


Mass Fatality Preparedness – Lessons Learned from 1 October

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Clark County Office of the Coroner/Medical Examiner – Las Vegas

 Wisconsin Coroner and
Medical Examiner Association



Disclosure Statement



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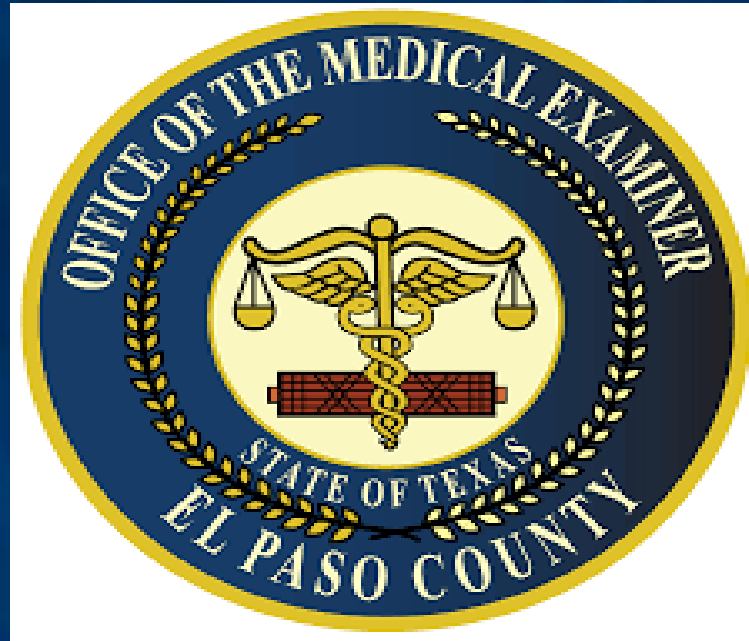
1 October - Route 91 Harvest Music Festival



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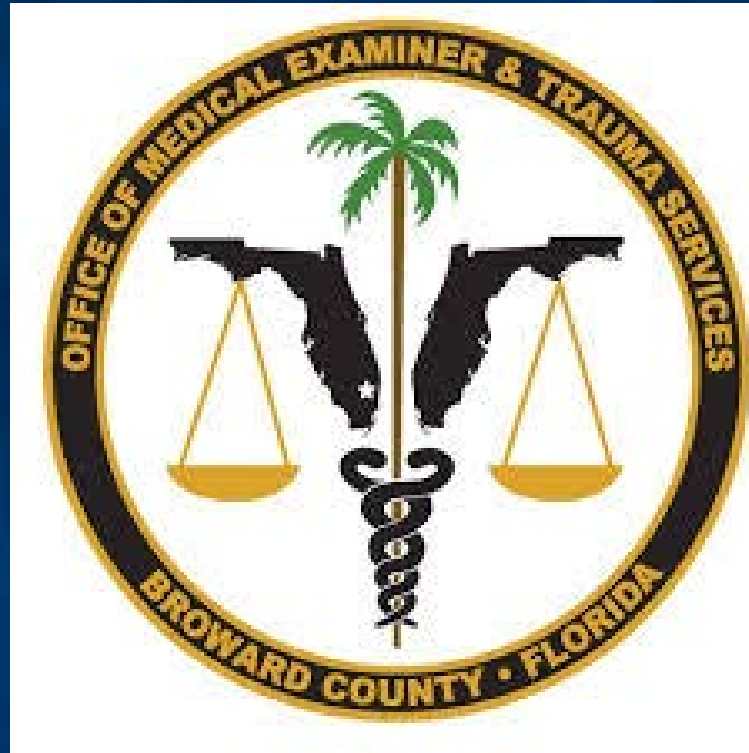
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- Overview of Clark County Office of the Coroner/Medical Examiner
- Certification and Accreditation
- Overview of 1 October Shooting
- Missing Persons Call Center
- Family assistance center (NOK notification)
- On-going employee wellness and resiliency efforts
- Discuss strengths and areas of improvement

Clark County Office of the Coroner/Medical Examiner



90 + Total Staff Members

- 4 + 16 – Board Certified Forensic Pathologists
- 28 – ABMDI Certified Coroner Investigators
- 18 – Forensic Pathology Technicians
- 19 – Administrative Personnel
- 5 – Volunteer Forensic Odontologists
- 6 – Youth/DUI Program Instructors
- 7 – Grant Funded Positions (NVDRS, ESOSS,SDY)
- 1 – Chaplin



