The Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act

- Date Enacted
- Purpose
- Definitions
- Exclusions
Discovery of Unmarked Burial Sites – Protocol to be Followed

• Cease any Further Disturbance to Site
• Notify Local Law Enforcement Agency
• Notify the LA Division of Archaeology
• Notify the Parish Coroner
Disposition of Unmarked Burial Sites

• Every reasonable effort is to be made to restore the burial site and to avoid further disturbance pending a determination on the disposition of the remains.
• Every reasonable effort is to be made to identify and locate direct lineal descendants.
• If the remains can be shown to have an ethnic affinity with a living native American tribe, the tribe is to be notified of the discovery.
• If the remains have to be removed, a permit is required for the disinterment, re-interment, or scientific study of the remains, as appropriate.
Unmarked Burial Sites Permits

- Parties to Agreement
- Timeframe
- Research Design for Scientific Study of Remains
- Documentation Requirements
- Re-interment of Remains
Recent Case Study

- U.S. Highway 165 Widening
- Archaeological Site 16OU2
- CRM Investigations
- Unmarked Human Burials Discovery
- Issuance of Permit for Disinterment
- Recovery Operations
Figure 3: Sketch map showing the locations of the 18 Unmarked Burials Exposed During SURA Investigations at 16OU2.
Summary

• The Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act is an Important Piece of Legislation

• Future Directions