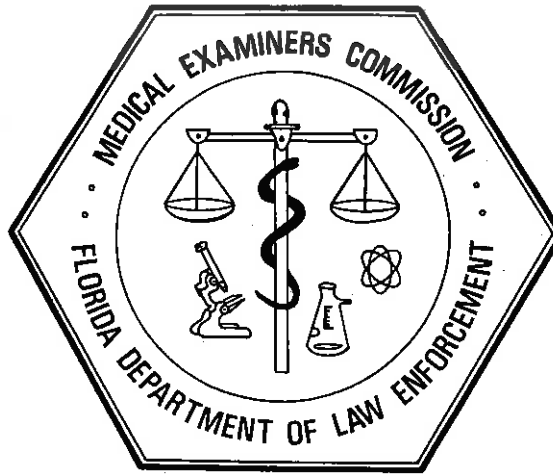


FDLE
Florida Department
of Law Enforcement



Medical Examiners Commission Meeting

February 18, 2014

Bruce A. Hyma, M.D. • Sheriff Rick Beseler • Angela B. Corey, J.D. • Kenneth T. Jones
Robert J. Krauss, J.D. • James S. Purdy, J.D. • Robin Giddens Sheppard, L.F.D.
Stephen J. Nelson, M.A., M.D. • Carol Whitmore

MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION

Bruce A. Hyma, M.D.

Chairman

District 11 Medical Examiner
Number One on Bob Hope Road
Miami, Florida 33136-1133
(305) 545-2425

FAX: (305) 545-2412

email: bahyma@miamidade.gov

Second Term: 8/18/2011-7/1/2015

Stephen J. Nelson, M.A., M.D.

District 10 Medical Examiner
1021 Jim Keene Boulevard
Winter Haven, Florida 33880
(863) 298-4600

FAX: (863) 298-5264

email: StephenNelson@polk-county.net

First Term: 2/13/2014-7/1/2016

Honorable Rick Beseler

Sheriff, Clay County
Post Office Box 548
Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043
(904)-213-6001

FAX: (904) 284-0710

email: sheriffbeseler@claysheriff.com

First Term: 8/15/2013-7/1/2017

Robin Giddens Sheppard, L.F.D.

Vice President/Funeral Director
Hardage-Giddens Funeral Homes
729 Edgewood Avenue South
Jacksonville, Florida 32205
(904) 388-2711

FAX: (904) 388-4427

email: robin.sheppard@dignitymemorial.com

First Term: 8/15/2013-7/1/2016

Kenneth T. Jones

Deputy State Registrar/Bureau Chief
Bureau of Vital Statistics
Post Office Box 210
Jacksonville, Florida 32231
(904) 359-6900 xt. 1001

FAX: (904) 359-6931

email: Ken.Jones@flhealth.gov

Term: Not applicable

Honorable James S. Purdy, J.D.

Public Defender, 7th Judicial Circuit
251 North Ridgewood Avenue
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114
(386) 239-7730

FAX: (386) 239-7702

email: purdy.james@pd7.org

Partial Term: 10/2/2008-6/30/2009

First Term: 8/15/2013-7/1/2017

Robert J. Krauss, J.D.

Chief - Assistant Attorney General
Bureau Chief, Tampa Criminal Appeals
3507 East Frontage Road, Suite 200
Tampa, Florida 33607-7013
(813) 287-7900

FAX: (813) 281-5500

email: bob.krauss@myfloridalegal.com

Term: Not applicable

Honorable Angela B. Corey

State Attorney, Fourth Judicial Circuit
Courthouse Annex, 14th Floor
220 East Bay Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904) 630-7075

FAX: (904) 630-2938

email: acorey@coj.net

First Term: 8/18/2011-7/1/2015

Carol Whitmore

Manatee County Commission
Board of County Commissioners
Post Office Box 1000
Bradenton, Florida 34206-1000
(941) 745-3704

FAX: (941) 745-3790

email: carol.whitmore@mymanatee.org

First Term: 8/15/2013-7/1/2017

STAFF

Medical Examiners Commission
Florida Department of Law Enforcement
2331 Phillips Road (32308)
Post Office Box 1489
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 410-8600
FAX: (850) 410-8621

Staff Director Margaret Edwards (410-8600)
margaretedwards@fdle.state.fl.us

Government Analyst II Doug Culbertson (410-8609)
dougculbertson@fdle.state.fl.us

Research & Training Specialist Danielle Santiago (410-8608)
daniellesantiago@fdle.state.fl.us

Administrative Assistant Debbie Turvaville (410-8610)
debbieturvaville@fdle.state.fl.us

FLORIDA DISTRICT MEDICAL EXAMINERS

District 1

Andrea N. Minyard, M.D.
5151 North 9th Avenue
Pensacola, Florida 32504
Dir of Ops Jeff Martin
(850) 416-7200
FAX: (850) 416-6475
e-mail: anminyard@aol.com

District 2

David T. Stewart, M.D.
Post Office Box 14389
Tallahassee, Florida 32317
Forensic Supervisor Tiffany Poston
(850) 942-7473
FAX: (850) 219-7690
e-mail: me2@twpbpathology.com

District 3

Dixie Co. ME Service by Dt. 8
Madison, Lafayette & Suwannee
Co.'s ME Service by Dt. 2
Remaining Co.'s ME Service by Dt. 4

District 4

Valerie J. Rao, M.D.
2100 Jefferson Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32206
Operations Mgr Kim Bynum
(904) 255-4000
FAX: (904) 630-0964
e-mail: kbynum@coj.net

District 5

Barbara C. Wolf, M. D.
809 Pine Street
Leesburg, Florida 34748
Dir of Ops Lindsey Bayer
(352) 326-5961
FAX: (352) 365-6438
e-mail: Lindsey.Bayer@marioncounty.fl.org

District 6

Jon R. Thogmartin, M.D.
10900 Ulmertown Road
Largo, Florida 33778
Chief Inv Damon Breton
(727) 582-6800
FAX: (727) 582-6820
e-mail: dbreton@co.pinellas.fl.us

District 7 (Home Rule)

Marie A. Herrmann, M.D.
1360 Indian Lake Road
Daytona Beach, FL 32124-1001
Interim Dir of Ops Lindsey Crim
(386) 258-4060
FAX: (386) 258-4061
e-mail: lcrim@volusia.org

District 8

William F. Hamilton, M.D.
606 S.W. 3rd Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601
Dir of Inv Cathy Weldon
(352) 273-9292
FAX: (352) 273-9288
e-mail: weldonc@pathology.ufl.edu

District 9

Jan C. Garavaglia, M.D.
2350 East Michigan Street
Orlando, Florida 32806
Forensic Coord. Sheri Blanton
(407) 836-9400
FAX: (407) 836-9450
e-mail: Sheri.Blanton@pcfl.net

