

Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

A-1 INTERACTION AT THE SCENE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL

ALS/ILS/BLS/FR

- Realize that death without medical attendance, accidental injury resulting in death, suicide and homicide must be investigated by law enforcement and the coroner. The body shall not be moved or any personal effects or appearance of the body altered in any way, until so directed by the coroner and the investigating police agency supervisor at the scene.
- In those cases associated with the injury or death of the patient, appropriate law enforcement officers must be notified and will assume responsibility for overall management of the scene, where in their opinion, there appears to have been foul play. The authority to accord all medical management will rest with the EMT at the scene who will provide, under the direction of Medical Control, all efforts to maintain life until otherwise directed by the coroner or the patient is transported. When resuscitation efforts are performed by EMS personnel, every effort will be made to assess the position of the patient, other objects in the room, and other historically pertinent information in order to aid law enforcement in future investigations.
- In certain endangering situations, law enforcement and/or fire fighters may advise that the patients be removed from the site of the incident or injury rapidly in order to insure the safety of the patient and the EMS personnel involved. In such instances, the direction of law enforcement officers will be relayed to Medical Control for information purposes, after which, law enforcement officer's directions will be followed.
- If EMS feels the patient does require immediate treatment, they may, after clearing the immediate area, stop and initiate appropriate care in their vehicle as ordered by Medical Control.