tom Parsons PhD
Director of Forensic Science
International Commission on Missing Persons

Morris Tidball-Binz PhD
Forensic Coordinator, Assistance Division
International Committee of the Red Cross

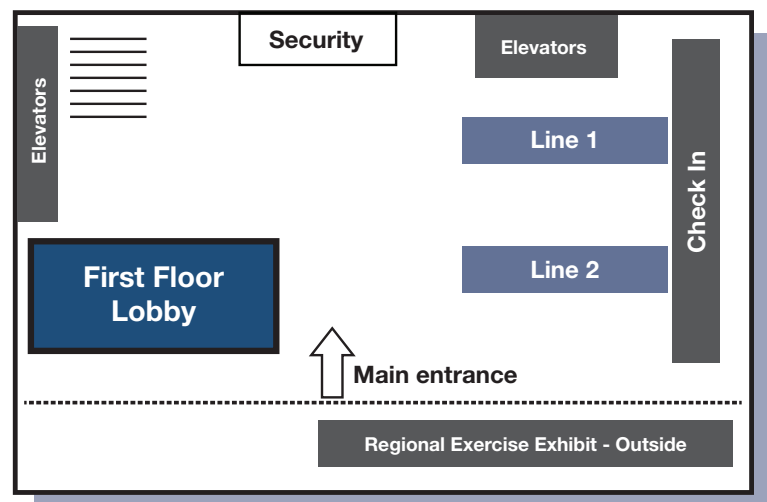
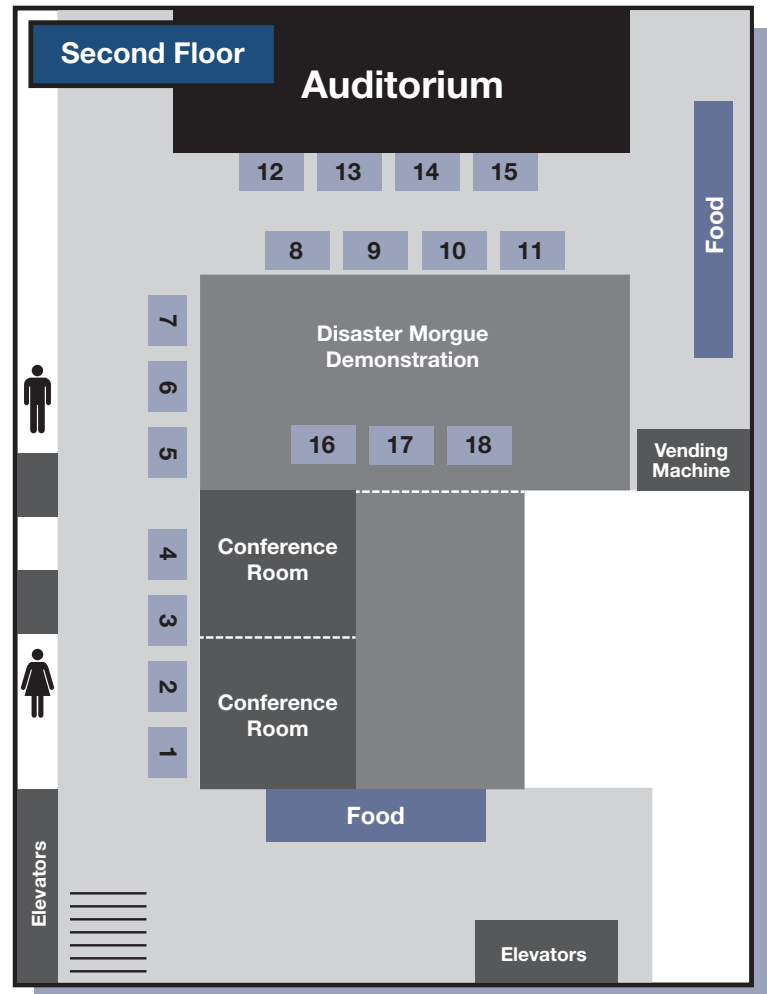
Brigadier Helena Ras
Head of Victim Identification
South African Police Service

4:45 – 5:00 **Closing, Kelly McKinney**

Deputy Commissioner of Planning, NYC Office of Emergency Management
Regional Planning Advisor, Regional Catastrophic Planning Group

Conference and Exhibit Layout

1. Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Group (RCPG) and Regional Integration Center (RIC)
2. Florida Emergency Mortuary Operations Response System (FEMORS)
3. Dept. of Applied Forensic Sciences, Mercyhurst University
4. Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Program (SUDC)
5. International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)
6. International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
7. International Association for Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME)
8. Joint Mortuary Affairs Center (JMAC)
9. Air National Guard Fatality Search and Recovery Team (ANG-FSRT)
10. FBI Laboratory and FBI Victim Assistance
11. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)
12. National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NAMUS)
13. Unified Victim Identification System (UVIS)
14. Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT-VIP FACT)
15. Plasm Data
16. Medical Examiner's Special Operations Response Team (MESORT)
17. Forensic Sciences Training Program (FSTP)
18. Regional Mass Fatality Management Response System



Conference Information

Conference Venue

New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner
2nd Floor Auditorium
421 E. 26th St. New York, NY 10016
Between 1st Ave. and FDR Dr.

Registration and Information

The registration and information desks are located on the first floor.

