

Presentation & Event Program



FAME

Florida Association of Medical Examiners

2025

51st Annual Educational Conference

Sept. 10th - 12th, 2025

**Destin-Fort Walton Beach Convention Center
Fort Walton Beach, Florida**

Hosted by:



Escambia Santa Rosa Okaloosa Walton

District 1 MEDICAL EXAMINER

*Deanna A. Oleske, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner*

In Collaboration with:

**Medical Examiner Commission
Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement**

**Registration Coming Soon at
www.thefameonline.org**

08:30-10:00 am FAME Business Meeting (*non-CME*)

09:30-10:00 am Welcome and Opening Remarks

10:15-12:00 pm Morning Session I: Scene Investigation

- Deadly Products and Saving Lives: Medicolegal Death Investigations of the Scene and Reporting to the Consumer Product and Safety Commission
Presenter: Chrissy Nieten, ABMDI-F, Chief Investigator, D1MEO, FL
- Practical Scene Photography: Troubleshooting Difficult Situations
Presenter: Kelly Root, BFA, Forensic Photographer, D1MEO, Pensacola, FL
- Traffic Homicide Investigations by FHP – Interesting Cases (not the usual MBFI/A)
Presenter: THI Constance Knowles, Florida Highway Patrol, Troop A, Pensacola, FL

12:00-01:00 pm LUNCH (*non-CME*)

01:00-02:30 pm Afternoon Session I: Identification / Cold Cases

- Finding Suzanne: Autopsy, Investigation, Identification and the Prosecution of Keith Jespersen (the Happy Face Serial Killer)
Presenters: Deanna A. Oleske, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, D1MEO, Pensacola, FL; Investigator Kelly Henderson, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office; Pamela (Jarman) Rowell, BSC, MSC, Othram

02:30-02:45 pm BREAK (*non-CME*)

02:45-03:15 pm Afternoon Session II: Identification / Cold Cases

- Naming the Nameless: Unidentified Bodies Discovered in the Panhandle
Presenter: Captain(Ret.) Koren G. Daniels, M.S., Bay County Sheriff's Office, Teaching Faculty, Florida State University, Panama City

03:30-05:00 pm FAME Breakout Session (members only)

05:00-07:00 pm RECEPTION (*non-CME*)

- "Open Mic/Mike" Night
- Explore the new FDLE Crime Scene Truck
- Karaoke

Thursday, Sept. 11th

07:00-8:00 am Breakfast (*non-CME*)

08:00-09:30 am Morning Session I: Partners Who Use Death Investigation Data-Role of the MEO

- Florida's Maternal Mortality Review Committee
Presenter: Dr. Cole Graves, M.D., Chair of Florida's Maternal Mortality Review Committee, Orlando, FL
- Role of an MEO Dedicated Epidemiologist: The D1MEO and Okaloosa, DOH Collaborative
Presenter: Mandy Bricker, MPH, Okaloosa Department of Health and D1MEO

- 09:30-10:00 am** • CDR/CFRP/the SUID and SDY Case Registry: Funding and Updates
Presenter: Abby Collier, Director at National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention at the Michigan Public Health Institute
- 10:00-10:15 am** BREAK (*non-CME*)
- 10:15-12:00 pm** Morning Session II: Pathology – Technology and Interesting Cases
- Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a Scribe for Autopsy Reports: Enhancing Efficiency While Maintaining Accuracy – Work Smarter, Not Harder
Presenter: Iana Lesnikova, MD, PhD, Associate Medical Examiner, District 23 Medical Examiner's Office, St. Augustine, FL
 - What Comes First? Hypoxia Vs. Hypothermia in Airplane Stowaway Deaths
Presenter: Rebecca MacDougall, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, District 17 Medical Examiner's Office, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- 12:00-1:30 pm** LUNCH (*non-CME*)
- 01:30-03:00 pm** Afternoon Session I: Pathology – Historical Impacts on Current Practice
- Cognitive Bias in Forensic Pathology: Types, Error, and Mitigation
Presenter: Paul Uribe, M.D., Deputy Medical Examiner, Fort Bend County. Medical Examiner's Office, Rosenberg, TX
 - Excited Delirium: Cocaine Sex Deaths of Miami in the 1980's
Presenter: Lorraine Lopez, M.D., Associate Medical Examiner, D1MEO, Pensacola, FL
- 03:00-3:30 pm** BREAK (*non-CME*)
- 03:30-04:45 pm** Afternoon Session II: Mass Disaster and Victim Identification
- The Collapse of Surfside: A Multifaceted Approach to Disaster Victim Identification
Presenters: Heather Walsh-Haney, Ph.D., Gulf Coast University and Katherine Kenerson, M.D., Associate Medical Examiner, District 11 Medical Examiner's Office, Miami, FL
- 05:00-07:30 pm** Evening Activity, Buffet and Cocktails (*non-CME*)
- FORENSIC TRIVIA
Hosted by James Fulcher, M.D., District 7 Medical Examiner's Office

Friday, Sept. 12th

- 07:00-08:00 am** Breakfast (*non-CME*)
- 08:00-10:00 am** Morning Session I: Expert Consultants in Forensic Pathology
- Neuropathology: Practical Approach to Pediatric Head Trauma Cases
Presenter: Glenn Sandberg, M.D., Neuropathologist at Forensic Neuropathology Consultants, LLC, Spearfish, SD

- Cardiovascular Pathology: Cardiomyopathies and Demystifying the Conduction System
Presenter: Emily Duncanson, M.D., Cardiovascular and Forensic Pathologist at Jesse E. Edwards Registry of Cardiovascular Disease, St. Paul, MN
- Forensic Radiology: Approach to Plain Films, More Than Just Trauma and Retained Bullets
Presenter: Jamie Elifritz, M.D., Radiologist, Partner and Chief Medical Officer at Forensic Radiology Group, Destin, FL

10:00-10:15 am BREAK (*non-CME*)

10:15-12:00 pm Morning Session II: Pathology - You Don't Know What You Don't Know

- Second Autopsies and Exhumations – How to Approach Them, Expectations, and What Can Be Gained
Presenter: Jay Radtke, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, District 14, Panama City, FL
- SCUBA Diver Fatalities in the Panhandle
Presenter: Michael Pagacz, M.D., Associate Medical Examiner, D1MEO, Pensacola, FL and Diver Alert Network

12:00-01:30 pm LUNCH (*non-CME*) – with speaker Joe Zarzaur

01:30-03:00 pm Afternoon Session I: Becoming a Better Expert Witness

- Civil Medical Investigation of Wrongful Deaths
Presenter: Evan P. Malone, M.D.
- Asserting your Knowledge as an Expert Witness and Medical Doctor in Criminal Testimony: Because Lawyers Always Think They Are So Smart
Presenter: Michelle Sandler, J.D., Assistant State Attorney, Circuit 1, Shalimar, FL

03:00-03:15 pm BREAK (*non-CME*)

03:15-05:45 pm Afternoon Session II: Expert Witness – Special Topics

- Expert Testimony in Child Abuse Cases: Insights from a Pediatric Forensic Pathologist
Presenter: Michelle DiMarco, M.D., Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta, GA
- Training Tomorrow's Expert Witnesses: Inside GBI's Innovative Legal Curriculum for Forensic Pathology Fellows
Presenters: Rachel Geller, M.D. Associate Medical Examiner, and Forensic Pathology Fellowship Program Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta, GA; Aristides Dimitrios Passas, JD – Managing Attorney, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta, GA

05:45-07:00 pm Closing Remarks

07:00-09:00 pm Luau Closing Reception and Awards (*non-CME*)