

DEPUTY CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

This is specialized professional medical work providing administrative and pathological assistance to the Chief Medical Examiner. Work involves directing the activities of all professional and technical personnel engaged in determining the cause and manner of death in cases of a violent, sudden, or otherwise suspicious nature. The incumbent acts as Head of the Pathology Branch in the Chief Medical Examiner's office and assumes the duties of the Chief Medical Examiner in his/her absence. Employee supervises assigned program areas and staff. Work requires performing autopsies, medicolegal interpretations of findings, and testifying in court on autopsy results. Assignments are analytical in nature and are carried out in accordance with departmental management and policy direction. Employee assists the Chief Medical Examiner in policy information, management and guidance of the statewide medical examiner system, and in research relative to the operation of the system. Work is performed independently but is subject to review by the Chief Medical Examiner.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES PERFORMED

Performs autopsies on complex cases.

Determines and diagnoses a multitude of death-causing factors of a biological, chemical, occupational, or environmental nature.

Employee acts as Chief Medical Examiner in the Chief's absence.

Trains medical examiners, reviews reports for accuracy and completeness, and provides technical advice and assistance to staff.

Researches and determines appropriate pathological, chemical process, or similar method to aid in the determination of the cause and manner of death.

Maintains contact with a variety of professional and/or lay groups for purposes of collecting data, research, teaching, or interpretations of findings.

Communicates with decedent's family to answer questions and explain findings.

Performs related duties as required.

RECRUITMENT STANDARDSKnowledge, Skills and Abilities

Extensive knowledge of the principles, practices, literature, and developments in the fields of pathological anatomy and forensic pathology.

Thorough knowledge of the diversified specialized equipment, instruments, and materials required in all phases of pathology.

Considerable knowledge of microscopy, toxicology, ballistics, and investigative techniques as they relate to forensic medicine.

General knowledge of practices in laboratory investigation.

Considerable knowledge of the principles and practices of general medicine and surgery.

Ability to communicate with empathy, tact, and diplomacy.

Work requires continuous, non-routine analytical decisions and interpretations.

Thorough knowledge of procedures involved in detecting, analyzing, evaluating, and interpreting manifestations and symptoms of physical conditions from pathologic examinations.

Ability to supervise employees engaged in various tasks relating to determination of cause and manner of death.

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Minimum Education and Experience Requirements

Licensed to practice medicine in the state of North Carolina, board certified in Anatomic and Forensic Pathology by the American Board of Pathology and two years of experience in forensic medicine; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Note

This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per the Americans with Disabilities Act. Examples of work are primarily essential functions of the majority of positions in this class, but may not be applicable to all positions.