

MEDICAL EXAMINER SPECIALIST

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

Work in this class involves a variety of staff support activities to the Pathologists in the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Department of Human Resources.

Employee performs investigations of death scenes to supplement autopsy reports regarding cause and manner of death. Evidence collected frequently has bearing upon referral to an appropriate law enforcement agency for criminal investigation by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Duties also involve supervision and use of photographic and darkroom equipment to document autopsy and investigative findings. Work is performed under the general supervision of the State Medical Examiner and evaluated through the quality of investigative findings.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES PERFORMED

Coordinates investigative efforts of the Chief Medical Examiner's Office with law enforcement agencies. Investigates scenes of death for the OCME to determine circumstances of cause and manner of death. Interviews witnesses, law enforcement officers, as necessary to obtain needed information.

Collects evidence at investigation scene, stores, preserves, packages, and labels evidence to preserve the chain of evidence, and ensures that evidence is turned over to the proper law enforcement authorities; presents court testimony when involved in the evidence chain of a criminal case.

Provides information to law enforcement officials concerning the Medical Examiner's Office investigation.

Serves as information source and provides assistance to pathologists in the area of identification techniques, fingerprinting, firearms, ballistics, crime photography, and law enforcement procedures.

Develops and presents special programs in the field of forensic pathology for medical examiners, law enforcement personnel, and medical and dental students.

Supervises the dark room staff in developing color and black and white prints and slides; enlarges photographs to scale.

Performs related duties as required.

RECRUITMENT STANDARDS

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities

Considerable knowledge of investigative and identification procedures and techniques.

Considerable knowledge of forensic pathology and the use and operation of photographic and darkroom equipment.

Working knowledge of the nature and extent of identifying information required by law enforcement agents conducting criminal investigations.

Some knowledge of firearms, ballistics, and law enforcement procedures.

Skill in the making and verification of fingerprints and palm prints.

Ability to collect, document, and report information supportive to a death scene inquiry by the OCME.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with the Medical Examiner staff, law enforcement agencies, and the public.

Minimum Education and Experience

Graduation from an accredited college or university preferably with a degree in the field of police science and two years of investigative experience in the field of forensic pathology; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.