Identification Badge

All participants will be provided with a conference badge upon registration and presentation of photo identification. Please wear your badge at all times during the Conference for identification purposes and admission to sessions.

Certificate of Attendance

A certificate of attendance will be provided to you.

Continuing Education Credits

Granting Institution	Total	April 25	April 26	April 27	Category
Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice	2.1	0.7	0.7	0.7	CEU
American Board of Medico-legal Death Investigators	21.6 hours	7.2	7.2	7.2	CEU
International Association of Emergency Managers	21 contact hours	7.0	7.0	7.0	Approved contact hours for CEM certification
Medical Society of the State of New York	18.5 hours	6.25	6.25	6.0	AMA PRA Category 1 CME

Language

English is the official language of the Conference. Simultaneous interpretation will not be provided.

Photograph, Audio and Video Recording

Individual photography and audio or video recording is not permitted during the presentations or panels. An event photographer will be on hand throughout the Conference.

Refreshment Breaks and Lunches

A light breakfast and full lunch will be provided each day.

Personal Property

Please do not leave personal items unattended at any time. The Conference organizers will not be responsible for the loss or damage of any personal property.

Luggage

Due to space and security concerns, we ask that you refrain from bringing your luggage to the Conference. Arrangements may be made with your hotel to store any luggage until the conference is over.

Smoking Policy

Smoking is not permitted in the OCME facilities.

Disclaimer

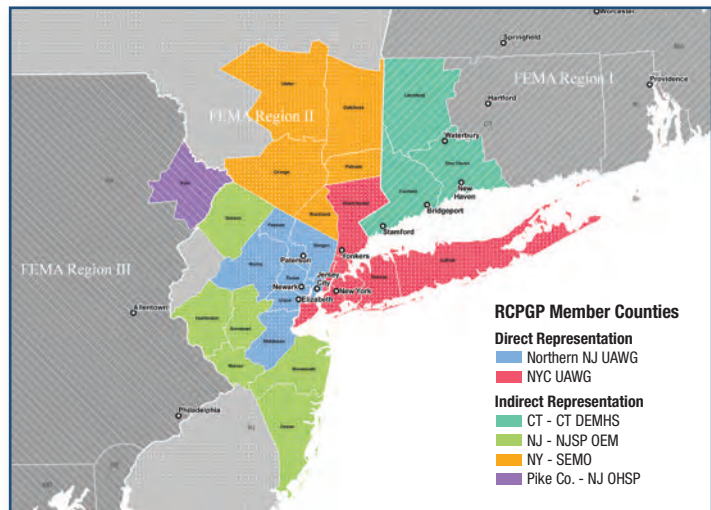
Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the Conference program. However, last minute changes may occur.

Regional Mass Fatality Management Training Announcement

RCPT (NY-NJ-CT-PA) Participating Counties

Fairfield County, CT
 Litchfield County, CT
 New Haven County, CT
 Bergen County, NJ
 Essex County, NJ
 Hudson County, NJ
 Hunterdon County, NJ
 Mercer County, NJ
 Middlesex County, NJ
 Monmouth County, NJ
 Morris County, NJ
 Ocean County, NJ
 Passaic County, NJ

Somerset County, NJ
 Sussex County, NJ
 Union County, NJ
 Dutchess County, NY
 Nassau County, NY
 New York, NY
 Orange County, NY
 Putnam County, NY
 Rockland County, NY
 Suffolk County, NY
 Ulster County, NY
 Westchester County, NY
 Pike County, PA



3rd Annual Regional Mass Fatality Management Response System Exercise

The 3rd Annual Regional Mass Fatality Response System Exercise will be hosted by Dr. Kari Reiber of Dutchess County, NY. This year's exercise will involve an open manifest transportation incident in a small jurisdiction, requiring the activation of the Regional Mass Fatality Management Response System Plan.

Dates: May 15 - 17, 2012
Location: Dutchess County Emergency Response Center (Poughkeepsie, NY)



Tuesday, May 15th:

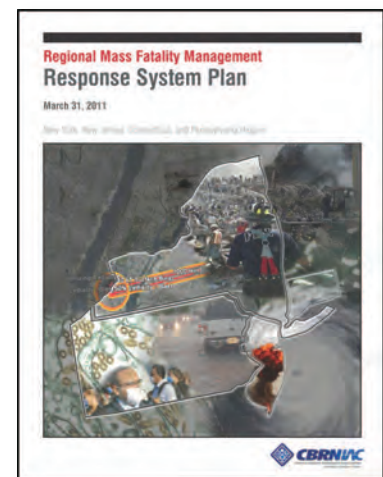
- Didactic Training: Multi-agency assessment teams, fatality search and recovery
- Field Training: Establishment of Fatality Management Branch, incident assessment, fatality search and recovery
- Facilitated Discussion: Local response, activation of regional system

Wednesday, May 16th:

- Didactic Training: Disaster Morgue Operations
- Field Training: Fatality search and recovery, body collection points, disaster morgue operations
- Facilitated Discussion: *Executive Session: Managing Expectations*

Thursday, May 17th:

- Field Training: Fatality search and recovery, body collection points, disaster morgue operations
- Facilitated Discussion: Family Assistance Center activation and operation





Sponsored by the Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant
and hosted by the NYC Office of Chief Medical Examiner