

# THE SOUTH FLORIDA BUSINESS JOURNAL

## It's a dirty job and they'll do it

**D**econ Environmental & Engineering, an 18-year old, Fort Lauderdale-based business, is finding that mayhem means business. Already a \$10 million-plus toxic clean-up business with 100 permanent employees - and up to 250 on call - it now offers crime/trauma scene site cleanup under OSHA toxic cleanup and disposal regulations.

"We are a certified cleaner and transporter of toxic cleanup debris," said Tami Muller, part of the brother-sister owner team at Decon.

The company deals with location cleanup and decontamination of crime, trauma, suicide and accident scenes, and gross filth in general.

"Then we turn it over to certified toxic disposal companies," she said.

The cost for a typical crime scene cleanup can range from \$2,000 to \$10,000, depending on the amount of carnage involved, with speed, sensitivity and thoroughness the driving forces for Decon. One or two crews made up of three or four toxic-trained specialists in protective gear attend each cleanup.

Efficient cleanup minimizes liability to property owners, for hazards such as HIV, hepatitis and other blood-related pathogens.

While crime scene cleanup is only a small part of the business, it is expected to grow over time.

"Crime is not going away," Muller said.

- Ed Duggan



Decon toxic trained specialists

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**Offices:** Sanford, Tampa and Fort Lauderdale; Jamaica, N.Y.; Chester, VA.

**Line of Business:** Mold remediation, water damage restoration, building dehumidification, emergency response, crime and trauma scene decontamination, construction services, asbestos and lead abatement, soil remediation and ice blasting.

**Clients:** Property and facility managers, developers, schools, government agencies, hospitals, hospitality, retail, banks and residential properties.

**Year Established:** 1987

**Website:** [www.decon.com](http://www.decon.com)

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Tami Muller