## Mass Fatality Management Symposium Schedule

**March 4-5, 2013, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, Texas**

*Hosted By:*

**Houston Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Initiative**

**Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences**

**City of Houston Mayor’s Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security**

### Day One

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0800-0830</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Dr. Emily Kidd, MD TX Disaster Medical System</td>
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<tr>
<td>0830-0915</td>
<td>Managing Disaster Deaths</td>
<td>Dr. Edward Kilbane, MD NDMS FM Program Manager</td>
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<td>0915-1015</td>
<td>I-35 Bridge Collapse over the Mississippi River</td>
<td>Dr. Andrew Baker, MD Hennipen Co., MN Chief ME</td>
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<td>1015-1030</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>1030-1130</td>
<td>Family Assistance</td>
<td>Dr. Elias Kontanis, PhD NTSB Family Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>1130-1300</td>
<td>LUNCH (Provided On–Site)</td>
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### Breakout Sessions

#### 1300–1350

- **Victim Identification Program Overview**
  - Software applications supporting identification processes
  - Don Bloom
  - DMORT Family Assistance

- **Responder Mental Health**
  - Detecting behavioral and mental health issues and caring for MFI responders
  - Dr. Grady Bray, PhD
  - Disaster Psychologist

- **Victim Identification in Disaster Response Settings**
  - Identification processes, presumptive vs scientific means, ante- and postmortem records
  - Dr. Jason Wiersema, PhD
  - HCIFS Forensic Anthropologist

### 1400–1450

- **Managing Expectations and Public Messaging**
  - Communicating realistic messages to families, the public, and elected officials
  - CDR Chuck Smith
  - DMORT Region VI

- **Family Dynamics**
  - Providing for individuals suffering from the trauma of sudden and unexpected loss
  - Dr. Elias Kontanis, PhD
  - NTSB Family Assistance

- **FBI Approach to Victim Assistance**
  - Supporting victims of terrorism and other federal crimes
  - Kyle Scherrer
  - FBI Victim Assistance

### 1450–1510

- **BREAK**

### 1510–1600

- **Legal Aspects of Death**
  - Authority over decedents, death pronouncement, death certification, and disposition
  - Glen Van Slyke, JD
  - HCIFS Legal Counsel

- **Resources Over the Horizon**
  - Who has what, where it is located, and how to request it
  - CDR Amy Taylor
  - HHS/ASPR Region 6

- **Plan Integration and Collaborative Ground for Training and Exercise**
  - So many plans, so many requirements, so many agencies, so little time and money
  - Melanie Bartis
  - H-RCPI Program Manager

### Day Two

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| 0800-0915| Managing FAC Operations – The Joplin Model | Don Bloom
  - Review of disaster response and lessons learned
  - DMORT Family Assistance

| 0915-1030| FAC on the Receiving End                | Mike Quimby
  - Family member perspective of family assistance services and support
  - Disaster Family Member

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| 1050-1130| Fatality Management Panel Discussion    | Speaker Panel
  - Panel of speakers will address audience questions

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| 1300–1500| Temporary Morgue Tour (On–Site)        | David Boyer & SMEs
  - Learn from SMEs and walk through the HCIFS Temporary Morgue display
  - RCPI MFI Planner

| 1500–1530| Closing Remarks                        | Dr. Luis Sanchez, MD
  - HCIFS Chief Medical Examiner
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