

# ANNEX F

## Department of the Chief Medical Examiner Operations

### Chief Medical Examiner Principal Planners

Glenn N. Wagner, D.O.  
Chief Medical Examiner

Steven Campman  
Deputy Medical Examiner

### Acknowledgements

San Diego County Access and Functional  
Needs Work Group



Unified San Diego  
County Emergency  
Services Organization  
And  
County Of San Diego

Operational Area  
Emergency Operations Plan

September 2014



GENERAL	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY																				
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>This annex establishes organizational responsibilities, policies, and procedures for the operation of the Department of the Medical Examiner, hereinafter referred to as “Medical Examiner” during an extraordinary emergency involving multiple deaths, particularly following major natural disasters, technological incidents, terrorist attacks or a nuclear accident.</p> <p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>Annex F defines the actions, roles, and expectations necessary to provide a coordinated response to incidents resulting in mass fatalities in San Diego County.</p> <p><b>Scope</b></p> <p>The San Diego County Department of the Medical Examiner is the agency responsible for investigating deaths primarily resulting from sudden and unexpected causes, and certifying the cause and manner of such deaths, in San Diego County, according to California Government Code Section 27491, and Health and Safety Code Section 102850. With that responsibility, the Medical Examiner also has a role in identifying victims of mass fatality incidences, and in storage of human remains until final disposition can be made. The Medical Examiner will operate under normal procedures unless one or more of the following conditions exists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of fatalities overwhelms Medical Examiner local resources.</li> <li>• Conditions in the recovery of bodies present a hazard to personnel, i.e., hazardous materials, radiation, etc.</li> <li>• Access to Medical Examiner’s facility is blocked or impeded.</li> <li>• Medical Examiner’s facility is severely damaged.</li> <li>• A local pandemic exists limiting the availability of Medical Examiner staff.</li> </ul>	<p><b>This annex defines the role of the Department of the Medical Examiner during and following a disaster, and discusses statewide Mutual Aid. The Department of the Medical Examiner is responsible for setting up Medical Examiner Emergency Teams, temporary morgues, search and rescue teams for body recovery, and the procurement and allocation of supplies and resources. The Department of the Medical Examiner is also responsible for the identification and listing of the victims, and the notification of next of kin.</b></p> <p><b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>- General</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Concept of Operations</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Direction, Control, or Coordination</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Information Collection and Dissemination</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Communications</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Administration, Finance, and Logistics</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Annex Development and Maintenance</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Authorities and References</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Attachments</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </table>	- General	1	- Concept of Operations	3	- Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities	3	- Direction, Control, or Coordination	10	- Information Collection and Dissemination	11	- Communications	12	- Administration, Finance, and Logistics	12	- Annex Development and Maintenance	14	- Authorities and References	14	- Attachments	15
- General	1																				
- Concept of Operations	3																				
- Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities	3																				
- Direction, Control, or Coordination	10																				
- Information Collection and Dissemination	11																				
- Communications	12																				
- Administration, Finance, and Logistics	12																				
- Annex Development and Maintenance	14																				
- Authorities and References	14																				
- Attachments	15																				

## Objectives

The overall objectives of the Medical Examiner operations will be to:

- Recover, identify and facilitate adequate disposition of human remains.
- Coordinate evidence identification and collection with the appropriate law enforcement agency.
- Determine the cause and manner of death.
- Inventory and protect the personal effects of the deceased.
- Prepare and coordinate the list of deceased, both identified and unidentified.
- Notify next of kin.
- Process and maintain necessary records.
- Coordinate information and notification with local law enforcement jurisdictions, public health, and other related agencies.

## Whole Community Approach

The whole community concept is a process by which residents, emergency management representatives, organizational and community leaders, and government officials can understand and assess the needs of their respective communities and determine the best ways to organize and strengthen their resources, capacities, and interests. Engaging in whole community emergency management planning builds a more effective path to societal security and resilience. This annex supports the following whole community principles:

- Understand and meet the needs of the entire community, including people with disabilities and those with other access and functional needs.
- Engage and empower all parts of the community to assist in all phases of the disaster cycle.
- Strengthen what works well in communities on a daily basis.

