



INTERVIEWING FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE

Objectives

- Learn difference between interview and interrogation
- Learn different types of interviews
- What information should be obtained
- Learn the basics of interviewing

Interview

- ① A structured non-accusatory process to obtain useful information from someone who may or may not have knowledge of events or circumstances of an incident.
- ① Specific techniques may be used to aid recall or determine the involvement of the interviewee.
- ① The interviewee may or may not have knowledge of the incident.

Interview Cont.

- In some instances there will come a point in an interview where the interviewee may become a suspect.
- The interview will then become an interrogation.

Interrogation

- ⦿ A structured accusatory process during which a suspect in an incident is confronted in a confident manner.
- ⦿ The suspect is then convinced that the best decision would be to admit responsibility.
- ⦿ The techniques used are designed to apply pressure to or intentionally trip up the suspect.
- ⦿ An interrogation will not be conducted by the volunteer searcher.
- ⦿ Interrogations will only be conducted by Deputies or Officers.

Types of interviews

- Starts with the initial 911 call to dispatch.
- Missing Person Report
- Investigative Interview
- Hasty Search Interview
- Field Interview
- Door to door interviews
- Post Search (Debriefing) Interview
- Telephone Interviews

What We'll Cover

- ① Hasty Search Interview
- ① Field Interview
- ① Door to door interviews
- ① Post Search (Debriefing) Interview

Hasty Search Interview

- Conducted by the Hasty Team not Deputy as R/P will often be apt to give more information to volunteer than a Deputy
- More in depth than Missing Person Report Form
- Information is used to further search effort

Hasty Search Interview

Interview will cover

- Lost Person Data
 - Name, address, phone#, etc
- Physical Description
- Health/General Condition
- Clothing
- Last Seen Info
- Outdoor Experience
- Habits/Personality

Hasty Search Interview



NCSSAR MISSING/LOST PERSON FIELD INFORMATION

Incident Title: _____ Incident #: _____ Date & Time: _____ Person Taking Info: _____

RP Name: _____ RP Home phone: _____ RP Cell phone: _____

LOST PERSON DATA

Name: _____ Sex: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____ Nicknames: _____

Home Address: _____ Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Height: _____ Weight: _____ Build: _____ Race: _____ Complexion: _____ Hair Color: _____

Hair Length: _____ Eye Color: _____ Circle Appropriate Features: beard / mustache / sideburns

Overall appearance: _____ Distinguishing marks (scars, tattoos, piercings, etc): _____

Photo Available: Y / N Where: _____ Age taken: _____ Comments: _____

HEALTH / GENERAL CONDITION

Overall Health: _____ Physical Condition: _____ Known Medical Problems: _____

Handicaps / Limitations: _____ Known Psychological Problems: _____ Medications: _____

Comments: _____

CLOTHING (include brand, style, color, size if available)

Head wear: _____ Glasses: _____ Shirt/ Sweater: _____ Pants: _____

Outer Wear: _____ Inner Wear: _____ Gloves: _____ Extra Clothing / Rain Wear: _____

Jewelry: _____ Footwear: _____ Sole Type: _____

Scent Article: Y N Item(s): _____ Secured: Y N Location: _____

LAST SEEN

Where: _____ When: _____ By whom: _____ PLS(UTM): _____ Last seen going which way: _____

Reason for leaving: _____ Weather at time last seen: _____ Weather since: _____

Subject complaining? (tired, hot/cold, sick, angry, etc.): _____ Comments: _____

OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

Familiarity with the area: _____ How Recently: _____ Ever lost before? _____

Outdoor Experience: _____ Where/When: _____ Stays on trails or X-Country: _____

Hiking Speed: _____ Equipment: _____ Water/Food: _____ Comments: _____

HABITS / PERSONALITY

Smoke: Y N How often: _____ What / Brand: _____ Alcohol: Y N How often: _____ What / Brand: _____

Drugs: Y N How often: _____ Types: _____ Other (gum / candy, etc): _____

Hobbies: _____ Personality (outgoing / quiet / gregarious / loner, etc.): _____

Afraid of dogs? Y N Afraid of dark? Y N Comments: _____

Field Interview

- Most likely to be conducted by the average ground searcher
- Short interviews with civilians you come into contact with on the trail
- Ask basic questions like: Have you seen this person? How long have you been in area? Where have you been? etc.
- Get basic contact / ID information
- Document and give to IC

Door to Door

- ⦿ Usually in urban/neighborhood searches
- ⦿ Can gain useful information on habits of M/P
- ⦿ Resource intensive
- ⦿ Can gain valuable info to help answer the questions: Did the subject pass this way? In what direction?
- ⦿ Usually followed by search of yards
- ⦿ Be aware of surroundings-Not everyone is friendly!
- ⦿ Use safety when knocking on doors-stand to the side
- ⦿ Watch for hostile dogs
- ⦿ Do not go into house
- ⦿ If uncooperative-leave give address to IC, Deputy will respond

Post Search (Debriefing)

- Conducted with the subject following search.
- Conducted to find out what happened and what subject did such as survival measures they resorted to.
- Some subjects may be reluctant to submit to interview for a variety of reasons.

Interviewing Basics

- ⦿ If possible conduct as a team of two
- ⦿ One is interviewer, the other is scribe
- ⦿ Scribe can ask questions-not primary interviewer
- ⦿ Build rapport with subject prior to beginning actual questions. It helps put subject at ease.
- ⦿ Be a good listener!
- ⦿ Don't interrupt the subject
- ⦿ Stay calm
- ⦿ Be non-threatening
- ⦿ Do not be intimidating
- ⦿ Watch tone of voice or word choice
- ⦿ Be professional, respectful and polite
- ⦿ Be reassuring

Interviewing Basics cont.

- ⦿ While being reassuring, do not give false hope
- ⦿ Don't ask leading questions especially if you already have info from another source that the info is false such as "Is he a good boy?" When you know from teachers that he has behavioral problems.
- ⦿ Be aware some questions may be sensitive
- ⦿ Don't rush questions
- ⦿ Project positive urgency. The interview is being conducted to help find the M/P.
- ⦿ Be honest. Don't lie to subject about chances of finding M/P.
- ⦿ Taylor interview to situation.
- ⦿ Try to conduct interview in relaxed setting away from distractions (cops, family, friends etc).
- ⦿ Watch body language. It may tell you something!

Interviewing Basics Cont.

- Document! Document! Document!

Questions?