

emergency scenes. As a Helper you should continually ask for permission before doing anything on an emergency scene, and you should be very diplomatic when advocating for a survivor.

4. **Crime Scenes**

If a death is unexpected, suspicious or the responders suspect a crime has been committed the scene will be secured. Securing the scene may mean that the survivor is not permitted into their home; or that a body is left uncovered because it is considered "evidence"; or that a survivor is prohibited from touching the body or saying goodbye; or that the survivor is questioned in depth by the police.

If possible try to get an emergency responder to explain their procedures and why the procedures are necessary to the survivor.

5. **Follow up**

After a tragic event has occurred and in the days and weeks following the event the survivor may still have questions about "*what happened*" and "*why did they do what they did?*"

As a helper you should encourage the survivor to call or to meet with the emergency responders involved. When they are not "in the heat of battle", they are usually very receptive to answering questions and to explaining what they did. Having answers to unanswered questions may bring the survivor a measure of peace and allow him to continue with the healing process.