In keeping with the whole community approach, this annex was developed with the guidance of representatives from the OA Cities and representatives from County departments, law enforcement, fire services, emergency management, the access and functional needs communities, and various other stakeholders. The effectiveness of the emergency response is largely predicated on the preparedness and resiliency of the community.

### **Community Resiliency Consists of Three Key Factors:**

1. The ability of first responder agencies (e.g. fire, law and EMS) to divert from their day-to-day operations to the emergency effectively and efficiently.

2. The strength of the emergency management system and organizations within the region, to include Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), mass notification systems and communication systems.
3. The civil preparedness of the region's citizens, businesses and community organizations.

Focusing on enhancing all three of these components constantly focuses the OA on improving the region's resiliency.

## CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Partial or full activation of this annex shall be by the direction of the Chief Medical Examiner or his designated representative.

In general, when activated, the Medical Examiner will change daily operations to meet the requirements of the emergency, and, as required, will be inserted into the standard National Incident Management System (NIMS) model activated by the County Office of Emergency Services (OES). The most likely changes will be to temporarily expand the capacity to store human remains, property and evidence, and to temporarily expand communication capabilities, especially concerning communicating with the next-of-kin of victims. The Medical Examiner will maintain usual operations, expanding in the necessary areas, with assistance from outside agencies (as described below), including use of the California Coroner's Mutual Aid Agreement, depending on the situation, and the US Department of Health and Human Services' Disaster Mortuary Operations Response Teams (DMORT).



## ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

### Organization

The Chief Medical Examiner shall direct and coordinate all Medical Examiner-related objectives and services within the OA. When possible the Medical Examiner will coordinate operations from the Medical Examiner Facility. Depending on the extent of the activation of this annex, the Medical Examiner or representative will direct emergency operations from the OA EOC. The organization of, and assignment of responsibility for Medical Examiner's functions is summarized in the sections that follow.

### Assignment of Responsibilities

The Medical Examiner's responsibilities are:

- Designate a Disaster Control Staff Coordinator.

- Establish a Medical Examiner Incident Commander and integrate the position into the Incident Command structure.
- Provide a representative to the OA EOC.
- Establish Field Medical Examiner and Collection Teams.
- Establish Field or Site Body Collection Locations.
- Establish a FAC.
- Implement a record keeping system for numbers and identity of fatalities.
- Establish body storage and examination facilities and transportation.
- Coordinate with search and rescue teams for body recovery.
- Coordinate with Law Enforcement and the Public Administrator's Office for recording, storing and protection of the personal effects of the deceased.
- Notify of next of kin of identified decedents.
- Coordinate the services of:
  - Funeral Directors
  - Dentists
  - American Red Cross
  - Salvation Army
  - X-Ray Technicians
  - 2-1-1 San Diego
  - California Coroner Mutual Aid Agencies
  - Ambulance or other transportation agencies
  - Other supporting agencies (see "Support Functions", below)
- Establish requests for mutual aid, if required, in accordance with the California Medical Examiner/Coroner's Mutual Aid System, or from the US Department of Health and Human Services DMORT.
- Determine disposition of human remains. In the event of mass fatalities beyond the local burial capacity, establish mass grave locations and a burial and preservation system, including marking graves for potential future recovery, in conjunction with the County Public Health Officer (PHO).
- Respond to public inquiry.



## Functions

### Body Collection Site

Whenever possible, the Medical Examiner team responds to the location of the body for recovery. In the event of multiple casualties or inaccessible recovery areas a Body Collection Site might be established in the field. Depending upon the circumstances of the event, the Medical Examiner will employ its mobile morgue vehicle and/or mobile morgue trailers to hold recovered bodies at the Body Collection Site. In mass fatality incidences involving broad areas of the OA, multiple regional Body Collection Sites may be established. The Body Collection Site will be a designated point for the collection of all recovered bodies.

The Medical Examiner Field Emergency Team(s) will work at the Body Collection Site performing the following functions:

- Tag and log recovered bodies as they are received.
- Preliminary identification of remains.
- Tag and log all property and personal effects.
- Prepare remains for transportation to the Medical Examiner.

