D39 Forensic Logistic Laboratory Process of the Mass Fatality Utilizing the Supply-Chain Operations Reference (SCOR) Model

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After attending this presentation, attendees will understand the use of a logistical process based off of the Supply Chain Reference Model that can be used in a forensic laboratory of any mass grave or mass fatality.

This presentation will impact the forensic community by showing how a logistical process can be implemented into a forensic laboratory processing a mass grave or mass fatality. Attendees will clearly understand the logistical process that includes physical evidence and documentation flow, efficiency allocation of resources, leveraging of participant's qualifications, utilizing the process to maximize efficiency, and measuring process flow.

Both mass fatalities and mass graves require a very organized logistical method to efficiently and effectively process these types of events. The literature on mass graves extensively covers archaeological methods for proper field and excavation procedures utilized in mass fatalities/graves. However, little is found in the literature on operating procedures at a mass grave or mass disaster within the forensic laboratory. To produce accurate information with little or no compromise of evidence, and to combine the laboratory data to the data collected from the field, it is critical that there is a detailed and specific laboratory process in place and that the laboratory be managed by an individual or individuals that are experienced in logistical processing.

In this presentation, the intent is to introduce the concept of utilizing the Supply Chain Operations Reference (SCOR) model in a forensic *laboratory* process of any mass fatality/grave and to take components within the supply chain model, define and build them into the development of a forensic logistical process. The SCOR model describes logistical principals that can be implemented without compromising accuracy, efficiency and chain of custody requirements. The presentation will focus on the specific steps in the SCOR model that correspond to the forensic laboratory process. This will include physical evidence and documentation flow, efficiency allocation of resources, leveraging of participants qualifications, utilizing the process to maximize efficiency, and measuring process flow.

Using the model in a similar manner as used in business applications, this model will provide a high level understanding of evidence flow through a forensic laboratory. This high level view provides the flexibility for varying applications, but provides a rigid outline for the understanding of sequential and dependent events. In addition, the distinction between the flow of evidence and flow of documentation will help to understand the importance of implementing this model in a mass fatality/grave scenario.

In a forensic scenario, there is a higher sense of purpose within the processing which can stimulate the efforts and willingness of participants. Participants are willing to perform many duties for the greater good of the mission, regardless of what the duty might be or how it affects the complete process. This however, can be detrimental to the successful completion of the project. Participant's willingness to perform many of these tasks cannot alone, carry the successful processing and completion of the mass fatality/grave.

If all mass fatalities have a similar structured logistical process, universally accepted (such as the SCOR model) it will provide predictable and comparable information that can be analyzed and used scientific knowledge of new technologies and methods, ultimately improving access to resources and opportunities for research normally impeded by geographic location. Advantages include the ability for law enforcement to choose experts based on suitability rather than propinquity, and for students to access a wide range of teaching collections and experience housed in multiple institutions.

Supply Chain Operations Reference Model, Mass Graves/Fatalities, Logistical Process

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