

Expert

Q & A

Addressing the Impact of Trauma When a Mass Violence Incident Occurs

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Featured Hosts:

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OVCTTAC
OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME Training and Technical Assistance Center

*The session is being recorded.
The audio for today's session will play through your
computer speakers.*

Technical Overview

- If you are experiencing any technical issues with the audio for this session, please let us know in the Chat box.
- As with all technology, we may experience a momentary lapse in the webinar session. In the event of a problem, please be patient and remain on the line. If the problem persists, please contact our technical specialist, Jason Adams, by sending him a private chat or by emailing him at jadams@ovcttac.org for technical assistance.
- Today's session will be recorded and made available on the OVC TTAC Expert Q&A Past Sessions tab.
- Please type your questions in the Chat box, and we will address as many as possible during this session.



Overview of Adobe Connect

The screenshot displays the Adobe Connect interface during a webinar. The main content area shows a presentation slide titled "Expert Q & A" with the subtitle "Applying for VOCA Formula Funds on the State Level: How to Navigate the New Final Rule, Increased VOCA Funding, and the State Administrating Agency Applications". The slide also includes logos for the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, OVC, and OVCTTAC, along with the date "February 15, 2017" and a note that the session is being recorded. The interface includes a top toolbar with "Draw" and "Stop Sharing" buttons, a right-hand sidebar with "Attendees (1)" (listing Danielle McLean), "Instructions" (audio and chat instructions), and "Chat (Everyone)". A bottom toolbar shows navigation controls and a "Sync" button. Below the main slide, a "Caption Viewer" window is open, displaying "Waiting for Captions".



Featured Hosts



Krista R. Flannigan, J.D.



Herman Millholland



Poll

Who are you?



How do you qualify the difference between an act of mass violence and terrorism?



Mass Violence

MASS VIOLENCE means an intentional violent criminal act that results in physical, emotional, or psychological harm to a sufficiently large number of people.



Terrorism

- Domestic Terrorism means activities that—
 - Involve acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any state, and
 - Appear to be intended
 - to intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
 - to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or
 - to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping; and occur primarily within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States.



Terrorism

- International Terrorism involves violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any state, or that would be a criminal violation if committed within the jurisdiction of the United States or of any state; and
 - Appear to be intended
 - to intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
 - to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or
 - to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination or kidnaping; and occur primarily outside the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, or transcend national boundaries in terms of the means by which they are accomplished, the persons they appear intended to intimidate or coerce, or the locale in which their perpetrators operate or seek asylum.



What is the physiological impact on victims who are part of mass violence incidents?



Physiology of Trauma

- Adrenaline rush/heart rate increase
- Elicits potential for extraordinary strength
- Survival response: potent, immediate
- General increase in muscle tension throughout the body
- Body thermostat = shivering, sweating, or normal
- Blood glucose and insulin imbalance
- Hunger and thirst response to deficiency
- Creates high potential for cardiovascular spasms
- Slowing of metabolism
- Struggle to return to stability, normal condition



Common Trauma Reactions and Responses



Physical

Emotional



Cognitive

Behavioral



Spiritual



What protocols are there around mass violence incidents?



www.ovc.gov/pubs/mvt-toolkit/

The screenshot shows the top portion of the OVC website. At the top left is the Department of Justice seal and the text "OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS". To the right are links for "Recursos en Español | FAQs" and a "Site Search" box with a "GO" button. Below this is the OVC logo and the text "OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME". A tagline "JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS • JUSTICE FOR ALL" is visible. The main banner features the title "Helping Victims of Mass Violence & Terrorism" in large yellow and green text, with the subtitle "PLANNING, RESPONSE, RECOVERY, AND RESOURCES" below it. A navigation bar contains five yellow buttons: "MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR", "ABOUT THE TOOLKIT", "PARTNERSHIPS & PLANNING", "RESPONSE", "RECOVERY", and "TOOLS". Below the navigation bar, the page title "About the Toolkit" is displayed in orange, followed by the date "August 2015 • NCJ 248647" and utility links for Home, Text Size, Print, and Send.