### Mass Fatality/Temporary Morgue Facility

In mass fatality incidents, temporary refrigeration containers will be used to augment the Medical Examiner's Office permanent capacity. When the fatality numbers exceed the expanded capacity of the Medical Examiner facility or the facility is unusable, the Medical Examiner will establish a Temporary Field Morgue. Assistance with this task is available from the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) in the form of a DMORT. During an emergency response, DMORT's work under the guidance of the local Medical Examiner by providing technical assistance, personnel, and equipment to recover, identify, and process deceased victims. The functions of a Temporary Field Morgue will be:



- Receive and log the remains into a systematic accounting system with a unique identifying number, and place bodies in proper temporary storage.
- Identify a preliminary cause and manner of death.
- Catalog, secure, and make proper disposition of property and personal effects.
- Identify remains.
- Provide wellness counseling for staff.
- Maintain necessary reports and records.

## Facility

The Temporary Morgue Facility should be:

- A large storage facility with a warehouse-type receiving area away from the front entrance.
- Equipped with showers, water, electricity, parking areas, and telephone communications.
- Fenced or locked for security.
- Equipped with a front office reception area.

## Staff

Depending on the incident, the Temporary Field Morgue staff needs include any of the following:

- Medical Examiner Field Emergency Teams
- Law enforcement for security
- Outside x-ray technologist (non-Medical Examiner staff) and portable field x-ray units, if available
- Dentists
- Anthropologists
- Forensic Autopsy Assistants/Embalmers
- Toxicology laboratory personnel
- Clerical staff
- Transportation coordinators

## Equipment

Depending on the incident, the Temporary Field Morgue Equipment needs may include any of the following:

- Cold storage capability (can be mobile refrigerator vans, trucks, trailers, or Conex containers)
- Dental and portable whole body x-ray equipment
- Telephones/radio communication to field agents
- Office and record keeping supplies
- Portable autopsy tables



- Source of running water
- Source of electricity
- Lighting source
- Laptop(s)
- Body pouches
- Bar-coding equipment, if available
- Generator(s)

## **Family Assistance Center (FAC)**

### **Purpose**

- Guide families through the administrative process of reclaiming their loved ones.
- Facilitate the providing of timely and accurate information to families.
- Provide appropriate emotional support for grieving families by coordinating a mental health/spiritual professional to work with them.
- Collect information from the next-of-kin to facilitate identification of remains.

### **Victim Identification Data Collection**

The FAC is the primary location for collecting antemortem data for victims of a mass fatality incident for identification purposes. In the event of a natural disaster, such as flood or earthquake, the FAC will also be a data collection point to gather information to reunify separated family members.

### **Family Interview Process**

The Medical Examiner's Office requires antemortem data for identification of remains. This information will be gathered from family members by interview with an investigator, mortuary officer, or staff assigned to the FAC. During the interview family members will be asked to provide very detailed information regarding their loved one's body and medical history, especially the location of any existing dental or other x-rays. Interviewers will collect this information in a caring and compassionate manner. Information collected will be compared to postmortem data for identification purposes. Translators may be required and must be used as appropriate to sufficiently meet the needs of the family during the interview.

### **FAC Location**

The facility should be located away from the disaster site or the morgue. Access to the FAC should be easy and the site should have ample parking. The facility must be in Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The location must be large enough to accommodate the following rooms/spaces:

- Family Briefing Room – Medical Examiner/National Transportation Safety Board/Federal Bureau of Investigations or other briefings will take place in the Family Briefing Room. The room should comfortably accommodate 150-300 people or more (the actual size of the room will be incident specific).
- Reception Area – Required to evaluate needs of family members or any visitors to facility.
- Family Interview /Death Notification Rooms – Private rooms that will accommodate up to 10 people.
- Family Refreshment Room
- Childcare Room
- Chapel
- Information Resources Center – Houses database administration, network/technical support.
- Administrative Office Space – Work area for Medical Examiner and other governmental agencies such as the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), chaplaincy, security, mental health professionals, etc.

## **Mass Burial**

### **Necessary Conditions**

Mass burial may become necessary when the number of victims becomes a public health hazard and the dead cannot be:

- Adequately refrigerated or embalmed to prevent decomposition.
- Released to the next of kin.
- Transported to and/or cared for by cemeteries, mausoleums, crematoriums, etc.

