



CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS AT CRIME SCENES

- *TOUCHING –VIEWING THE BODY**
- *EVIDENCE COLLECTION**
- *CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND CEREMONIES
AT THE CRIME SCENE**
- *RURAL AREAS, SCANNER LAND**
- *FAMILIES/FRIENDS AT CRIME SCENES**
- *WORKING THE CRIME SCENE WITH
CULTURAL RESPECT**



1.Reflective Surfaces

2.How the body is treated.

**3.Personal belongings or clothing of
deceased.**

**4. Body parts removed from the
deceased.**

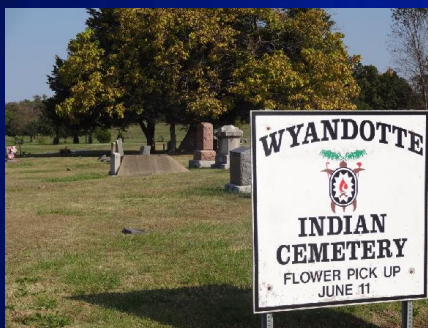
AUTOPSY ISSUES


When a death is investigated as a criminal act, the standard progression of sequential cultural and spiritual events in Native communities is delayed by the necessity of an autopsy which is viewed as a post-mortem invasion of a loved one's body and certain traditional beliefs are that when a person's body is marked and mutilated by an autopsy, that is how the deceased enters the Spirit World.

OFFICERS, ADVOCATES OR PROSECUTORS MIGHT OFFER TO BE PRESENT AT THE AUTOPSY ON BEHALF OF THE FAMILY

BURIAL DELAYS

Many tribal cultures have a certain time frame between death and burial and also have spiritual beliefs about the body of the deceased.





In order to develop cultural responses to violent crime and violent death in Indian Country we must not only understand the American Indian and Alaska Native cultures but also understand that each tribal community is different. Native communities are very distinct from one another, yet they share a common relationship with the local, state and federal government as they navigate a modern world of cultural diversity.



Strengthening Efforts

- *Developing collaborative partnerships
- *Learning about the tribal culture
- *Meeting with tribal healers
- *Knowledge of Indian Country Criminal Jurisdiction