# Unit 2. Incident Management

# Unit Objectives

- **Describe how ICS improves incident management.**
- **Describe how ICS provides organization to mass fatalities incident management.**

# Lessons Learned From Mass Fatalities Incidents

**Recovery and Inventory:**

- **Who's job is it to do all those tasks?**

- **Which tasks take priority over the others?**

- **Where do I go to get the "stuff" I need to do those tasks?**

- **What about all the other "things" that are going on?**

**Using ICS to manage recovery and processing will help answer all of these questions!**

# Lessons Learned and ICS

So what do these lessons learned have to do with ICS?

# The Bottom Line

- It's not "Who's in charge."

- It's "Who's responsible for what"
                     and
  "Who needs to talk to whom."

# That said…

- **All mass fatalities incidents start and end at the local level, unless there is a State system.**

- **You need firm understanding of local/State laws regarding mass fatalities, including:**

  - **Who has "management" responsibility to determine the cause and manner of death under law.**

  - **Who has "management" responsibility for collection, processing, and release of remains.**

# NYS County Law:  Article 17 A

**Coroner/Coroner Physician/Medical Examiner**

- **Duties:  "Jurisdiction and authority to investigate the death of every person dying within his county, or whose body is found within the county, which is or appears to be a:**
  - **Violent death:  Criminal violence, suicide, or casualty**
  - **Death caused by unlawful act or criminal neglect**
  - **Death in a suspicious, unusual, unexplained manner**
  - **Death caused by suspected criminal abortion**
  - **Death unattended by a physician**

# Concurrent Investigative Activities

**Coroner/JP/ME:**

- **Scene documentation**
- **Evidence identification**
- **Personal effects & evidence recovery**
- **Recovery of remains**
- **Determination of cause and manner of death**
- **Identification of remains**
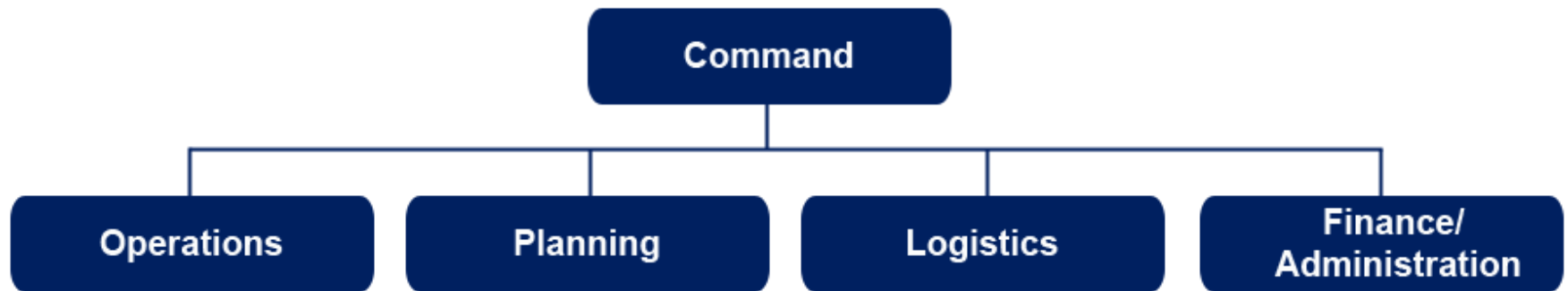- **Sufficient documentation for court**

**Law Enforcement:**

- **Scene documentation**
- **Evidence identification**
- **Personal effects & evidence recovery**
- **Recovery of remains**
- **Criminal culpability**
- **Identification of the suspects**
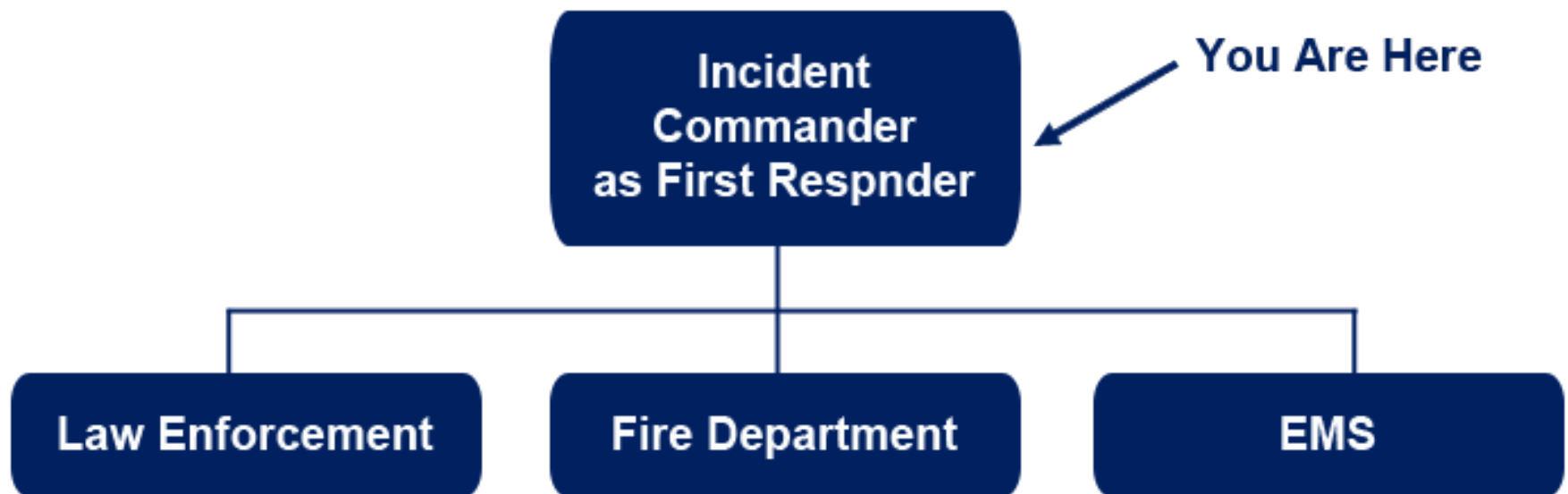- **Sufficient documentation for court**