District 10

Stephen J. Nelson, M.A., M.D.
1021 Jim Keene Boulevard
Winter Haven, Florida 33880
Ofc Mgr Sheli Wilson
(863) 298-4600
FAX: (863) 298-5264
e-mail: StephenNelson@polk-county.net

District 11 (Home Rule)

Bruce A. Hyma, M.D.
Number One on Bob Hope Road
Miami, Florida 33136-1133
Dir of Ops Larry Cameron
(305) 545-2400
FAX: (305) 545-2412
e-mail: BAHyma@MiamiDade.gov

District 12

Russell S. Vega, M.D.
2001 Siesta Drive, Suite 302
Sarasota, Florida 34239
Dir of Ops David Winterhalter
(941) 361-9909
FAX: (941) 361-6914
email: rvega@fldist12me.com

District 13 (Home Rule)

Mary K. Mainland, M.D.
11025 North 46th Street
Tampa, Florida 33617
Dir of Ops Richard L. Bailey
(813) 914-4500
FAX: (813) 914-4594
email: mainlandm@hillsboroughcounty.org

District 14

Michael Hunter, M.D.
3737 Frankford Avenue
Panama City, Florida 32405
ME Secretary June Williams
(850) 747-5740
FAX: (850) 747-5745
e-mail: medex@baycountyfl.gov

District 15 (Home Rule)

Michael D. Bell, M.D.
3126 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
Mgr MEO Ops. Harold Ruslander
(561) 688-4575
FAX: (561) 688-4588
e-mail: mbell@pbcgov.org

District 16

E. Hunt Scheuerman, M.D.
P.O. Box 523207
Marathon Shores, Florida 33052
Administrator Patty A. Polivchak
(305) 743-9011
FAX: (305) 743-9013
e-mail: d16meo@aol.com

District 17 (Home Rule)

Craig Mallak, M.D.
5301 S.W. 31st Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33312
Div Admin Asst Sherri Baker
(954) 357-5200
FAX: (954) 327-6580
e-mail: cmallak@broward.org

District 18

Sajid S. Qaiser, M.D.
1750 Cedar Street
Rockledge, Florida 32955
Interim Program Mgr Craig Engelson
(321) 633-1981
FAX: (321) 633-1986
e-mail: sajid.qaiser@brevardcounty.us

District 19

Roger E. Mittleman, M.D.
2500 South 35th Street
Ft. Pierce, Florida 34981
Admin Mgr Christine Weekes
(772) 464-7378
FAX: (772) 464-2409
e-mail: cweekes@jrsc.edu

District 20

Marta U. Coburn, M.D.
3838 Domestic Avenue
Naples, Florida 34104
Ofc Mgr Elizabeth Alfonso Nunez
(239) 434-5020
FAX: (239) 434-5027
e-mail: naplesme@d20me.net

District 21

Rebecca A. Hamilton, M.D.
70 South Danley Drive
Ft. Myers, Florida 33907
Admin Mgr Patti Wheaton
(239) 277-5020
FAX: (239) 277-5017
e-mail: pwheaton@jeegov.com

District 22

Riazul H. Imami, M.D., Ph.D.
18130 Paulson Drive
Pt. Charlotte, Florida 33954
Office Mgr Penny Fulton
(941) 625-1111
FAX: (941) 627-0995
e-mail: ai786@aol.com

District 23

Predrag Bulic, M.D.
4501 Avenue A
St. Augustine, Florida 32095
Operations Director Koni Rogers
(904) 209-0820
FAX: (800) 255-8617
e-mail: medex23@sjcfl.us

District 24

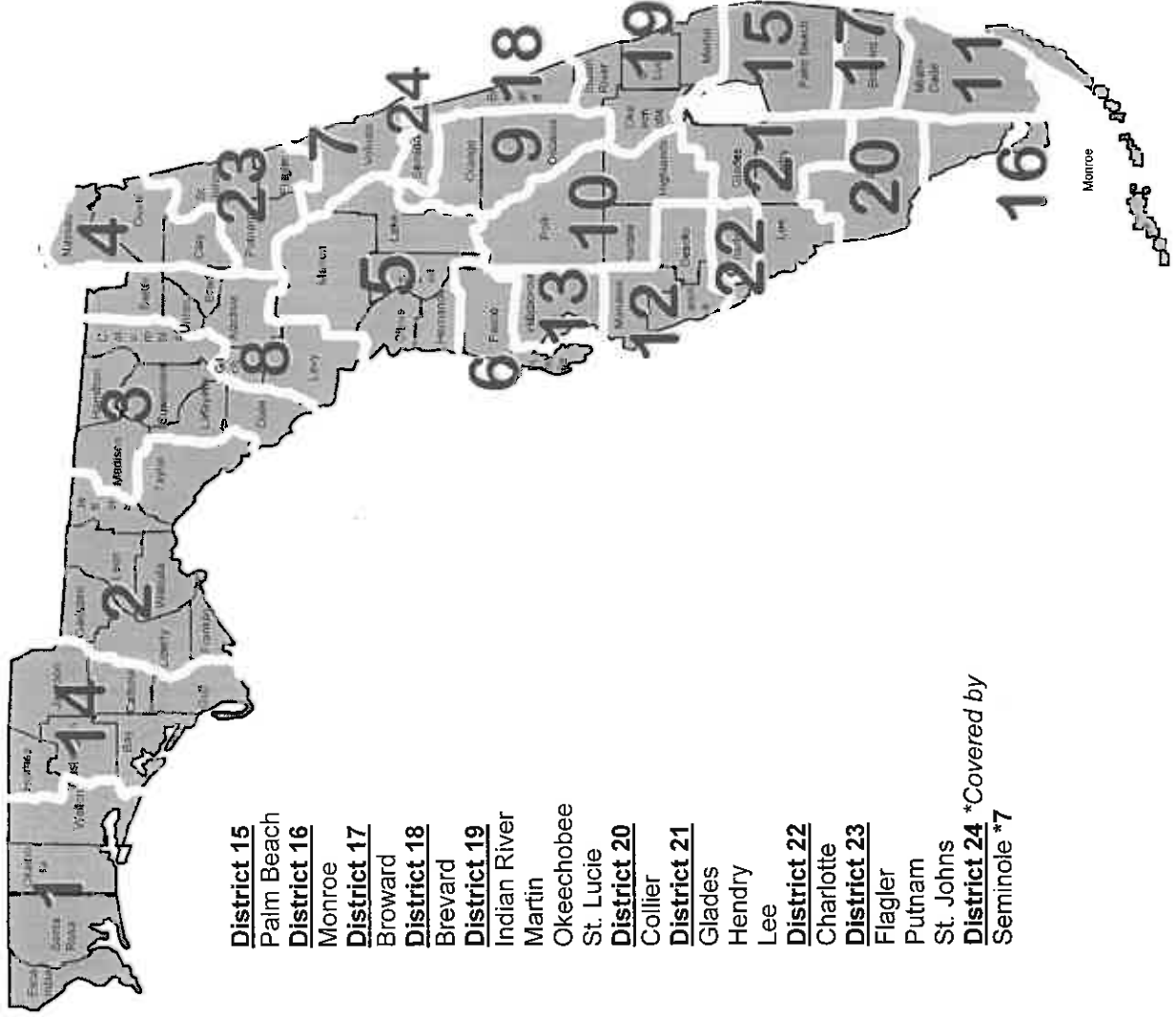
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FAX: (386) 258-4061
e-mail: lcrim@volusia.org