Clark County Statistics - 2018

Total Deaths - 17,998

Reported- 13, 152

Exams - 3,172

Homicide – 224

Suicide - 506

Accident - 1,339 (598 Overdoses and 262 MVA)

Route 91 Harvest Music Festival



Route 91 Harvest Music Festival



- Over 22,000 attendees with up to 2,000 vendors and employees
- 17.5 acre open-air site
- Shooter broke out two windows from a suite on the 32nd floor and began shooting more than 1,100 rounds into the crowd below
- Shooting - from approximately 10:05 pm to 10:16 pm
- The shooter left 58 dead with over 1000 injured before killing himself

Route 91 Harvest Music Festival



1 October - Shooter

- Name - ?
- 64 years old
- Born in Iowa, Raised in Tucson
- Work briefly for the USPS & IRS, Ret. Accountant, avid gambler, very wealthy
- No criminal history
- Father Benjamin, convicted bank robber, escaped prison 1969



Route 91 Harvest Music Festival



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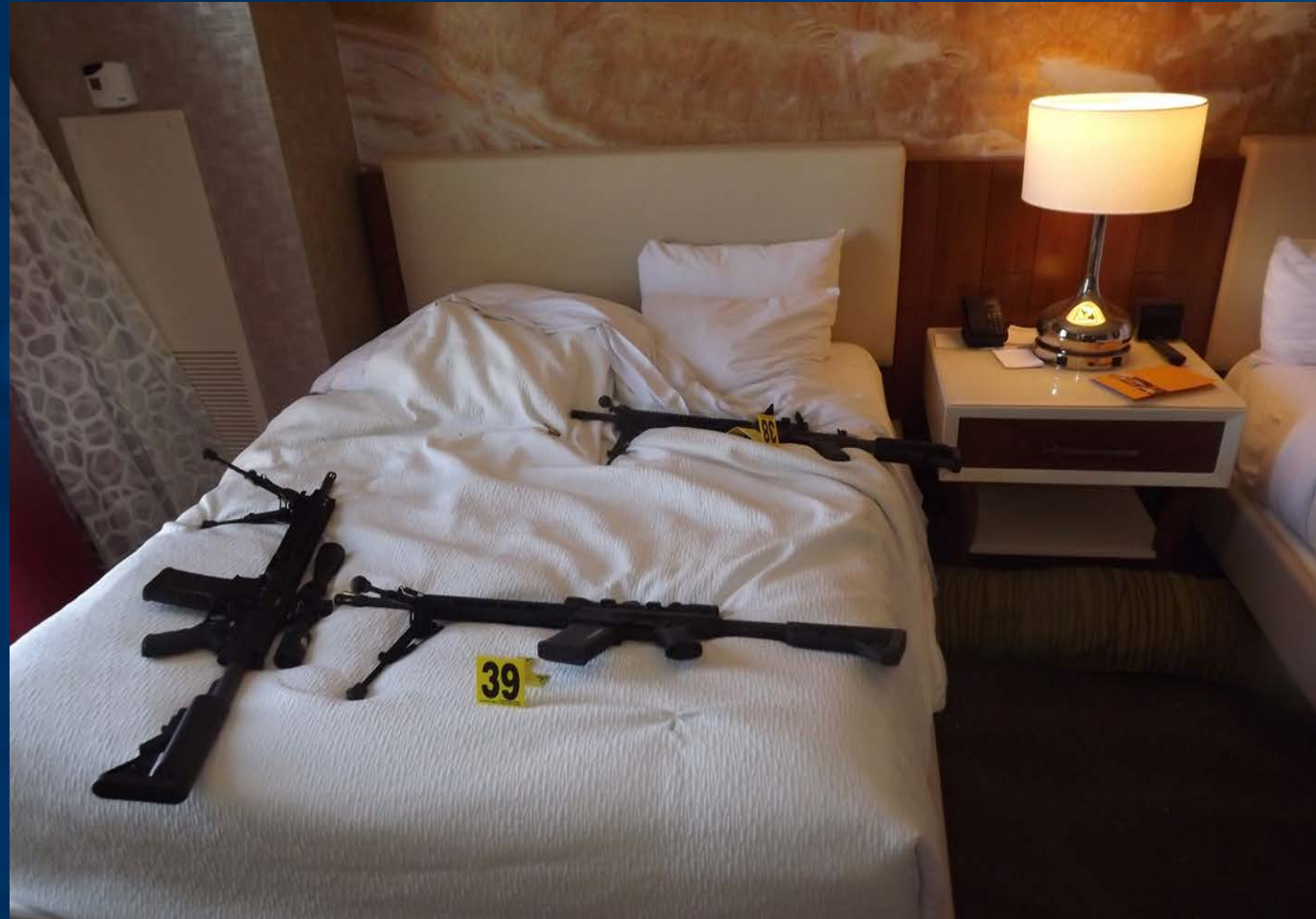
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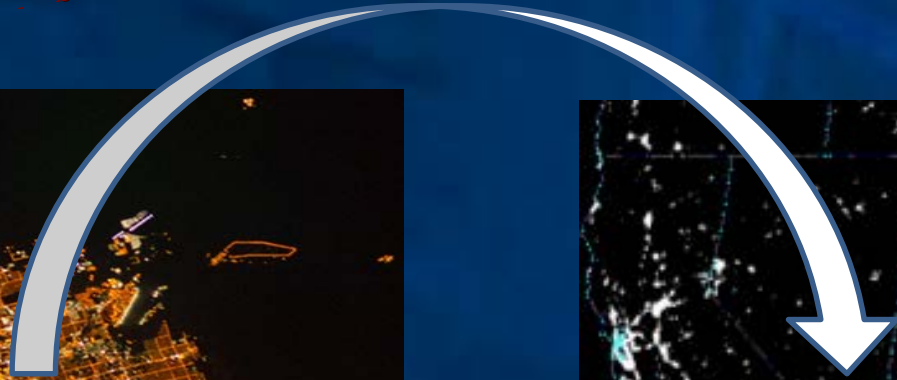
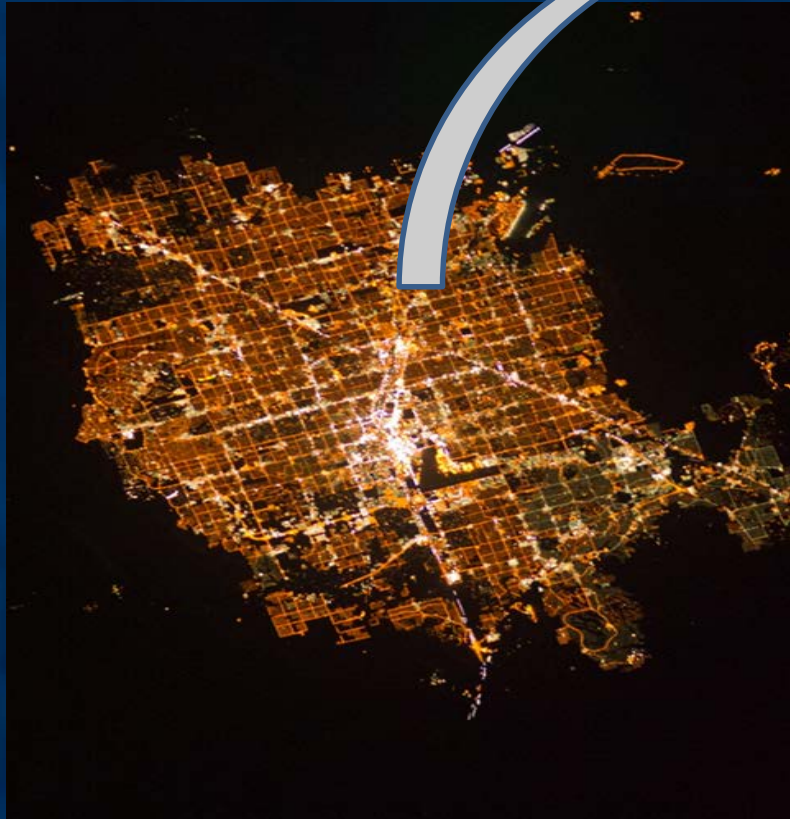
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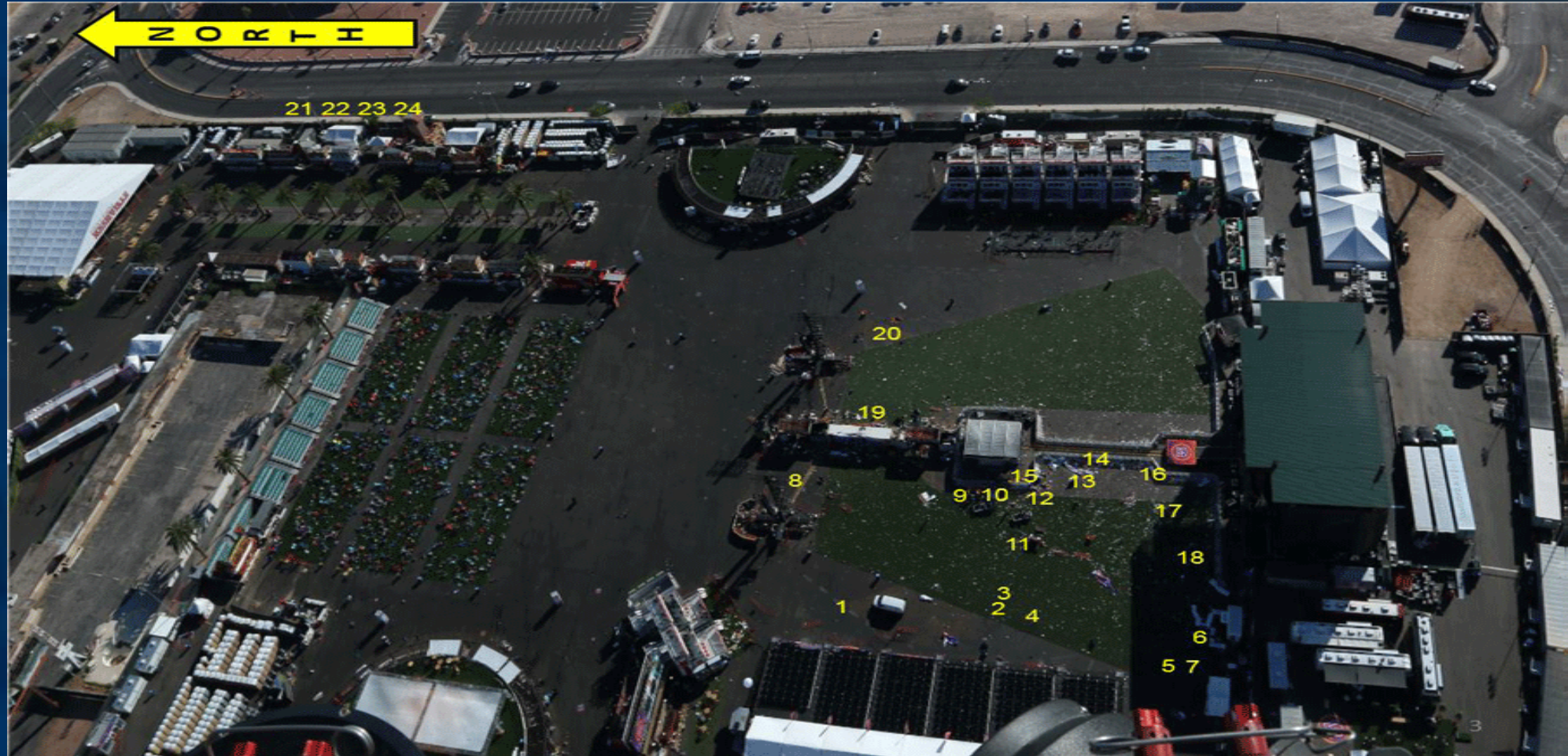
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➤ Outside help