# The ICS Organization
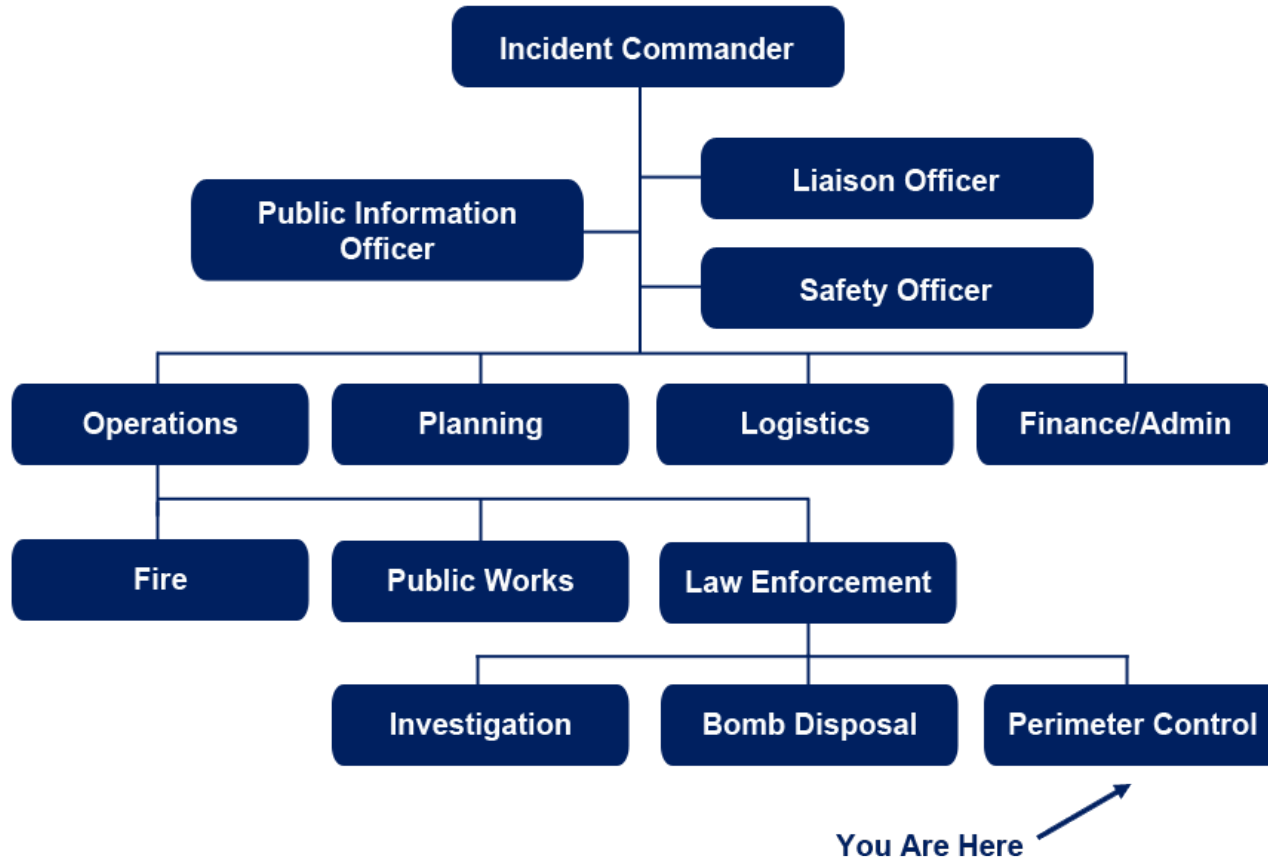
# Modular Organization – Responder Role in ICS



After First Arriving at Scene

Incident Commander as First Respnder

You Are Here

Law Enforcement

Fire Department

EMS

# Modular Organization Responder Role in ICS



24 Hours Into Incident

Incident Commander
Liaison Officer
Public Information Officer
Safety Officer
Operations
Planning
Logistics
Finance/Admin
Fire
Public Works
Law Enforcement
Investigation
Bomb Disposal
Perimeter Control