Florida Medical Examiner Districts

District 1
Escambia
Okaloosa
Santa Rosa
Walton
District 2
Franklin
Gadsden
Jefferson
Leon
Liberty
Taylor
Wakulla
District 3 *Covered by
Columbia *4
Dixie *8
Hamilton *4
Lafayette *2
Madison *2
Suwannee *2
District 4
Clay
Duval
Nassau
District 5
Citrus
Hernando
Lake
Marion
Sumter
District 6
Pasco
Pinellas

District 7
Volusia
District 8
Alachua
Baker
Bradford
Gilchrist
Levy
Union
District 9
Orange
Osceola
District 10
Hardee
Highlands
Polk
District 11
Miami-Dade
District 12
DeSoto
Manatee
Sarasota
District 13
Hillsborough
District 14
Bay
Calhoun
Gulf
Holmes
Jackson
Washington

District 15
Palm Beach
District 16
Monroe
District 17
Broward
District 18
Brevard
District 19
Indian River
Martin
Okeechobee
St. Lucie
District 20
Collier
District 21
Glades
Hendry
Lee
District 22
Charlotte
District 23
Flagler
Putnam
St. Johns
District 24 *Covered by
Seminole *7



FLORIDA ASSOCIATE MEDICAL EXAMINERS

District 1

(Michael D. Bell, M.D.)
 (Wilson A. Broussard, M.D.)
 (Frederick P. Hobbin, M.D.)
 (Michael Hunter, M.D.)
 (Aurelian Nicolaescu, M.D.)

District 2

(Anthony J. Clark, M.D.)
 (Lisa M. Flannagan, M.D.)
 (Jerry L. Harris, M.D.)
 (John P. Mahoney, M.D.)
 (Charles F. Manning, M.D.)
 (Margaret Havens Neal, M.D.)
 (L. Stephen Sarbeck, M.D.)
 (Stephen L. Sgan, M.D.)

District 3

(Dixie Co. ME Service by Dist. 8)
 (Madison, Lafayette, & Suwannee Co.'s
 ME Service by Dist. 2)
 (Remaining Co.'s Service by Dist. 4)

District 4

(Jessie C. Giles, M.D.)
 (Aurelian Nicolaescu, M.D.)
 (Tracey A. Simons, M.D.)
 (Wendy Ann Stroh, D.O.)
 (Martha J. Burt, M.D.)
 (William F. Hamilton, M.D.)
 (Carolyn M. Hopkins, M.D.)
 (Kyle C. Shaw, MBBS)

District 5

(Wendy A. Lavezzi, M.D.)
 (Kyle C. Shaw, MBBS)
 (Martha J. Burt, M.D.)
 (William F. Hamilton, M.D.)
 (Carolyn M. Hopkins, M.D.)
 (Susan S. Ignacio, M.D.)
 (Wayne D. Kurz, M.D.)
 (Noel A. Palma, M.D.)
 (Joshua D. Stephany, M.D.)
 (Jon Thogmartin, M.D.)
 (Christopher I. Wilson, M.D.)

District 6

(Susan S. Ignacio, M.D.)
 (Wayne D. Kurz, M.D.)
 (Noel A. Palma, M.D.)
 (Dollett T. White, M.D.)
 (Christopher I. Wilson, M.D.)
 (Wilson A. Broussard, M.D.)
 (Wendy A. Lavezzi, M.D.)
 (Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)
 (Robert R. Pfaltzgraf, M.D.)
 (Kyle C. Shaw, MBBS)
 (Suzanne R. Utley-Bobak, M.D.)
 (Russell S. Vega, M.D.)
 (Vera Voinikh, M.D.)
 (Barbara C. Wolf, M.D.)

District 7

(Tim J. Gallagher, M.D.)

District 8

(Martha J. Burt, M.D.)
 (Carolyn Hopkins, M.D.)
 (Predrag Bulic, M.D.)
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 (Kyle Shaw, M.D.)
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 (Jon R. Thogmartin, M.D.)
 (Barbara C. Wolf, M.D.)

District 9

(Marie H. Hansen, M.D.)
 (Joshua D. Stephany, M.D.)
 (Gary L. Utz, M.D.)
 (Sara H. Zydwicz, D.O.)
 (Julia V. Hegert, M.D.)
 (Wendy Lavezzi, M.D.)
 (George D. Leidel, M.D.)
 (Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)
 (Sajid Qaiser, M.D.)
 (Kyle Shaw, M.D.)
 (Vera Voinikh, M.D.)
 (Barbara Wolf, M.D.)

District 10

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District 11

(Thomas Coyne, M.D.)
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 (Dana Johnson, M.D.)
 (Emma O. Lew, M.D.)
 (Benjamin Mathis, M.D.)
 (Brian Nagao, M.D.)
 (Jay Radtke, M.D.)
 (Eva Gyori Schiff, M.D.)
 (Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)
 (Albert W. Williams, M.D.)
 (Elmad Zakariya, M.D.)
 (Glen Axelson, D.O.)
 (Michael D. Bell, M.D.)
 (Lour G. Boiko, M.D., Ph.D.)
 (Manfred Borges, M.D.)
 (Peter A. Gillespie, M.D.)
 (Rebecca MacDougall, M.D.)
 (Reinhard W. Motte, M.D.)
 (Craig Mallak, M.D.)
 (Reinhard W. Motte, M.D.)
 (Linda R. O'Neil, M.D.)
 (E. Hunt Scheurman, M.D.)
 (Michael Steckbauer, M.D.)
 (Darin Trelka, M.D., Ph.D.)
 (Khalil Wardak, M.D.)

