

Rapid clear– A new methodology for fast clearing mass casualty crime scenes

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When suicide-bombers started blowing themselves up in Israeli cities, the initial response was to handle the aftermath in the same manner we handled other mass casualty events.

This response called for a deliberate but painstakingly slow processing of the crime scene, with procedures for tagging the victims and filling post & ante mortem documentation that generated a significant amount of paperwork. These procedures proved to be burdensome when we had to "clear" a scene in a short timeframe so that life could return to "normal". A need arose to do things much faster, without compromising quality or forensic integrity.

In response to these demands, we developed a new method, called Rapid Clear, to clear scenes within a few hours while maintaining the ability to identify victims beyond any doubt. This new method includes giving victims a temporary identification number and reducing post-mortem documentation to just one sheet of paper!

The new procedure also helped prevent "mix-ups" between victim bodies arriving simultaneously from two different units to the coroner's lab., a scenario that could happen in any country or large city.

Another benefit of adopting Rapid Clear procedures is reduced exposure time of CSI personnel to the sights in crime scenes, thus minimizing the potential for onset of PTSD symptoms.

The killing of Osama Bin-Laden and the tension with Iran raises the chance for counterattack by Iranian and/or Al-Qaida operatives. Their outpouring of rage may result in future mass casualty events the likes of which law enforcement agencies may not be ready for.

Biography

Lior Nedivi has completed his B. Sc. in Aeronautical Engineering from the Technion – Israel institute of technology, Haifa, Israel and MBA studies from Derby University, Jerusalem branch, Israel. He is the owner of AFSS – Advanced Forensic Science Services, an independent forensic company. He has published many papers in reputed journals and as internal publications in the Israeli police (publications forbidden to be public for many reasons). These publications granted him a research degree level B, which equivalent to a professor's research degree in Israel.

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