You Are Here

# Mass Fatalities Branch Role in ICS
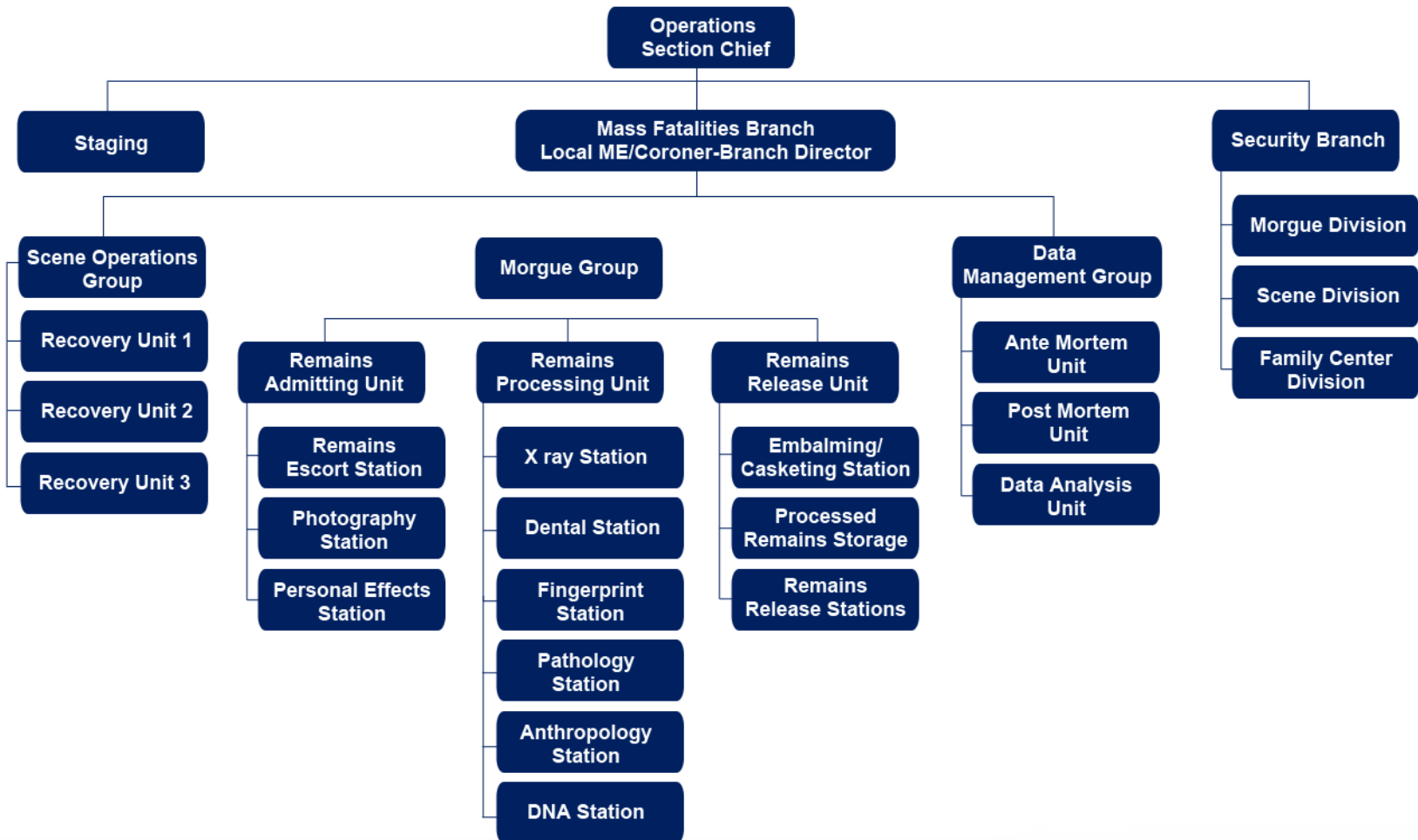
# No "Freelancing"

"Freelancing" compromises accountability, safety, efficiency, effectiveness, and possibly the criminal investigation

# Accountability/Security:  ID Badges

# Facilities for Mass Fatalities Operations

- **Morgue and related facilities**

- **Family Assistance Center (FAC)**

**More to come on these later in this course…**

# Resource Considerations

- **Mutual aid (local-county-State)**
- **Funeral directors associations**
- **Law enforcement**
- **Fire/EMS**
- **Emergency management (county/State)**
- **State response teams**
- **Private-sector**
- **Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)**

# DMORT Supports Coroner/ME

- **Work in conjunction with local authorities**
- **Augment existing local resources**
- **Make specialized personnel available**
- **Supply mobile morgue facility**
- **Provide computer-based tools**
- **Assist with the family assistance center support**

**More to follow in this course on DMORTs…**

# Unit Summary

- ICS can be used effectively to manage a mass fatalities incident efficiently.

- All sources should be considered as potential suppliers for specialized resource needs.

- DMORTs can assist any size jurisdiction whenever requested.  There is no incident size requirement for DMORT assistance.

Effective preincident planning can also enhance mass fatalities incident operations, which is what we will discuss in Unit 3.