### **Joint Decision**

The decision to begin mass burial must be made jointly by the Chief Medical Examiner and County PHO, the County's Director of Emergency Services (CAO), OES, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), and applicable city/special district officials and leaders within the community.

### **Location**

The site of mass burial must also be agreed upon by the above agencies. Ideally, an existing cemetery would be the most logical location for mass burial. However, should this type of site not be available, County-owned open space, parks and recreational areas, flood control basins (weather permitting), sides of freeways, areas beneath power lines, and rail yards and areas along rail lines are suggested alternate sites.

## Record Keeping and Final Disposition

The burial, preservation and record keeping system (grids and numbers) will be supervised by the Medical Examiner. Efforts will be made to mark graves for potential future recovery. Further disposition of buried bodies would be handled by the Medical Examiner in conjunction with the next of kin, local authorities, and cooperating funeral homes.

## Support Functions

The following agencies have potential roles supporting this annex, as follows:

- Public Administrator's Office, County of San Diego: Property of deceased
- General Services, County of San Diego: Provide equipment and supplies
- Purchasing and Contracting, County of San Diego: Purchasing emergency supplies
- Environmental Health, County of San Diego: Public health hazard of un-disposed remains; environmental safety for Medical Examiner Field Teams
- American Red Cross and Salvation Army: Assist with the FAC; Public Inquiry Report record keeping assistance
- County Communications Office, County of San Diego: Assist with media and public requests
- Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) Behavioral Health, County of San Diego: Critical incident stress management
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS), County of San Diego: Temporary morgue
- Fire departments/districts: Temporary morgue
- Law enforcement agencies: Medical Examiner Field Teams; field security; property security; FAC security
- Dentists, x-ray technicians and anthropologists: Identification process
- Funeral Directors: Transportation and final disposition of remains
- Ambulance and Transportation Companies: Transportation and recovery of remains
- 2-1-1 San Diego: Coordination of spontaneous volunteers
- San Diego County Access and Functional Needs Work Group: Provide necessary assistance for the AFN community



- US Department of Health and Human Services: DMORT assistance with most phases of response, as appropriate
- California Coroner's Association: Mutual Aid with most phases of response, as appropriate

## **DIRECTION, CONTROL, OR COORDINATION**

The Chief Medical Examiner shall direct and coordinate all Medical Examiner-related objectives and services within the OA. The level and extent of the activation of this annex is contingent on the actual event and the severity of the conditions.



**LEVEL I RESPONSE:** The Chief Medical Examiner will direct and coordinate operations from the Medical Examiner & Forensic Center. On-duty personnel will immediately be assigned to the emergency. Normal operations will continue as called-back employees arrive to work.

**LEVEL II RESPONSE:** The Chief Medical Examiner will direct and coordinate operations either from the Medical Examiner & Forensic Center, a secondary headquarters, or the OA EOC. On-duty and called-back employees will be assigned to the emergency as needed. Normal operations will possibly be suspended for the duration of the emergency.

**LEVEL III RESPONSE:** The Chief Medical Examiner will direct and coordinate operations from the OA EOC. All employees will be assigned to the emergency. There is a complete activation of this annex.

### **Notification and Call-Back**

Upon notification of an event of emergency or disaster, all Medical Examiner staff will contact their supervisor, or appropriate person in the chain of command, as soon as possible for assignment. If communications cannot be established with the supervisor, or appropriate person within the chain of command, personnel are to report to the closest Sheriff's substation or police station for reporting their location via law enforcement radio.

### **Medical Examiner Field Emergency Teams**

The Chief Medical Examiner will determine the need for utilizing Medical Examiner Field Emergency Teams, depending on the nature and the condition of the emergency. A Medical Examiner Field Emergency Team will consist of some or all of the following staff persons:

- Deputy Medical Examiner
- Medical Examiner Investigator
- Law enforcement officer (field investigation, security)

- Contract removal personnel
- Forensic Autopsy Assistants
- Clerical staff (record keeping, reports)

## INFORMATION COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Information collection and dissemination are among the Medical Examiner's most important functions.

