

Deadline of Submission of Comments: 17-Feb-25

Document Number: ASB BPR 193

Document Title: Best Practice Recommendations for Determining What Scene and Death Locations a Medicolegal Death Investigation Authority Responds

Comment #	Text Line # (s)	Document Section	Type of Comment	Current Document Wording	Proposed Revision	Revision Justification	For Working Group and Consensus Body use only, not to be completed by commenter.
			E-Editorial T-Technical				Final Resolution
1	N/A	4	E	Currently, the document is missing a section on bias mitigation. We recommended this in the first round of comments for this document and the author's response to the comment was that it was beyond the scope of the document.	We disagree that a short bias mitigation section is beyond the scope of this document. We recommend a short section explaining why there is a risk of bias here and suggesting bias mitigation techniques (e.g., LSU-E; considering and documenting engagement with alternative hypotheses; blind second opinion) that would work in this situation. This would probably work well immediately before current section 4.3, or at the start of 4.3.	Addressing the potential for bias and bias mitigation is not beyond the scope of this document. Decision-makers are not only vulnerable to bias effects when considering how to examine a scene. There are also important decisions with potentially serious consequences when people are decisions whether to examine a scene at all, and MDIs should be required to document any information that guided that decision (e.g., what they were told about the scene before they saw it for themselves; could be really simply such as "Officer X reported a suspected overdose and...").	Accept. A section has been added to 4.1 that reads: "Because all human decision-making-including decisions such as whether or not to respond to a scene-are vulnerable to the effects of human factors, MDIs making the site-response decision should be aware of the risks that such factors can pose to decision-making."
3		3.11	Ballot Comment	Section 3.11 under terms and definitions for manner is not consistent with manner from our T/D document. i see the categories of suicide, homicide, etc are not defined so I think important to include the full MOD definition.			Accept. Manner of death definition updated to match the approved ASB 151 Technical Report.
2	14-15	2	E	Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice. Death investigation: A guide for the scene investigator (technical update). Washington, DC. 2011a.	Update the citation for the DOJ/OJP/NIJ guide, "Death investigation: A guide for the scene investigator" under normative references - a revision was finalized in 2024 - and the web address in the footnote.	Citation needs to be the most up to date citation.	Accept. Citation updated.