

12.310 WASTE AND MEDICAL DEBRIS USED AT CRIME SCENES AND TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Reference:

Cincinnati Fire Department Operations Manual 204.01 T
Cincinnati Health Department Housing Regulation 00053-9A
Standards Manual - 61.2.3, 61.3.2

Purpose:

Define the responsibilities of Police and Fire Department personnel for removing waste, medical debris, blood, and body fluids at crime scenes and traffic accidents, and from public places such as sidewalks and streets.

Procedure:

- A. Police Department personnel are responsible for removing any nonbiohazardous items at a crime scene or traffic accident.
 - 1. Remove and properly dispose of rubber gloves, crime scene tape, flash bulbs, discarded film containers/boxes, etc., before securing the scene.
- B. Fire Department personnel are responsible for removing any medical debris, blood, and body fluids from a crime scene, traffic accident, or in public places such as sidewalks and streets, and decontaminating the area.
 - 1. The police officer-in-charge (OIC) may request Fire Department personnel to leave the crime/accident scene intact during a prolonged investigation of the crime/accident scene.
 - a. The police on-scene OIC will contact the fire on-scene OIC and make necessary arrangements for calling Fire Department personnel back to the scene to remove medical debris, blood, or body fluids.
 - 1) A police officer will remain on the scene until Fire Department personnel completely remove the medical debris, blood, or body fluids.
- C. Removal of Waste, Blood, and Body Fluids From Locations Other Than Public Places:
 - 1. Cincinnati Health Department regulations state the owner or landlord of a residence is responsible for removal of such waste and body fluids.
 - a. Owners or landlords can be advised to clean the body fluids with a solution of 10 percent bleach and water, and also use universal precautions of wearing a mask and apron.

- b. Health Department Hot Line 564-1780 is manned 24 hours a day to answer questions.