



F21 Get Involved - Find the Missing

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After attending this presentation, attendees will be able to use the NCIC 2000 dental data base in cooperation with law enforcement to establish identifications in the largest mass fatality incidents facing this country.

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by encouraging the forensic dentists of the AAFS to get involved with their local law enforcement agency to find the missing persons utilizing the NCIC 2000 dental database.

It has come to the attention of the author that the majority of law enforcement agencies in this country do not have a forensic dental consultant on staff. It is also evident that the forensic dental community has not approached the missing persons (antemortem) issue with the same intensity that is seen in the unidentified (postmortem) individuals. It is time that the forensic dentists get involved with their local law enforcement agencies. It is of paramount importance that the forensic dentists educate these agencies of the existence of the new NCIC 2000 dental database and how it works. If the law enforcement agencies do not buy into the NCIC 2000 dental database it is doomed to fail. The Missing/Unidentified Persons (MUP) situation is the largest **ongoing** mass fatality disaster in this country. In numbers alone it easily surpasses the most recent mass fatality disasters experienced by this country (September 11, 2001 and Hurricanes Katrina/Rita).

This discussion will outline the protocol used by the author to introduce law enforcement agencies to the NCIC 2000 dental database. However, before the forensic dentist approaches law enforcement he or she must be completely familiar with the NCIC 2000 dental data system. This paper will introduce this new system. The charting protocol, \$.M reports and techniques in obtaining antemortem dental records will be explained.

The author has been approached by numerous forensic dentists asking, "How can I get more involved in forensic dentistry?" This is the ideal opportunity to get involved. The forensic odontologists of the AAFS already have the basic skills needed to tackle this problem. It is only a matter of directing efforts in the right direction to make a tremendous difference in this largest of all mass fatality incidents.

It is sincerely hoped that this presentation will encourage the forensic dentists of the AAFS to get involved in finding the missing.

NCIC 2000 Dental Data Base, Local Law Enforcement, Missing/Unidentified Persons