### Notification of Deaths:

In the event of a mass fatality incident, the Medical Examiner will likely be notified of deaths by multiple sources, including hospitals, law enforcement and fire/rescue agencies on-scene, and possibly members of the community. In a mass fatality incident, the Medical Examiner will likely establish and publicize a dedicated phone number to receive notification of deaths and to handle inquiries pertaining to the incident.

- Hospitals will report deaths to the Medical Examiner, and if the death is under jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner or the hospital's morgue capacity is exceeded, the Medical Examiner will coordinate removal of the remains from the hospital. The report will include the number of dead, any identifying information, and the presumed cause of death.
- At a mass fatality scene, deaths will be reported through the Incident Command structure, for accounting and for planning Medical Examiner's response.
- Telephone or radio communications are the most likely mechanisms of communication from law enforcement agencies, other first responders, and hospitals.
- The Medical Examiner representative at the OA EOC will be the liaison between the Medical Examiner, those on-scene, and other County and responding agencies, including two-way information about fatality statistics and Medical Examiner response capabilities.

### Other Collection of Information:

Information about missing persons and those thought to have been killed will be collected from next-of-kin at the FAC (as above), or by personal or telephone interview by a Medical Examiner's Investigator. The primary goal of this communication is to facilitate identification of the deceased.



### **Release of Information:**

The Medical Examiner will use coordinated release of information to the media through the OA EOC. The Medical Examiner web page will also have updated press releases. Whenever possible, the Medical Examiner will hold family briefings prior to press conferences.

As with any death falling under the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner, it is the responsibility of the Medical Examiner to ensure that the next-of-kin is notified of the death.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Various agencies of County Government utilize voice radio communications in the furtherance of their duties. These agencies operate on the Regional Communications System (RCS) and have been assigned their own talk groups. Countywide and mutual aid talk groups provide the ability for these agencies to talk to each other and with other RCS using agencies. When required, these agencies coordinate via the Sheriff's Communications Center (Station M). The Medical Examiner is included in this category.

## **ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, AND LOGISTICS**

Under SEMS, special districts are considered local governments. As such, they are included in the emergency planning efforts throughout the OA. The OA Emergency Organization, in accordance with SEMS, supports and is supported by:

- Cities within the OA
- The County of San Diego
- Special districts
- Other Counties
- The State of California
- The Federal Government

NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable Federal, State, local, and tribal governments and private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to work together effectively. NIMS also enables these entities to efficiently prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity, including acts of catastrophic terrorism.

Mutual aid, including personnel, supplies, and equipment, is provided in accordance with the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement, and other OA Mutual Aid Agreements.

The private sector is an important part of the emergency organization. Business and industry own or have access to substantial response and support resources. Community Based Organizations (CBOs) or Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) provide valuable resources before, during, and after a disaster. These resources can be effective

assets at any level. OES has established the ReadySanDiego Business Alliance. The Alliance will have a virtual connection to the OA EOC via a social networking system fed through an RSS feed from WebEOC.

There are some City and County personnel who do not have specific task assignments. They are automatically designated by State Law as Disaster Service Workers during a disaster, and serve in the response effort.

- "All public employees and all registered volunteers of a jurisdiction having an accredited disaster council are Disaster Service Workers," per Government Code Title I, Division 4, Chapter 8, and Labor Code, Part I, Division 4, Chapters 1 and 10.
- The term public employees includes all persons employed by the State, or any County, City or public district.
- Other personnel including volunteers can be quickly registered by OES as Disaster Service Workers, which provides Workers Compensation and liability coverage.

OES maintains a list of pre-registered volunteers affiliated with volunteer organizations that have been signed up as Disaster Service Workers (DSWs).

It is imperative that local government maintain duplicate records of all information necessary for restoration of normal operations. This process of record retention involves offsite storage of vital computerized and paper-based data that can be readily accessible.

Vital records of the Unified Organization are routinely stored in records storage rooms at OES in printed hard copy form, on CD-ROM, and electronically. Computer records are routinely backed up and stored separately from the hard drives. All personnel records are stored by the County Department of Human Resources at several locations throughout the OA.