- Los Angeles County Coroner's Office
- New York City-Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
- San Bernardino Coroner's Office
- Denver County Medical Examiner's Office
- Reno Police Department
- Washoe County Health District
- Carson City Health Department

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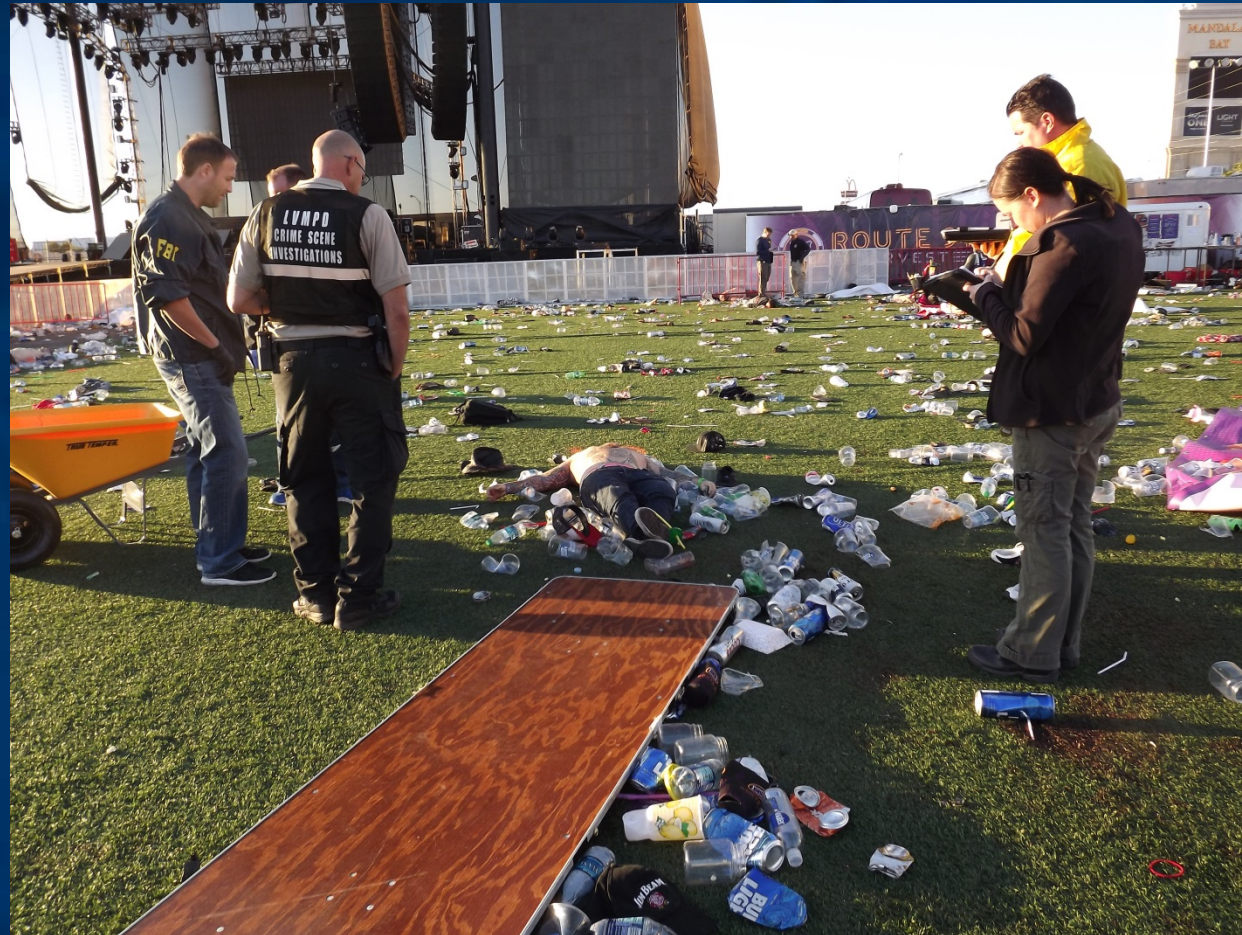
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Location of deceased victims -

- Total at the scene: 31 (24 inside the venue & 7 outside the venue)
- Sunrise Hospital: 16
- Desert Springs Hospital: 4
- Spring Valley Hospital: 3
- UMC Hospital: 3
- Valley Hospital: 1

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Route 91 Harvest Music Festival



Route 91 Harvest Music Festival



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1 October – Missing Persons - Call Center

The centralized call center 211-

- UVIS – Call Center Module
- All missing persons reports in one database
- Coroner/ME needs data – ID
- Allows the efficient investigation MP reports

The screenshot displays the UVIS interface for a missing person report. At the top, it shows the system title "Unified Victim Identification System" and the user "311 Operator is logged in as Call Center Operator". The report is for incident "8/30/2011 10:49 AM".

