

Mass Fatality Event Training Instructors

Tommy Ralph is a Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer for over 20 years and has experience with disasters dating back to 1996's ValuJet Flight 592 that crashed in the Florida Everglades. He serves as subject matter expert of civilian mass fatality training events for the U.S. Army and is a Mass Fatalities Response instructor for FEMA and the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

Russ Chisholm is a Retired Lieutenant with Miami Beach Fire Department and Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer with vast experience dealing with Mass Fatality events. He is a Florida Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team Member (DMORT) and Mass Fatalities Response instructor for FEMA and the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

Liam Smith is a Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer with over 20 years of experience. He has been a member of the Florida Emergency Mortuary Operations Response System (FEMORS) Disaster Portable Morgue Unit (DPMU) since 2003. He has been deployed to numerous mass fatality incidents such as PULSE Nightclub, Hurricane Michael, Surfside Condominium and Hurricane Ian.

Dr. Jason Byrd is a Professor and Associate Director of the William R. Maples Center for Forensic Medicine at the University of Florida. Dr. Byrd has been consulting on forensic casework for over 25 years. Dr. Byrd serves as a Medicolegal Death Investigator within the National Disaster Medical System, Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team, Region IV, and serves as Commander for the Florida Emergency Mortuary Operations Response System.