



Domestic Mass Fatality Response: Lessons from the DOD

- Why DOD (USNORTHCOM)?
 - Mission – DSCA (Support)
 - IDA assessment
 - DOD capability

- Federal/National Mortuary Affairs Assets

- DMORT 
- FSRT (ANG)*

* New State (Title 32) capability





Domestic Mass Fatality Response: Lessons from the DOD – Top 2 Issues

- **Issue 1** – No comprehensive fatality management strategy

- Potential Solutions

- ESF 8 FM CONOPS
- Stand-up National FM council/committee*
 - *FMISC
- Ensure local ME/Cs are involved in funding/planning



- **Issue 2** – Recovery of human remains

- Potential Solutions

- Education on state Guard assets
- Private sector resources
- Integrate local/state mass fatality planning and exercises with state Guard, private sector and DOD advisory SMEs
- Research lessons-learned; case studies in mass fatalities



Final Thoughts

“9-11, NYC – 2,752 killed – 22,000 human remain fragments, 49% of victims identified, 1,300 remains still unidentified.

- New York City, Office of Chief Medical Examiner

“9-11, Pentagon – 184 killed – 3,000 human remain fragments, 100% of victims identified, (DNA) 64 days later.

- Armed Forces Chief Medical Examiner

“The Catastrophic Incident Supplement identifies remains recovery as a challenge; however, it doesn’t provide a solution. The Department of Defense can assist; however, our remains recovery capability is limited... **We need a comprehensive plan that spells out responsibilities in dealing with this challenge**”

- RADM Steven Maas, N-NC Director of Logistics
Letter to DHHS, 9 March 2006