The form is divided into two main sections: "Caller/Reporter's Information" (left, blue background) and "Reported Missing Person's Information" (right, pink background). Both sections have a "General Information" sub-section.

Caller/Reporter's Information:

- REPORT NO: (New report)
- Caller ID: 9172287389
- Last Name, Suffix, First Name, Middle Name: [Empty fields]
- Salutation: [Empty field]
- Gender: [Select One]
- Primary Contact: Cellular [Empty field]

Reported Missing Person's Information:

- REPORT NO: (New report)
- Last Name, Suffix, First Name, Middle Name: [Empty fields]
- Caller/Reporter's Relationship To RM: [Select One] of RM Person
- Gender: [Select One]
- Date Of Birth: MM/DD/YYYY [Empty fields]
- Age: [Select One]
- Age Unit: [Select One]
- US Citizen?: [Select One]
- Social Security Number: [Empty field]
- Probable Destination: [Empty field]
- Marital Status: [Select One]
- Race: [Select One]
- Primary Contact: Cellular [Empty field]

At the bottom, there are "Additional Contact Information" sections for both the caller/reporter and the missing person, each with a "Remove" button for each entry and an "Add Additional Contact" button.

Family Assistance Center (FAC)



- Messaging and the use of press conferences
 - Who does them?
 - What is the message?
 - Prepared statement?

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Family Assistance Center (FAC)



- CCOCME Responsible for Family Assistance Center
 - Who is responsible?

- 2009 Full Scale Family Assistance Exercise
 - 300+ participants
 - 43 Organizations

- 2011 Reno Air Race Crash (11 Dead)
 - Informal FAC Mgr group
 - UVIS Deployed

Family Assistance Center (FAC)

- October 1st, Organic reunification at UNLV T&M
- October 2nd,
 - 3:00 am, UVIS Deployed
 - 4:00 am, a family reunification location was announced at the LVMPD HQ.
 - 6:00 am, CCFD DC (OEM), LVMPD and I agreed that OEM and the Coroner's Office would assume command of family notification, reunification, and assistance as these were functions better aligned with OEM and Coroner than PD.
 - 8:00 am, The LV Convention Center open, laying out the footprint of FAC
 - 1:30 pm, the FAC officially opened to the public



Family Assistance Center (FAC)



Terminology FAC vs VIC

- Reception
- Family escorts
- Food
- Child care
- Release of personal effects found on decedents
- FBI Victim Assistance
- Ante Mortem Interviews – Who?

Family Assistance Center (FAC)