District 12

(Wilson A. Broussard, M.D.)
 (Suzanne R. Utley-Bobak, M.D.)
 (Laura S. Hair, M.D.)
 (Frederick P. Hobbin, M.D.)
 (Robert R. Pfaltzgraf, M.D.)
 (Daniel L. Schultz, M.D.)
 (Kyle C. Shaw, MBBS)
 (Elise F. Arbefeville, M.D.)
 (Marcela F. Christie, M.D.)
 (Leszek Chrostowski, M.D.)
 (Kelly G. Devers, M.D.)
 (Laura S. Hair, M.D.)
 (Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)
 (Vera V. Voinikh, M.D.)
 (Sara H. Zydwicz, D.O.)
 (Andrea N. Whinyard, M.D.)
 (Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)
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District 16

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District 17

(Lour G. Boiko, M.D., Ph.D.)
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 (Jay Radtke, M.D.)
 (Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)
 (Albert W. Williams, M.D.)
 (Elmad Zakariya, M.D.)

District 18

(Krzysztof Podjaski, M.D.)
 (Roger E. Mittleman, M.D.)

District 19

(Linda Rush O'Neil, M.D.)
 (Glen K. Axelson, D.O.)
 (Michael D. Bell, M.D.)
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 (Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)
 (Krzysztof Podjaski, M.D.)
 (Sajid S. Qaiser, M.D.)
 (Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)

District 20

(Manfred Borges, Jr., M.D.)
 (Glen K. Axelson, D.O.)
 (Peter A. Gillespie, M.D.)
 (Rebecca A. Hamilton, M.D.)
 (Kenneth D. Hutchins, M.D.)
 (Bruce A. Hyma, M.D.)
 (Emma O. Lew, M.D.)
 (Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)

District 21

(Robert Pfaltzgraf, M.D.)
 (Wendolyn Sneed, M.D.)
 (Manfred C. Borges, M.D.)
 (Marta U. Coburn, M.D.)
 (Riazul H. Imami, M.D., Ph.D.)
 (Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)

District 22

(Wilson A. Broussard, Jr., M.D.)
 (Daniel L. Schultz, M.D.)
 (Suzanne R. Utley-Bobak, M.D.)
 (Russell S. Vega, M.D.)

District 23

(Tim J. Gallagher, M.D.)
 (Frederick P. Hobbin, M.D.)

District 24

(ME Services Covered by Dist. 7)

AMENDED
MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION MEETING
Sawgrass Marriott
1000 PGA Tour Blvd
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
February 18, 2014
10:00 AM

Opening Remarks

Introduction of Commission Members and Staff

Approval of Meeting Agenda and Minutes from previous Commission Meeting of December 6, 2013 TAB A

<u>ISSUE NUMBER</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>	
1. Informational Items:		
• Status Report: MEC Appointment	Chairman	
• Status Report: District 4 Search Committee	Angela Corey	
• Reappointment/Assessment Process for Districts 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24	Margaret Edwards	
• 2013 Interim Drugs in Deceased Persons Report	Danielle Santiago	TAB B
• 2013 Annual Workload Report	Danielle Santiago	
• Coverdell Grant	Danielle Santiago	
• Bills Filed for the 2014 Legislative Session	Jim Martin	TAB C
2. Organ Procurement Organization Annual Report 2013	Larry Cochran, LifeQuest	TAB D
3. Data Quality Assurance Committee Update	Russell S. Vega, M.D.	
4. The Effect of Florida's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program on Oxycodone-Caused Mortality	Chris Delcher	
5. Unidentified Deceased Initiative	Doug Culbertson	
6. Mass Fatality Plans	Chairman	
7. 2014 Educational Conference	Barbara C. Wolf, M.D. or Lindsey Bayer	
8. Other Business	Chairman	
a. Request for Partnership with Florida Sheriff's Association	Chairman	

MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION MEETING

Saddlebrook
5700 Saddlebrook Way
Wesley Chapel, Florida
December 6, 2013
10:30 AM

Dr. Vega called the meeting of the Medical Examiners Commission to order at **10:30 AM** at Saddlebrook, in Wesley Chapel, Florida. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Commission members, staff, and audience members to introduce themselves.

Commission Members Present:

Russell S. Vega, M.D., District 12 Medical Examiner
Robert J. Krauss, J.D., Chief Assistant Attorney General
Hon. James S. Purdy, J.D., Public Defender, 7th Judicial Circuit
Ken Jones, Deputy State Registrar, Department of Health
Robin Giddens Sheppard, L.F.D., Vice President/Funeral Director
Hon. Carol Whitmore, County Commissioner
Hon. Angela B. Corey, J.D., State Attorney, 4th Judicial Circuit

Commission Members Absent:

Bruce A. Hyma, M.D., District 11 Medical Examiner
Hon. Rick Beseler, Sheriff

FDLE/Commission Staff Present:

Margaret Edwards	Doug Culbertson
Danielle Miller	Jim Martin
Debbie Turvaville	Vickie Gardner
Danielle Santiago	

District Medical Examiners Present:

Barbara C. Wolf, M.D. (District 5)	Sajid S. Qaiser, M.D. (District 18)
Jon R. Thogmartin, M.D. (District 6)	Marie A. Herrmann, M.D. (District 7 & 24)
Marta U. Coburn, M.D. (District 20)	Stephen J. Nelson, M.A., M.D. (District 10)

Other District Personnel Present:

Dick Bailey (District 13)	Bill Pellan (District 6)
Lindsey Bayer (District 5)	Chris Boden (District 7 & 24)
Dollett White (District 6)	Brett Harding (District 5)
Jeff Martin (District 1)	

Guests Present:

Beth Withrow	Larry Bedore
Jon Crisler	John Jensen
Carrie Thomas	Rebecca Sayer
Chandler Brownlee	Cassy Morgan
Kimberly Owens	Nick Waite
Laurie Ripp	Lynetta Oxendyne

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY FOR THE COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY FOR THE COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2013, MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION MEETING.