About the Toolkit

August 2015 • NCJ 248647

[Home](#) [Text Size](#) [Print](#) [Send](#)

- [Purpose of the Toolkit](#)
- [Who Should Use the Toolkit?](#)
- [How To Use the Toolkit](#)
- [Acknowledgments](#)

Purpose of the Toolkit

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)—in coordination with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Office for Victim Assistance and the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice for Victims of Overseas Terrorism—developed this toolkit to help communities prepare for and respond to victims of mass violence and terrorism in the most timely, effective, and compassionate manner possible.

Lessons learned from past incidents indicate that through advanced planning (which includes the establishment of victim assistance protocols), and by developing and maintaining multidisciplinary partnerships, communities are better prepared to engage a holistic approach to victim assistance to ensure that each victim's needs are met. However, this toolkit also contains materials that will aid communities' responses to victims even if they have not planned for an incident.



Victim Assistance Protocols

Protocol*	
Contact List Protocol	
Committee Meeting Protocol	
Practice Drills and Exercises Protocol	
Incident Command System Protocol	
Communications Protocol	
Family Assistance Center Protocol	
Victim Identification Protocol	
Notification Protocol	
Planning and Preparedness Grants and Emergency Funding Assistance Protocol	
Volunteer Management Protocol	
Donation Management Protocol (Funds, Goods, and Services)	
Criminal Justice System: Victim Support Protocol	
Community Resiliency Protocol	



What are the top three lessons we as state administrators can pass along to the advocacy field?



Role of State Administrators

- Participate in the planning process
- Promote the importance of a Victim Assistance Plan
- Ensure financial support for communities
- Educate subgrantees and partner agencies
- Serve as a partner in relationship development
- Share plan with non-planning involved agencies/local government agencies (i.e., cities, counties, villages)
- Share the toolkit widely



What is the best way to go about getting a "seat at the table" before an incident takes place?



Benefits of Partnerships & Planning

- Ensures that a comprehensive mass violence and terrorism emergency response plan is in place.
- Essential to community readiness when everyone is at the table.
- Includes victim assistance strategy, capacity for an effective response, and sufficient resources.



Poll

Do you know who handles emergency response in your state?



What role do community-based advocates have to assist?

How can community-based advocates reach out and best prepare for when something does occur?



Where might advocates offer their services to be contacted during traumatic events?



Is there such thing as "too many cooks in the kitchen" when an incident response occurs?



When do you think intervention is most effective?

Is there an optimal time for state compensation programs to offer services?



Phases of Response to Mass Tragedy

- PLANNING
- Immediate (“Acute”)
 - During incident
 - Immediate aftermath
 - Completion of rescue
 - Notification/Reunification Center
- Intermediate (“Transitional”)
 - Up to first anniversary
 - Completion of prosecution phase
 - Family Assistance Center/Community Resilience Center/Safe Haven
- Long-Term (“Recovery”)
 - Up to 18 months+
 - Appeals, parole hearings, penalty imposition
 - Memorial dedications and anniversaries
 - Community Resilience Center
- PLANNING



What are some of the things mental health professionals should avoid doing in the immediate hours/days after the incident?



Funding and Resources



Is there any emergency grant funding should an incident occur?



Do the states get a list of what individuals are awarded federal compensation?



Technical Assistance Opportunity

- Initial Consultation
- Meeting Facilitation
- Protocol Development
- Followup Consultation
- There is no cost for the assistance.

Email TTAC@ovcttac.org to request an application or to get more information.



Next Month

Topic: Organizational-Level Response and Planning for Staff Compassion Fatigue/Vicarious Trauma

Featured Hosts: Janet Fine and Lisa Tieszen

Date: August 23, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. e.t.



Thank You!

To learn about upcoming Expert Q&A sessions, please visit the OVC TTAC Expert Q&A page at www.ovcttac.gov/ExpertQA.

If your question was not addressed in this session, you can email your question to our hosts:

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