## **Logistics**

During normal day-to-day operations the Medical Examiner will prepare and update these emergency plans, Standard Operating Procedures, pre-arranged agreements, resource listings and checklists. For most administration, finance and logistics, the Medical Examiner will use its existing Administrative Services, as the Medical Examiner's daily function is generally the same as it is in mass fatality incidences, although on a smaller scale. Acquisition of equipment or other resources unique to mass fatality responses will also be coordinated through the Emergency Operations Center and the Departments of General Services and Purchasing and Contracting, and other Departments, as appropriate.

The Medical Examiner participates in the California Coroner Mutual Aid Plan and its planning and maintenance, and has a Statement of Understanding with the American Red Cross regarding its role with the Medical Examiner in mass fatality response, and maintains contracts with contractor companies for supply of supplies like body pouches and personal protective equipment.

## ANNEX DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

This annex is a product of the OA Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). As such, the policies, procedures, and practices outlined in the OA EOP govern this annex. OES coordinates the maintenance and updates of this annex every three to four years, in accordance with the maintenance schedule established for the OA EOP. Record of changes, approval, and dissemination of the OA EOP will also apply to this annex.

Updates to this annex can be made before such time for multiple reasons, including but not limited to changes in policy/procedure, improvements and recommendations based on real life events or exercises, etc. Recommended changes should be submitted to OES at [oes@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:oes@sdcounty.ca.gov)

This annex was originally prepared by the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization, its Operational Area Plan Review Committee, staff and principal planners. Updated information was provided by Steven Campman, M.D., Deputy Medical Examiner in 2014, and was last edited in 2010.

## AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

The San Diego County Department of the Medical Examiner is the agency responsible for investigating deaths primarily resulting from sudden and unexpected causes, and certifying the cause and manner of such deaths, in San Diego County, according to California Government Code Section 27491, and Health and Safety Code Section 102850.

Additional information and guidance on Medical Examiner mass fatality response is available from the National Association of Medical Examiners ([The National Association of Medical Examiners Standard Operating Procedures for Mass Fatality Management](#)) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([Guidelines for Handling Decedents Contaminated with Radioactive Materials](#)).

**ATTACHMENT F-1****Medical Examiner Emergency Action Checklist Response to a Major Earthquake**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Staff OA EOC	Medical Examiner
Coordinate Medical Examiner Field Teams	Medical Examiner/Law Enforcement
Establish Body Collection Sites	Medical Examiner
Determine and procure additional supplies	Medical Examiner/OES/General Services/Purchasing and Contracting
Set up reporting/record keeping system	Medical Examiner
Determine transportation needs and route status	Medical Examiner
Establish field morgue, if needed	Medical Examiner
Assign support personnel for identification and field processing	Medical Examiner
Coordinate with law enforcement for security	Medical Examiner/Law Enforcement
Notification of next of kin	Medical Examiner
Response to public inquiry	Medical Examiner/OES/County Communications Office/American Red Cross/Salvation Army/2-1-1
Provide and release information to the public	Medical Examiner/OES/County Communications Office
Request Mutual Aid, as needed	Medical Examiner

**ATTACHMENT F-2**

**Medical Examiner Emergency Action Checklist Response to Hazardous Material Incident**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Staff OA EOC	Medical Examiner
Coordinate Medical Examiner Field Teams	Medical Examiner/Law Enforcement
Coordinate with Field Command Post	Medical Examiner Field Teams
Determine hazard to responding personnel	Environmental Health (Hazardous Materials Division)
Determine requirement of special procedures in body recovery	Medical Examiner/ Environmental Health (Hazardous Materials Division)
Establish Body Collection Site	Medical Examiner
Set up reporting/record keeping system	Medical Examiner
Determine and procure additional supplies	Medical Examiner/OES/ General Services/ Purchasing and Contracting
Provide for transportation of bodies	Medical Examiner
Identify and provide for the disposition of bodies	Medical Examiner
Notification of next of kin	Medical Examiner
Response to public inquiry	Medical Examiner/OES/ County Communications Office/American Red Cross/ Salvation Army/2-1-1
Secure personal property of deceased	Public Administrator/Medical Examiner
Provide and release information to the public	Medical Examiner/OES/ County Communications Office
Request Mutual Aid, as needed	Medical Examiner