ISSUE NUMBER 1: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- **Status Report — MEC Reappointment:** Ms. Edwards reported that the term of District 12 Medical Examiner Russell Vega, M.D., one of two medical examiners on the MEC, expired on July 1, 2012. All necessary paperwork relating to his reappointment was submitted to the Governor's Appointment Office in August 2012. In November, the Governor's Appointment Office requested additional names for consideration. Gubernatorial Appointment applications for District 5 Medical Examiner Barbara Wolf, M.D., and District 10 Medical Examiner Stephen Nelson, M.D., M.A, have been submitted for consideration. Dr. Vega continues to serve pending action by the Governor. Marta Coburn, M.D., indicated that the Florida Association of Medical Examiners (FAME) would be preparing a letter to the Governor supporting the appointment of any of these medical examiners.
- **Status Update — District 4 Search Committee:** Ms. Corey reported that the Search Committee was granted an extension of time for making their recommendation to the MEC. As of December 6, 2013, five applications were received, and initial interviews were scheduled for the week of December 9, 2013.
- **Status Update — Reappointment/Assessment Process for District 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24:** Ms. Edwards reported that surveys and assessments for districts 15 through 24 will be sent to the constituents of those districts in January 2014, to obtain feedback on the quality of services provided by the medical examiners in those districts. The results will be presented to the MEC at its second meeting in 2014.
- **Coverdell Grant:** Ms. Miller reported that the deadline for budget amendments has passed, and cautioned districts to refrain from spending money on amended items before the amendments were approved. She requested that any unspent funds be returned as soon as possible, and that the last day to spend funds and receive goods and services for the current grant is March 31, 2014. Funds from the 2013 grant award will be made available in April 2014, and that the 2014 solicitation should also open in April.
- **2013 Annual Workload Report:** Ms. Miller reported that the data submission deadline for the 2013 Annual Workload report is June 30, 2014. She reminded those in attendance that the changes discussed at the previous MEC meeting, as well as the changes to be discussed at this meeting, would only affect data for the 2014 Annual Workload Report. All data for the 2013 report should be the same as in the past.
- **District 17 Probable Cause Panel Report:** Dr. Vega reported that a complaint against District 17 Medical Examiner Craig Mallak, M.D., and Associate Medical Examiner Iouri Boiko, M.D. was received in September. The case was presented before a Probable Cause Panel comprised of District 12 Medical Examiner Russell S. Vega, M.D., Honorable Carol Whitmore, Manatee County Commissioner, and Honorable James Purdy, Seventh Judicial Circuit Public

Defender, on November 13, 2013. The panel discussed the complaint as well as documents provided by District 17, and determined that the complaint was not legally sufficient. The Probable Cause Panel Report is available upon request.

ISSUE NUMBER 2: House Bill 301, RELATING TO MEDICAL EXAMINERS

House Bill 301, which is sponsored by Representative Spano and co-sponsored by Reps. Baxley and Roberson, was filed for consideration by the Florida Legislature in the 2014 session. The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the medical examiner, or their respective counties, from charging a user fee for any service. The primary objective of this bill is to prevent charging for cremation approvals. The Commission objected to the term "user fees" that is used in the bill, noting that there are unintended consequences for contract services provided by medical examiners. A suggestion was made to modify the bill to institute a flat fee for cremation approvals, thus ensuring statewide consistency. Dr. Nelson suggested surveying the districts to determine which districts directly charge cremation approval fees as opposed to charging the county government. The Commission directed staff to gather this information, and relay their concerns with the language to the bill sponsors.

ISSUE NUMBER 3: TRANSFER OF SERVICES FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY

Mr. Culbertson informed the Commission that in October, staff was made aware of a request for transfer of medical examiner coverage for Suwannee County from District 4 to District 2. Suwannee County is located in ME District 3, and prior to October, received medical examiner services from the District 4 Medical Examiner's Office. The primary reason for the request was to reduce the travel distance for the funeral homes in Suwannee County.

Third Judicial Circuit State Attorney Jeffrey Siegmeister and District 4 Medical Examiner Valerie Rao, M.D., agreed to the transfer, and District 2 Medical Examiner David Stewart, M.D., agreed to accept cases from Suwannee County with an effective date of November 1, 2013. Section 406.05, F.S., requires the MEC to establish ME districts; Rule 11G-5.002 designates the counties and ME districts to which they are aligned. MEC approval is, therefore, required for any changes in service provision.

A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF SERVICES FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY FROM DISTRICT 4 TO DISTRICT 2.

ISSUE NUMBER 4: DATA QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

Dr. Vega readdressed the reporting of morphine in heroin deaths when the decedent was not taking morphine independently. Similarly, reporting metabolites has been questioned unless they are taken independent of the parent drug. As recommended at the September 2013, MEC meeting, Dr. Vega will chair the QAC, and will appoint members to the committee. Dr. Vega will inform staff of the progress of the appointments as they occur. The committee will assist with improvements in the presentation of the data and will find a simplified approach for data review.

ISSUE NUMBER 5: 2014 ANNUAL WORKLOAD REPORT AND HANDBOOK

Ms. Miller explained that the 2014 Annual Workload Report form has some changes that were put in place with Dr. Wolf's help. The new form will be sent to all districts along with a handbook that will contain example cases to highlight the changes. Changes in 2014 include simplified categories to remove philosophical views on infant sleeping deaths. Ms. Miller stressed that data for the 2013 Annual Workload Report will be submitted using the older form, and that the new form will only be used starting with the 2014 data. Dr. Wolf suggested adding discussion of the 2014 Annual Workload Report form to the FAME Business Meeting agenda as a reminder to the district medical examiner offices of the coming changes.

ISSUE NUMBER 6: 2013 INTERIM DRUGS IN DECEASED PERSONS REPORT

Ms. Miller reminded everyone that data for the 2013 Interim Drugs in Deceased Persons Report is due no later than December 31, 2013. She added that although the QAC Committee is still being formed, data will be reviewed before publication for quality control purposes.

ISSUE NUMBER 7: UNIDENTIFIED DECEASED INITIATIVE

Mr. Culbertson informed the Commission and those in attendance that there was one success story reported during the past quarter. Missing and Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse (MEPIC) member Jan Henderson assisted in identifying the remains of an elderly man who had been reported missing five years ago.

Districts were reminded of the importance of working with local law enforcement agencies in their districts, and the tools that are available to help name the unidentified in their area, including new technology available to forensic artists that will assist in rendering a more lifelike image of the decedent.

ISSUE NUMBER 8: 2014 EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

District 5 Medical Examiner Barbara Wolf, M.D., informed the Commission she will be hosting the 41ST Annual Florida Association of Medical Examiners Educational Conference. The conference will be held July 16-18, 2014 in Orlando at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress. The room rate will be \$137.00 per night with the resort fee waived, and reduced self-parking fees. They are currently selecting presenters for the conference.

ISSUE NUMBER 9: OTHER BUSINESS

Larry Bedore, Director of the Florida Emergency Mortuary Operations Response System (FEMORS), reported that excavation of remains at the former Dozier School for Boys in Jackson County had begun, and that FEMORS staff was on hand to provide support services. Two bodies were exhumed in September, and 30 bodies were exhumed in October, with another session beginning the week of December 9th. All excavations must be completed by the summer of 2014. Mr. Bedore reiterated that the purpose of the excavation was to identify bodies, not to determine a cause and manner of death. Less than one dozen families have provided DNA samples to aid in identifications.

