



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
2300 E STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20372-5300

IN REPLY REFER TO

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6 Jul 09

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE EAST
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE WEST
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE SUPPORT COMMAND

Subj: POLICY FOR PRESERVATION OF HUMAN REMAINS TRAINING

Ref: (a) National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Section 712 and FY 2007 Section 56.

1. Per reference (a), all deploying military health care professionals (i.e., physician, nurse, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, corpsman or other medical personnel providing direct patient care), must complete "Preservation of Human Remains" training prior to deployment. Regional Commanders will ensure training is documented in the Defense Medical Human Resources System internet prior to deployment and must include the following in its content:

a. Best practices and procedures for the preservation of remains for members of the Armed Forces after death. Must incorporate the various conditions encountered in theater and include the objective of returning the remains to family members in the best possible condition.

b. Practical case study scenarios of Armed Forces experiences in a variety of climatic conditions.

2. Navy Medicine provides "Preservation of Remains" training to accommodate individual learning style and preference. Training is offered at the Naval Expeditionary Medical Training Institute and the Navy Patient Administration Course. Additionally, beginning 19 June 2009, training will be offered on Navy e-Learning via Navy Knowledge Online.

3. Points of contacts are Shelia Hill (BUMED Policy) at (202) 762-3397 and HMC Ronald Rivenburgh (Navy Mortuary Affairs Curriculum Content) at (901) 874-6682.

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