**ATTACHMENT F-3**

**Medical Examiner Emergency Action Checklist Response to Imminent/Actual Flooding**

Action	Responsibility
Staff OA EOC	Medical Examiner
Coordinate Medical Examiner Field Teams	Medical Examiner/Law Enforcement
Coordinate with Field Command Post	Medical Examiner Field Teams
Establish Body Collection Sites	Medical Examiner
Set up reporting/record keeping system	Medical Examiner
Determine and procure additional supplies	Medical Examiner/OES/ General Services/ Purchasing and Contracting
Determine transportation needs and route status	Medical Examiner
Identification and determination of disposition of bodies	Medical Examiner
Secure personal property of deceased	Public Administrator/Medical Examiner
Provide and release information to the public	Medical Examiner/OES/ County Communications Office
Request Mutual Aid, as needed	Medical Examiner
Coordinate the reburial of any cemetery coffins that may be unearthed at inundated cemeteries	Medical Examiner/Funeral directors
Coordinate with continued search efforts for body recovery	Medical Examiner/Law Enforcement

**ATTACHMENT F-4****Medical Examiner Emergency Action List Response to Imminent/Actual Dam Failure**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Staff OA EOC	Medical Examiner
Coordinate Medical Examiner Field Teams	Medical Examiner/Law Enforcement
Coordinate with Field Command Post	Medical Examiner Field Teams
Establish Body Collection Sites	Medical Examiner
Determine and procure additional supplies	Medical Examiner/OES/General Services/Purchasing and Contracting
Determine transportation needs and route status	Medical Examiner
Identification and determination of disposition of bodies	Medical Examiner
Secure personal property of deceased	Public Administrator/Medical Examiner
Coordinate the reburial of coffins that may be unearthed at inundated cemeteries	Medical Examiner/Funeral directors
Continued coordination with downstream search and rescue operations for body recovery	Medical Examiner/Law Enforcement
Provide and release information to the public	Medical Examiner/OES/ County Communications Office
Request Mutual Aid, as needed	Medical Examiner

**ATTACHMENT F-5****Medical Examiner Emergency Action Checklist Response to Major Transportation Accident**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Staff OA EOC	Medical Examiner
Coordinate Medical Examiner Field Teams	Medical Examiner/Law Enforcement
Coordinate with Field Command Post	Medical Examiner Field Teams
Establish Body Collection Site	Medical Examiner
Set up reporting/record keeping system	Medical Examiner
Determine and procure additional supplies	Medical Examiner/OES/ General Services/ Purchasing and Contracting
Establish Field Morgue, if needed	Medical Examiner
Assign personnel for identification and field processing of bodies	Medical Examiner
Disposition of property of deceased	Public Administrator/Medical Examiner
Provide for transportation of bodies	Medical Examiner
Notification of next of kin	Medical Examiner
Response to public inquiry	Medical Examiner/OES/ County Communications Office/American Red Cross/ Salvation Army/2-1-1
Provide and release information to the public	Medical Examiner/OES/ County Communications Office
Request Mutual Aid, as needed	Medical Examiner

**ATTACHMENT F-6****Medical Examiner Emergency Action Checklist Response to Pandemic Influenza Incident**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Staff OA EOC	Medical Examiner
Coordinate Medical Examiner Field Teams	Medical Examiner/Law Enforcement
Coordinate with Field Command Post	Medical Examiner Field Teams
Establish Body Collection Sites	Medical Examiner
Set up reporting/record keeping system	Medical Examiner
Determine and procure additional supplies	Medical Examiner/OES/ General Services/ Purchasing and Contracting
Establish Field Morgue, if needed	Medical Examiner
Assign personnel for identification and field processing of bodies	Medical Examiner
Disposition of property of deceased	Public Administrator/Medical Examiner
Provide for transportation of bodies	Medical Examiner
Notification of next of kin	Medical Examiner
Response to public inquiry	Medical Examiner/OES/ County Communications Office/American Red Cross/ Salvation Army/2-1-1
Provide and release information to the public	Medical Examiner/OES/ County Communications Office
Request Mutual Aid, as needed	Medical Examiner