Dr. Vega reported that Dean Smith, Medicolegal Death Investigator from the District 9 (Orlando) ME Office, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2013 due to pancreatic cancer; he was 68 years old. Mr. Smith worked at the District 9 Office for 30 years.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

Upcoming Deadlines

Annual Workload Report

- 2013 annual data are due by June 31, 2014

Coverdell Grant

- Funds for 2012 disbursement must be used by March 31, 2014
- Final reimbursement requests for 2012 grant must be submitted no later than April 1, 2014
- Reimbursement requests for 2013 grant must be submitted after April 1, 2014
- Expect to see 2013 MOUs in March 2014
- Applications for 2014-2015 solicitations will be emailed in April 2014

Drugs in Deceased Reports

- 2013 Interim report will be released by the end of March 2014
- 2013 Annual report data should be submitted no later than June 31, 2014

If you have any questions, please contact Danielle Santiago at (850) 410-8608 or by email daniellesantiago@fdle.state.fl.us

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to medical examiners; amending s.
 3 382.011, F.S.; clarifying the circumstances under
 4 which a case must be referred to the district medical
 5 examiner for the determination of cause of death;
 6 amending s. 406.06, F.S.; prohibiting user fees for
 7 specified services; providing an effective date.

8
 9 **Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:**

10
 11 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 382.011, Florida
 12 Statutes, is amended to read:

13 382.011 Medical examiner determination of cause of death.—

14 (1) In the case of any death or fetal death involving the
 15 circumstances ~~due to causes or conditions~~ listed in s. 406.11(1)
 16 ~~406.11~~, any death that occurred more than 12 months after the
 17 decedent was last treated by a primary or attending physician as
 18 defined in s. 382.008(3), or any death for which there is reason
 19 to believe that the death may have been due to an unlawful act
 20 or neglect, the funeral director or other person to whose
 21 attention the death may come shall refer the case to the
 22 district medical examiner of the county in which the death
 23 occurred or the body was found for investigation and
 24 determination of the cause of death.

25 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 406.06, Florida
 26 Statutes, is amended to read:

27 406.06 District medical examiners; associates; suspension
 28 of medical examiners.—

29 ~~(3) District medical examiners and associate medical~~
 30 ~~examiners shall be entitled to compensation and such reasonable~~
 31 ~~salary and fees as are established by the board of county~~
 32 ~~commissioners in the respective districts; however, a medical~~
 33 ~~examiner or a county may not charge a member of the public or~~
 34 ~~any person licensed under chapter 497 a fee for an examination,~~
 35 ~~investigation, or autopsy performed pursuant to s. 406.11.~~

36 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2014.

Medical Examiner Cremation Approval Charges

DISTRICT	COUNTY	FEE	COMMENTS	2012 REVENUE	PAYMENT SYSTEM			
1	Escambia	\$ 40.00	Services provided by private contract.	\$87,960.00	Fee paid directly to ME's office.			
	Okaloosa	\$ 40.00						
	Santa Rosa	\$ 40.00						
	Walton	\$ 40.00						
2	Franklin	\$ 32.10	Services provided by private contract. Fee effective 10/01/12.	\$43,929.00	Fee billed to county of death, which pays the ME office.			
	Gadsden	\$ 32.10						
	Jefferson	\$ 32.10						
	Leon	\$ 32.10						
	Liberty	\$ 32.10						
	Taylor	\$ 32.10						
	Wakulla	\$ 32.10						
3	*Covered by		Services provided by D4.	Included in D4	ME office bills funeral homes which pays City of Jacksonville/Duval BoCC.			
	Columbia *4	\$ 50.00						
	Hamilton *4	\$ 50.00						
	Dixie *8	\$ 20.00				Included in D8	ME office bills county.	
	Lafayette *2	\$ 32.10				Included in D4	Fee billed to county of death which pays the D2 ME office.	
	Madison *2	\$ 32.10				Included in D2		
	Suwannee *2	\$ 32.10				Included in D4		
	Clay	\$ 50.00				Fee increased from \$25, effective 12/1/2013.	\$140,725.00	Funeral homes are billed; payment made to City of Jacksonville and deposited in the Duval County's general revenue fund.
	Duval	\$ 50.00						
Nassau	\$ 50.00							
5	Citrus	\$ 35.00	Services provided by private contract.	\$331,415.00	Billing is done by Marion County and payments are made to the county which deposits the revenue in the county's general revenue fund.			
	Hernando	\$ 35.00						
	Lake	\$ 35.00						
	Marion	\$ 35.00						
	Sumter	\$ 35.00						
6	Pasco	\$ 25.00	Services provided by private contract.	\$96,600.00	Billing is done by Pinellas County. Payments are made to the county and deposited in GR fund.			
	Pinellas	\$ 40.00				\$344,560.00		

Medical Examiner Cremation Approval Charges

DISTRICT	COUNTY	FEE	COMMENTS	2012 REVENUE	PAYMENT SYSTEM
7	Volusia	\$ 30.00	Home Rule county.	\$124,650.00	Fees placed in County General Revenue fund.
8	Alachua	\$ 25.00	Services provided by private contract. Fee increased from \$20 as of 10/1/2013.	\$47,560.00	ME office bills county of death.
	Baker	\$ 25.00			
	Bradford	\$ 25.00			
	Gilchrist	\$ 25.00			
	Levy	\$ 25.00			
Union	\$ 25.00				
9	Orange	\$ 35.00	County's contracted funeral home is not billed.	\$201,320.00	ME coordinates invoicing funeral homes in district; payments are sent to Orange County BoCC.
	Osceola	\$ 35.00			
10	Hardee	No fee	Services provided by private contract.	\$0.00	
	Highlands	No fee		\$0.00	
	Polk	\$ 25.00		\$138,920.00	
11	Miami-Dade	\$ 63.00	Home Rule county.	\$532,000.00	ME bills funeral homes which send payments to Board of County Commissioners.
	DeSoto	\$ 35.00			
	Manatee	\$ 35.00			
12	Sarasota	\$ 35.00	Services provided by private contract.	\$223,755.00	Fee paid directly to ME's office.
	Hillsborough	\$ 25.00			
13	Bay	No fee	Home Rule county. Fee applies only to ME cases that do not fall under s. 406.11(1)(a). No fee when ME issues and signs death certificate.	\$153,375.00	Funeral homes send payment to County BoCC.
	Calhoun	No fee			
	Gulf	No fee			
	Holmes	No fee			
	Jackson	No fee			
	Washington	No fee			
14	Bay	No fee	Services provided by private contract.	\$0.00	
	Calhoun	No fee		\$0.00	
	Gulf	No fee		\$0.00	
	Holmes	No fee		\$0.00	
	Jackson	No fee		\$0.00	
Washington	No fee	\$0.00			

