

## FATALITY MANAGEMENT MORGUE PROCESSING UNIT

DESCRIPTION	The Fatality Management (FM) Morgue Processing Unit (MPU) provides personnel support for the receipt, processing, identification, storage, and release of human remains in a temporary morgue facility during a mass fatality incident, under the designated medico-legal authority.		
RESOURCE CATEGORY	Medical and Public Health	RESOURCE KIND	Unit
OVERALL FUNCTION	<p>The FM MPU:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Retrieves or delivers human remains to other morgue stations (including but not limited to anthropology, radiology, odontology, pathology, and fingerprint stations), with appropriate specialists as staff</li> <li>2. Manages personal effects</li> <li>3. Tracks decedents through the victim identification software system</li> <li>4. Ensures security, accountability, and documented chain of custody for all remains and personal effects</li> <li>5. Adheres to human remains-related religious and cultural customs to the extent the law or circumstances permit</li> </ol>	COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss logistics for deploying this unit, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals prior to deployment</li> <li>2. This unit typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days</li> <li>3. Requestor can order additional units based on cause of death complexity, the geographic scale and scope, and number of victims</li> <li>4. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is mission-specific</li> <li>5. The requestor should supplement communications systems (such as laptops, phones/pagers, and radios) for the purpose of relaying status reports and activation needs</li> <li>6. The Requestor should specify if Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) capabilities are necessary</li> <li>7. Disaster Portable Morgue Unit (DPMU) cache will be available at the designated temporary morgue site and is self-sustainable for 72 hours of processing operations</li> <li>8. The Type 1 and Type 3 teams have the ability to work in Hazmat environments or with decedents exposed to hazardous materials</li> </ol>

RESOURCE TYPES			TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4
COMPONENT	METRIC/ MEASURE	CAPABILITY				
Personnel	Per unit	Minimum	28	28	11	11
NOTES: Not Specified						
Personnel	Per unit	Management and Oversight	Same as Type 3, PLUS: 1 - NIMS Type 1 Morgue Processing Unit Leader	Same as Type 4, PLUS: 1 - NIMS Type 2 Morgue Processing Unit Leader	1 - NIMS Type 1 Morgue Processing Unit Leader	1 - National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 2 Morgue Processing Unit Leader
NOTES: Not Specified						

Superseded

RESOURCE TYPES			TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4
COMPONENT	METRIC/ MEASURE	CAPABILITY				
Personnel	Per unit	Operations and Support	Same as Type 3 PLUS: 1 - NIMS Type 1 FM Morgue Admitting Specialist 7 - NIMS Type 1 FM Morgue Escort 1 - NIMS Type 1 FM Forensic Photographer 1 - NIMS Type 1 FM Personal Effects Specialist 2 - NIMS Type 1 FM Human Remains Storage and Release Specialist 4 - NIMS Type 1 FM Embalming and Casketing Mortuary Specialist	Same as Type 4, PLUS: 1 - NIMS Type 2 FM Morgue Admitting Specialist 7 - NIMS Type 2 FM Morgue Escort 1 - NIMS Type 2 FM Forensic Photographer 1 - NIMS Type 2 FM Personal Effects Specialist 2 - NIMS Type 2 FM Human Remains Storage and Release Specialist 4 - NIMS Type 1 FM Embalming and Casketing Mortuary Specialist	1 - NIMS Type 1 FM Morgue Admitting Specialist 3 - NIMS Type 1 FM Morgue Escort 2 - NIMS Type 1 FM Forensic Photographer 2 - NIMS Type 1 FM Personal Effects Specialist 2 - NIMS Type 1 FM Human Remains Storage and Release Specialist	1 - NIMS Type 2 FM Morgue Admitting Specialist 3 - NIMS Type 2 FM Morgue Escort 2 - NIMS Type 2 FM Forensic Photographer 2 - NIMS Type 2 FM Personal Effects Specialist 2 - NIMS Type 2 FM Human Remains Storage and Release Specialist
			NOTES: Not Specified			
Capability	Per unit	Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) Response	Same as Type 3	Same as Type 4	Hazmat capable	Not Specified
			NOTES: Not Specified			
Equipment	Per Unit Member	PPE	Same as Type 3	Same as Type 4	Hazmat PPE that is mission-specific, such as: 1. Full-face or half-mask, air purifying respirators 2. Hooded chemical-resistant clothing 3. Coveralls 4. Chemical-resistant gloves 5. Boots 6. Boot-covers 7. Hard hat 8. Face shield 9. Chemical tape 10. Chemical filters specific to the event	PPE is mission-specific, such as: 1. Non-porous protective outerwear 2. Respirators 3. Eye Protection 4. Gloves 5. Protective footwear
			NOTES: The following standards address PPE: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response; OSHA, 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection; OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.1030: Bloodborne Pathogens.			



RESOURCE TYPES			TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4
COMPONENT	METRIC/ MEASURE	CAPABILITY				
Equipment	Per Unit Member	Communications	Same as Type 3	Same as Type 4	Same as Type 4, PLUS: Radio Harness for under/over Hazmat gear	1. Short range hand-held 2 way portable radio 2. Cellular phone
			NOTES: Consider alternate forms of communication, such as satellite phones, based on the mission assignment and unit needs.			
Equipment	Per unit	Electronics	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3, PLUS: 10 - Laptops, tablets, or mobile devices equipped with data management and analysis software capabilities	Same as Type 4	8 - Laptops, tablets, or mobile devices equipped with data management and analysis software capabilities
			NOTES: Not Specified			
Equipment	Per unit	Data Collection	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Same as Type 4	Forms: 1. Post-mortem 2. Decedent tracking 3. Death Certificates 4. Release Forms
			NOTES: Not Specified			

Superseded

## COMMENTS

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1. Medico-legal refers to any death that requires official medical examiner or coroner investigation

## REFERENCES

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1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Fatality Management Disaster Portable Morgue Unit
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Fatality Management Embalming and Casketing Mortuary Officer
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Fatality Management Forensic Photographer
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Fatality Management Morgue Admitting Specialist
5. FEMA, NIMS 509: Fatality Management Morgue Escort
6. FEMA, NIMS 509: Fatality Management Personal Effects Specialist
7. FEMA, NIMS 509: Fatality Management Human Remains Storage and Release Specialist
8. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Immunization Recommendations for Disaster Responders
9. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: Hazardous Materials Awareness, latest edition adopted
10. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, latest edition adopted
11. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection, latest edition adopted
12. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.1030: Bloodborne Pathogens, latest edition adopted

## NOTES

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Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

**Superseded**