

MASS DISASTER

Definition :

It is an event of series causing severe damage to life and property.
It is also defined as the death of more than 12 victims in a single event.

Types of Mass Disaster

There are 2 types of mass disaster :

(1) Natural Mass Disaster

These disasters are the events that have the potential to cause loss of life or property, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services.

Example : flood, cyclone, earthquake, volcanic eruption, epidemics, tsunami.

Man-Made Disasters

These are the human instigated disasters which are caused due to the consequence of technological factors.

Ex : Air crash, sinking ship, Bomb blast, train accidents, terrorism, nuclear explosions.

Blue Box

It can be intentional / unintentional

A Death Scene initially should be treated as a crime scene, protected to minimise disturbance until all survivors can be removed.

Management of Mass Disaster

* Search Rescue-

• Medical Aid

• Barricading the crime scene

• Documentation of the crime scene

• Body recovery

• Evidence recovery

• Decontamination

• Examination

• Identification and death certificate

• Final Disposition..

→ Safety of the victim above everything else, and also give medical aid (basically first aid) to the victims.

* Search Rescue

(In Search rescue, the survivors are rescued from the crime scene.)

• Barricading the crime scene

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vivors

After recording
barricade the crime scene.

The Barricading boundary has two
(perimeters) i.e., inner perimeter and outer
perimeter.

Inner perimeter has an impact on
victim, evidence or property strictly
controlled entry.

Outer perimeter has the maximum
disaster that can be secured from the
events assigned emergency workers.

Documentation of the crime scene

Documentation includes:

- (i) Notemaking
- (ii) Videography
- (iii) photography
- (iv) Sketching

⇒ Notemaking

Recording of the crime scene
should be done.

:- Also note date and time
the disaster occurred.

⇒ Videography

:- The scene was videoed
by the wide angle, mid angle, & close-up
angle. No personnel
involved in this.

⇒ photography

:- The scene was photog
through wide-range, mid
range and close-up

nothing

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was

⇒ sketching :- The forensic experts ~~are~~ play the role in sketching the crime scene.

Body Recovery

Chief Medical Examiner determine where to establish morgue.

Triage :- process of sorting injured people into group based on the need for or likely benefit from immediate medical treatment.

Green :- No impaired function, self-treatment or by non-professional.

Eg : Abrasion, contusion, laceration

Yellow :- Can wait for care after first aid.

Eg : wound dressed

Red : Seriously injured, critical.

Black : dead.

Body Recovery

Human remains is tagged & with mass casualty tag and numbered and removed from the site by the authorized personnel. All personal effects found on a body or in association with the human

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remains are not removed and stay with the body when it is placed into body bag. Each human remain is placed into separate body bag and given separate number.

Evidence Recovery

Recovery of evidence varies from crime scene to crime scene.

In case of Air crash,

Recovery of engine, recovery of pilot body, recovery of blackbox.

In case of Explosion,

Recovery of body, body parts, clothings, carpetings, seating and fuelage part.

Decontamination

Some of the evidence should be decontaminated specially deadbodies and some cannot be because it should be examined first and then only decontamination is possible.

Examination

Examination of the evidences should be done based on the nature of the evidences recovered.

In Case of Crash

Engine can be examined for reveal fire, ~~explosion~~ explosion or mechanical difficulty, pilot's body; determination regarding the cause of crash, influence of alcohol or drug and Gun shot; black box - to determine the speed of the aeroplane, the altitude and also the communication b/w the pilots incase the plane was hijacked.

In Case of Explosives

The characteristics of the explosives, close examination of the scene, composition and mechanism of the scene like time, pressure, touch, pull etc. And also examined for explosive residues.

Identification and Death Certificate

After the victim was identified finally, death certificate was issued.

Final Disposition

After receiving the victim's body from the morgue, hand-overs to the family members to perform final rituals.