Medical Examiner Cremation Approval Charges

DISTRICT	COUNTY	FEE	COMMENTS	2012 REVENUE	PAYMENT SYSTEM
15	Palm Beach	\$ 50.00	Home Rule county.	\$359,100.00	Funeral homes send payments to County BoCC.
16	Monroe	\$ 50.00	Services provided by private contract. Fee applies only to ME cases that do not fall under s. 406.11(1)(a). No fee for social service cases.	\$21,300.00	Fees paid directly to ME's office.
17	Broward	\$ 54.00	Home Rule county.	\$406,296.00	Funeral homes send payments to County BoCC.
18	Brevard	\$ 30.00		\$133,500.00	Funeral homes send payments to County BoCC.
19	Indian River	\$ 50.00		\$230,950.00	District bills funeral homes and are paid directly.
	Martin	\$ 50.00			
	Okeechobee	\$ 50.00			
	St. Lucie	\$ 50.00			
20	Collier	No fee		\$0.00	
21	Glades	\$ 45.00	Services provided by private contract. Fee applies only to ME cases that do not fall under s. 406.11(1)(a). County indigent cases not charged.	\$160,275.00	Funeral homes send payments to Lee County BoCC.
	Hendry	\$ 45.00			
	Lee	\$ 45.00			
22	Charlotte	No fee currently	Services provided by private contract. \$20 fee eliminated effective 10/1/13.	\$36,100.00	Prior to eliminating the fee, district billed funeral homes and were paid directly.
23	Flagler	\$ 30.00		\$63,510.00	Funeral homes pay ME office directly. Payment is forwarded to Flagler BOCC and deposited into General Revenue fund.
	Putnam	\$ 30.00			
	St. Johns	\$ 30.00			
24	*Covered by				
	Seminole *7	\$ 30.00	Serviced by D7; revenue calculated separately.	\$51,780.00	Fees placed in Volusia County GR fund.
				\$3,929,580.00	

**FLORIDA ORGAN RECOVERY
AGENCIES**

REPORT TO MEDICAL EXAMINER COMMISSION

Medical Examiner Commission Meeting

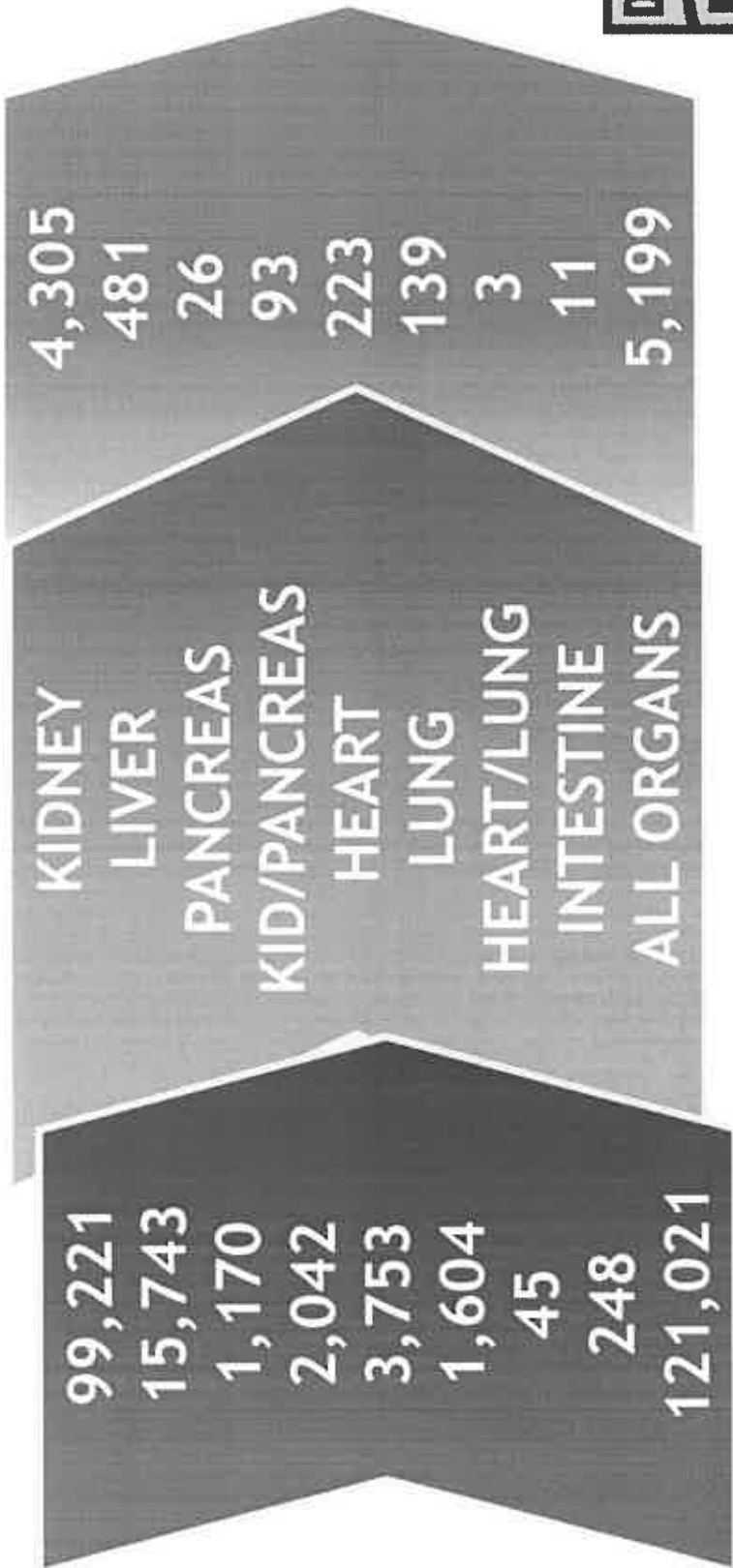
February 18, 2014

United Network for Organ Sharing UNOS Patient Waiting List

U.S.

