



## Fire Chiefs' Association of Broward County

### Standard Operating Guidelines

**Number: 301**

**Issue Date: 5/31/2019**

**Revision Date: N/A**

**Total Pages: 1**

**Subject: Crime Scene Management**

**Issued FCABC Board:**

#### **I. Purpose/Intent:**

This procedure will be used when law enforcement personnel advise EMS that they have responded to a crime scene or EMS determines that a crime scene may exist. Also, to ensure the protection of patient welfare as well as to ensure the ability to conduct an effective and thorough investigation.

#### **II. Response/on-scene situations.**

- A. Only those units assigned will respond to the call. Over-response tends to cause confusion at the crime scene and destruction of evidence.
- B. When approaching a potential crime scene that is being protected by law enforcement personnel, the paramedic/EMT may request entry into the area to determine the life status of the individual.
- C. If law enforcement personnel refuse access to the crime scene, do not become confrontational. Notify the EMS Agency Supervisor and complete an incident report as required.
- D. When personnel are allowed access into the scene, the minimum number of required EMS personnel should enter to minimize disturbance of the crime scene.
- E. Do not attempt resuscitation if the patient has no pulse, has no spontaneous respiration, and meets criteria outlined in General Medical Procedure 302, Death in the Field.
- F. If treatment and/or resuscitation are warranted, follow the appropriate protocol.
- G. When on scene:
  1. Keep your medical equipment close to the victim.
  2. Stay close to the body.
  3. Keep your hands out of any blood that has pooled.
  4. Do not wander around the scene.
  5. Minimize destruction of the patient's clothing. If the patient's clothing has a puncture, do not use the hole in the clothing to start cutting. Begin cutting at another part of the garment. Removed clothing should be left with the patient or turned over to law enforcement personnel.
  6. Do NOT go through the victim's personal effects, clean the body, or cover the body with a sheet or other material (if expired).
    - a. Do NOT move, take, or handle any object at the scene or litter the crime scene with medical equipment, dressings, bandages, or other supplies.
    - b. h. If resuscitation efforts are deemed necessary, transfer the victim from the scene to the vehicle expeditiously and stabilize the victim in the vehicle, when possible.
    - c. If the patient relates any information relating to the crime while in transit to the medical facility, inform law enforcement personnel at once.