

Mass Fatality Planning

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OCME Today

- 4 Offices
 - Headquarters in Boston
 - Satellite office in Worcester at UMass
 - Satellite office in Holyoke at Providence Hospital
 - Satellite office on the Cape in Sandwich
- 65 employees total
- Medical Examiners and Forensic Investigators on contract

OCME Today

- Centralized Intake Department
- Cooler Capacity
 - Boston office: 75 in our main cooler, 25 spaces in our cooler for decomposed decedents and 50 spaces in the auxiliary cooler
 - Worcester office: 6-8 spaces depending on the type of stretcher
 - Holyoke: 7 spaces adjacent to the autopsy room and 9 additional spaces in the auxiliary cooler
 - 2 Coolers at the Cape office
- 4 additional removal vehicles for daily transport
 - 2 Mass Fatality Vehicles

Mass Fatality – Planning

- Statewide Mass Fatality Plan
 - Local planning guide
- Updated internal policies and procedures
- Continue to exercise and update the plan
- Attend other state/local exercises
- Identify issues that need to be addressed
 - Additional training
 - Procedural
 - Equipment

Mass Fatality— Planning

- Recent purchases
 - Radios
 - 500+ Body Bags
 - Body cooling system
 - Zumro Shelter
 - Trailer
 - Updated our IT system
- RFR for refrigerated vehicles

Mass Fatality Operations – Where are we?

■ Incident Command

- Dr. Niels or his designee would be present
- Not Incident Commander
- Oversee entire OCME response
- Coordinate with other agencies at IC
- Involved in any press releases or press conferences – PIO at EOPSS

Mass Fatality Operations – Where are we?

■ Incident Morgue

- Staff to process and examine remains from scene
- Remains are brought into the incident morgue, assigned an OCME number, then are moved through the stations as needed
- Radiology, Odontology, Photography, Anthropology, DNA
- Medical Examiners perform an external exam or an autopsy if necessary.

Mass Fatality Operations – Where are we?

- At the Incident Site
 - Medical Examiners and/or Forensic Anthropologist
 - Mortuary Technicians
- State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)
 - Representative available to coordinate resources under ESF-8

Mass Fatality Operations – Where are we?

- Family Assistance Center (FAC)
 - Forensic Investigators taking ante mortem information from family members to assist the medical examiners in making identifications
 - Notify the family members once the positive ID has been confirmed
- At the office
 - Staff required to handle daily operations on a 24/7 basis