Awaiting
Transplants

Florida



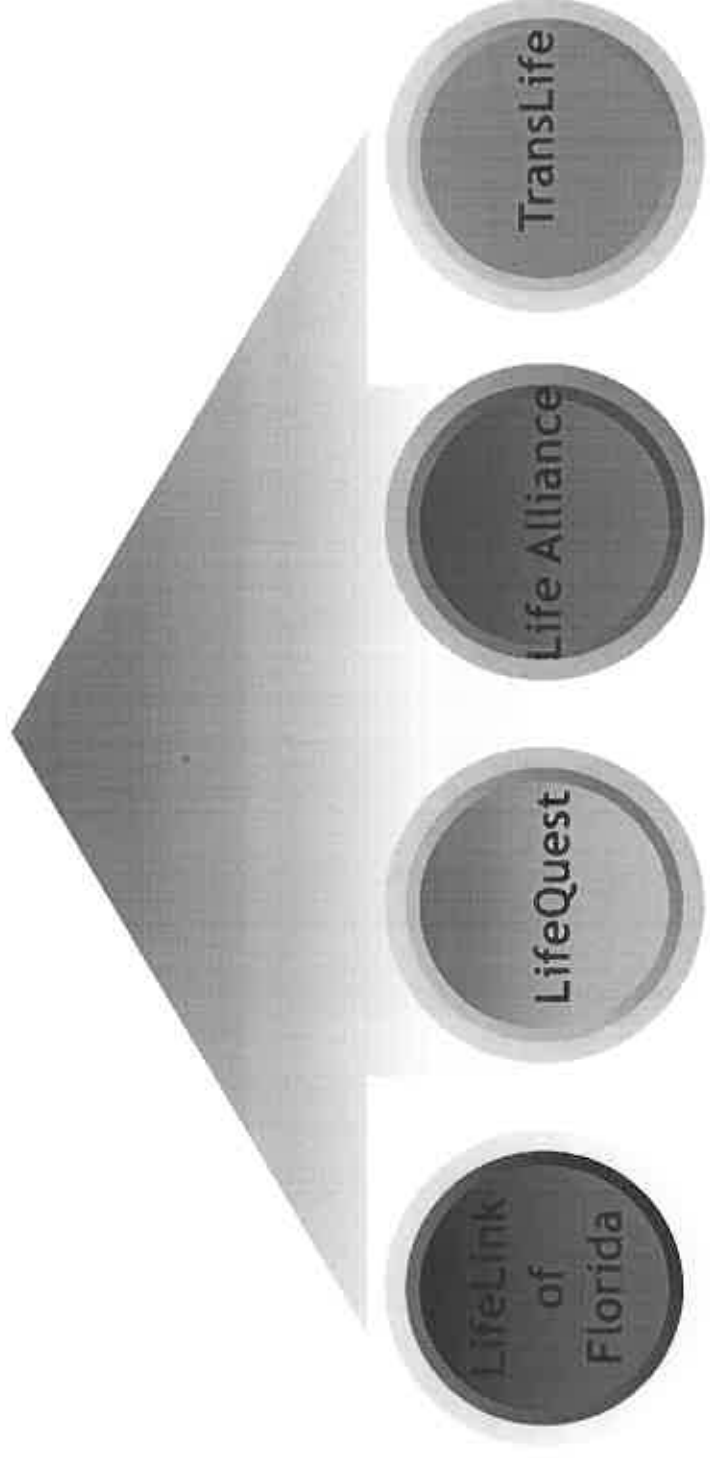
* as of 2/05/2014

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS MEETING
2013**

- **MEDICAL EXAMINER TURN DOWN DATA PRESENTED**
- **ORGAN SPECIFIC TURN DOWN INCLUDED**
- **THIS YEAR WE ADJUSTED OUR REPORT TO
INCLUDE ORGAN SPECIFIC**

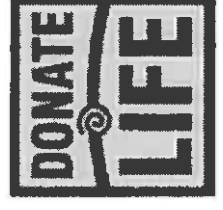


0 Medical Examiner Denials
in 2013 for Whole Organ Donor



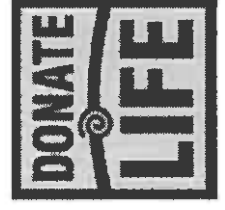
Organs Recovered

Total Organ Donors 2013	740
# Organ Donors – ME Jurisdiction	296
% Total Donors – ME Jurisdiction	40%
Total Organs Recovered	1920
# Organs – ME Jurisdiction	1110
% Total Organs – ME Jurisdiction	58%



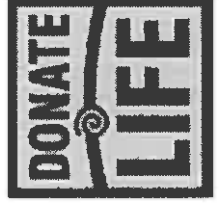
Organ Specific

	Total Organ Donors	Kidney	Hearts	Lung	Pancreas	Liver
# recovered	740	946	160	272	74	468
# recovered from ME case	296	532	120	138	63	257
% ME	40%	56%	75%	51%	85%	55%



Organs Recovered By Donor

	2012	2013
Average organs recovered per donor Non – ME Cases	2.77	1.82
Average organs recovered per donor ME Cases	2.86	3.75



Florida's Donor Registry

- Florida's original Donor Registry was established in the 1990's
- There were 4,939,614 registrants prior to 2009 with an average of 48,000 registration per month.
- The registry was re-launched as the Joshua Abbott Organ and Tissue Donor Registry under the direction of Donate Life Florida in July 2009.
- Since the re-launch of the registry, the registrations have grown 53% to 7,545,430 registrants.
- An average of 60,184 people register each month.
- Florida's registry is second in population only to California's
- Currently, 47% of Florida population over age 18 is registered.
- A recorded donor directive is irrevocable by anyone other than the donor.

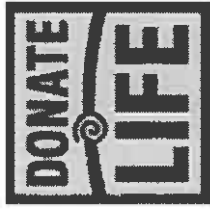


Scientific Working Group for Medicolegal Death Investigation - SWGMDI

Created March 2011

Supported by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) through an Interagency agreement with the FBI.

Members - local, state, or federal agencies, research institutions, organizations which support medicolegal death investigations, represent the medical examiner, coroner, medicolegal death investigator and forensic community at large.



SWGMDI – Published Work Products

- Guidelines for Media Relations: Dissemination of Public Information in Medicolegal Death Investigations

March 8, 2012

- Guidelines for Communication with Next of Kin during Medicolegal Death Investigations

June 13, 2012

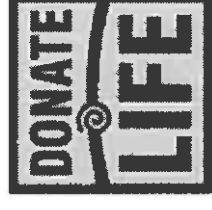
- Principles for Critical Stress Management in MDI Settings: Critical Event Debriefing and Recommendations for Development

June 13, 2012



SWGMDI – Open Comment Documents

- Relationships between Pathology Departments and ME/Coroner Offices: Report of Survey Results with Recommendations
- Report and Recommendations for possible study models to assess the utility of autopsy in common medicolegal categories of death
- Status and Perceived Need for Regional Medicolegal Death Investigation Centers: A Report and Recommendations



SWGMDI – Closed Comment Document

- **Organ and Tissue Procurement Committee Standards and Best Practices for Interaction Between Medical Examiner/Coroner Offices and Organ and Tissue Procurement Organizations**

www.swgmdi.org



Thank You!



With your Help
Life Goes On