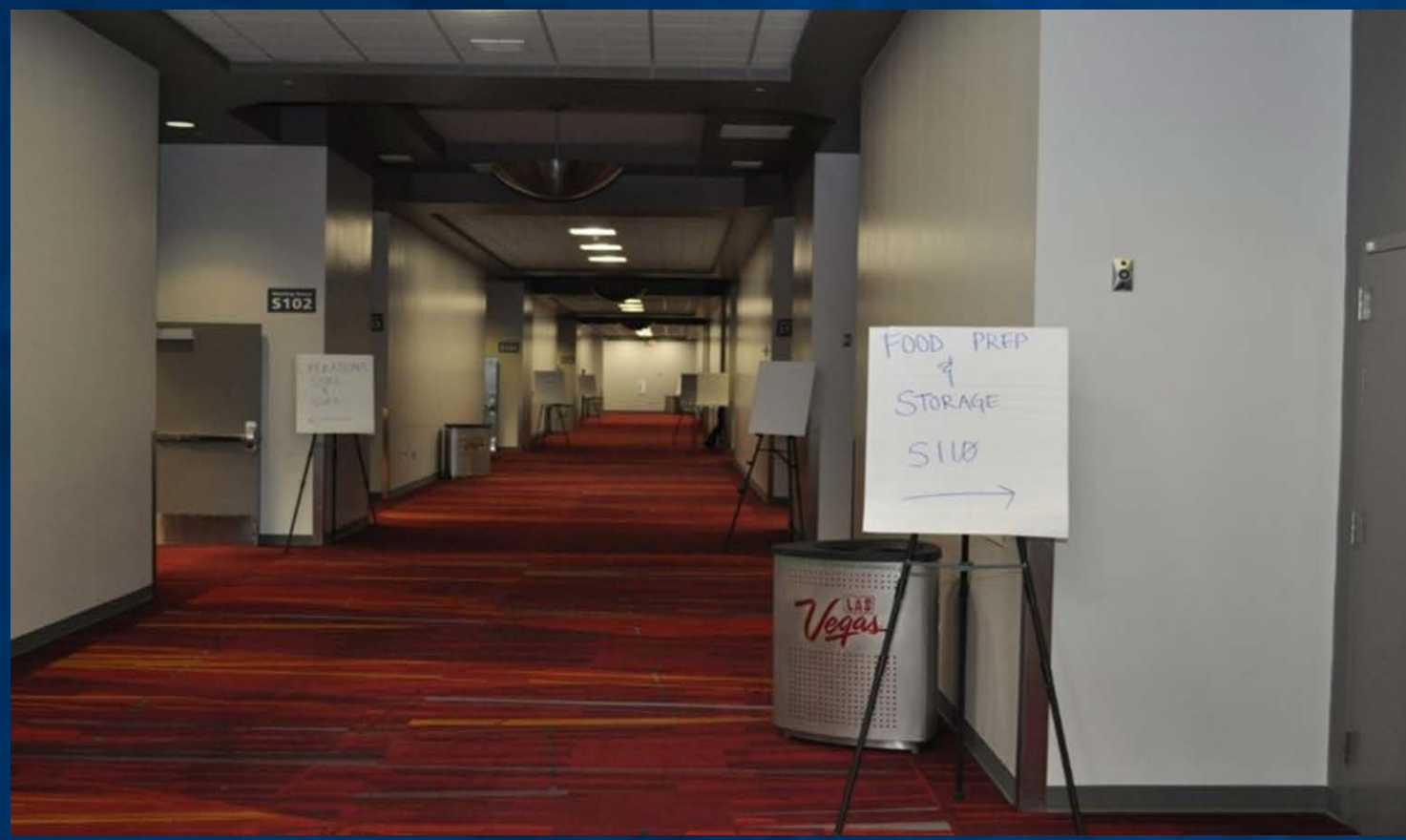
- Air and ground transportation
- Onsite childcare
- Lodging
- Crime victims benefits and compensation
- Legal aide
- Identification services
- Counseling and spiritual care
- Personal effects return
- Donation Management



Family Assistance Center (FAC)



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Family Assistance Center (FAC)

- October 4th 9:34 pm, All 58 - ID'd and Notified
- October 5th , Victim Information Center (VIC) opened (CCOCME) Hotline
- The FAC at the Convention Center closed on October 20th
- The Vegas Strong Resiliency Center opened for services on October 23rd



Family Assistance Center (FAC)



► credit: KSNV News 3, Las Vegas

Family Assistance Center (FAC)



1 OCTOBER FAC 10/20/11
TOTAL
SERVED
4,356
#VEGASSTRONG!

Wellness/Resiliency Efforts



90 + Total Staff Members

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- **1 – Chaplin (Volunteer)**

Wellness/Resiliency Efforts

- Group Debriefings
- Individual Counseling
- Non-Traditional Services
 - Art Therapy
 - Therapy Dogs
 - Potlucks
 - Family Day – Offsite
 - Massage Therapy
 - Trauma Meditation - 1400 mediations to over 4000 First Responders
 - Trauma Yoga



Wellness/Resiliency Efforts



- 2019 NV Legislation – Senate Bill 463

- UNLV SOM/CCOCME - Mediation Research Study
 - Matrix – Scene type vs support response

- UNLV SOM/CCOCME – Mental Health/Wellness Program

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Miscellaneous Issues

- Storage of Shooter / Building Security
- Disposition
- Hotline
- Media
- Death Certificates
- Reports
- Name of Incident
- Established Unified Command
- Agency Coordination

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- Call center capacity
- Multi-operational periods – Staffing
 - Multi-agency coordination
- Preparation (Exercises)
 - Morgue – Tracking bodies/specimens
 - Scene Response – Case numbering system
- Pre-identified reunification center/FAC



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