

# DISASTER MORTUARY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (DMERT) FACT SHEET

The Minnesota Department of Health utilizes the Disaster Mortuary Emergency Response Team (DMERT) as part of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Section's plan to provide mortuary services and victim identification during mass fatality incidents.

DMERT is comprised of private citizens, each with a particular field of expertise, who are activated in the event of a mass fatality incident. DMERT personnel are required to maintain appropriate certifications and licensure within their discipline.

Personnel are not compensated for their duties; rather they volunteer their time and expertise to assist local communities in a time of need. DMERT is requested by County Emergency Management and works under the direction of local authorities to provide technical assistance and personnel to identify and return deceased victims to their families.

DMERT specialties include Dental Assistants, Forensic Anthropologists, Forensic Odontologists, Forensic Pathologists, Radiologists, Mental Health Practitioners, Administrative Support, Coroners, Fingerprint and/or DNA Specialists, Funeral Directors, Information Technology, Medicolegal Investigators, Radiologic Technologists and Security/Safety



To request activation of the DMERT, contact the Minnesota Duty Officer at  
651-649-5451 (metro)  
1-800-422-0798 (outstate)

The Disaster Portable Morgue Unit (DPMU) may be requested simultaneously. Once requested, representatives from DMERT and the DPMU will contact you about potential resources needed.

If interested in joining this volunteer team, create a profile on [MN Responds](#) and request to Join DMERT (found under Statewide Units).

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