



### **B61 Bioterrorism in Europe After September 11th: Our Experience in BIOTOX Procedure**

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This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by showing the forensic community that forensic scientists should be involved in bioterrorism for many reasons among which are the protection of the population of penal evidences

At the end of 2001, the United States of America was hit by incredible acts of terrorism. In the months and years following, small groups have tried to increase the stressful climate by using militarized “harmless” bacterial strain. The effects of globalization allowed a wild distribution, not of the bacterium, but of fear, especially in Europe and analysis on different supports suspect to be infected are being performed today.

The authors are showing here the impact and the experience of a forensic ward in the fight against bioterrorism.

Systematic bacteriological and judiciary analysis of suspect postal dispatches in France from October 23, 2001 to July 2004 are exposed. Bacteriological and toxicological results, as well as penal consequences for the authors have been studied. The administration sought to implement this procedure for sanitary and economical reasons and for penalty proof protection as well. More than 250 analyses were performed and no anthrax was found.

The organization of this procedure, its history and difficulties are presented. The techniques and bacteriological methods used will be analyzed. Methods implemented in order to preserve judicial proof are also presented along with the difficulties in relation to their qualification for efficient penal procedures.

**Bioterrorism, Anthrax, Europe**