



# INTERVIEWING FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE

# Objectives

- ① Learn difference between interview and interrogation
- ① Learn different types of interviews
- ① What information should be obtained
- ① 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.

# 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?