



# Medical Examiners Commission Meeting

February 24, 2017

Barbara C. Wolf, M.D. • Kenneth T. Jones • Wesley H. Heidt, J.D.

James S. Purdy, J.D. • Robin Giddens Sheppard, L.F.D.

Stephen J. Nelson, M.A., M.D., F.C.A.P. • Carol Whitmore

## MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION MEETING

Buena Vista Suites  
8203 World Center Drive  
Orlando, Florida 32821  
February 24, 2017, 10:00 AM

Opening Remarks

Introduction of Commission Members and Staff

Approval of Meeting Agenda and Minutes from previous Commission Meeting of November 17, 2016

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<b><u>ISSUE NUMBER</u></b>	<b><u>PRESENTER</u></b>
1. Election of Chairman	Vickie Koenig
2. Informational Items:	
• Reappointment/Assessment Process for Districts 15 – 25	Vickie Koenig
• Status Update: MEC Reappointments	Vickie Koenig
• Status Update: Districts 8, 10, 12, and 14 Status	Vickie Koenig
• Letter of Support: USF Forensic Training Center	Vickie Koenig
• 2016 Interim Drugs in Deceased Persons Report	Beth McNeil
• 2016 Coverdell Status Update	Beth McNeil
• Bills Filed for the 2017 Legislative Session	Jim Martin, J.D.
3. District 9 & 25 Reappointment Process Proposal	Chairman
4. Coverdell Grant – 2017 Proposals	Beth McNeil
5. Organ Procurement Organization Annual Report 2016	Larry Cochran, LifeQuest
6. District 23 Probable Cause	Barbara Wolf, M.D.
7. District 18 Disciplinary Case	Chairman
8. Mass Fatality Plans	Chairman
9. Medical Examiners and Coroners Alert Project (MECAP)	Glenn Dunlap
10. National Guard Fatality Exercise	Jason Byrd, Ph.D.
11. Unidentified Deceased Initiative	Doug Culbertson
12. Florida drug-Related Outcomes Surveillance and Tracking System (FROST)	Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D.
13. 2017 FAME Educational Conference	Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D.
14. Other Business	Chairman
• Miami-Dade County “In the Company of Women” Award – Emma Lew, M.D.	

## **MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION MEETING**

Tampa Marriott Westshore  
1001 North Westshore Boulevard  
Tampa, FL 33607  
November 17, 2016, 10:00 AM

Chairman Stephen J. Nelson, M.D. called the meeting of the Medical Examiners Commission to order at **10:00 AM** at the Tampa Marriott Westshore in Tampa, Florida. He advised those in the audience that the meetings of the Medical Examiners Commission are open to the public and that members of the public will be allowed five minutes to speak. He then welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Commission members, staff, and audience members to introduce themselves.

### **Commission members present:**

Stephen J. Nelson, M.A., M.D., F.C.A.P., District 10 Medical Examiner  
Barbara C. Wolf, M.D., District 5 Medical Examiner  
Wesley H. Heidt, J.D., Office of the Attorney General  
Hon. James S. Purdy, J.D., Public Defender, 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
Robin Giddens Sheppard, L.F.D., Funeral Director  
Kenneth T. Jones, State Registrar, Department of Health  
Hon. Angela B. Corey, J.D., State Attorney, 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
Hon. Carolyn R. Whitmore, R.N., Manatee County Commissioner

### **Commission members absent:**

Hon. Rick Beseler, Sheriff, Clay County

### **Commission staff present:**

Vickie Koenig  
Beth McNeil

Doug Culbertson  
James D. Martin, J.D.

### **District Medical Examiners present:**

Jon Thogmartin, M.D. (District 6)  
Mary Mainland, M.D. (District 13)  
Russell Vega, M.D. (District 12)

Joshua Stephany, M.D. (District 9 & 25)  
Thomas Beaver, M.D. (District 16)

### **Other District personnel present:**

Jennifer Park, M.D. (District 9 & 25)  
Brett Harding (District 5)

Cathy Weldon (District 8)  
Bill Pellan (District 6)

### **Guests present:**

Bruce A. Goldberger, Ph.D. (UF)  
Rebecca Sayer (LifeLink)  
Karin Frosio (LifeNet)  
Kelsee Hentschel-Fey (USF)  
DiAnn McCormack (MEBFL)  
Lisa Robinson (Lions Eye Inst.)  
Nico Pratt (RII Donor Services)

Ricardo Camacho (UF)  
Chandler Brownlee (LifeNet)  
Jean Davis (LifeLink)  
Erin Kimmerle (USF)  
Liz Lehr (LifeLink)  
Paula Kiatt (Lions Eye Inst.)  
Betty McEntire (American SIDS Inst.)

**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 AUGUST 17, 2016 MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION MEETING.**

### **ISSUE NUMBER 1: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- MEC Reappointments – Ms. Vickie Koenig informed the Commission that the Governor had not yet reappointed the District Medical Examiner or the Funeral Home Director positions on the MEC.
- District Medical Examiner Reappointments - Ms. Koenig informed the Commission that the Governor had not yet reappointed the District Medical Examiners in Districts 8 (Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy and Union counties), 10 (Hardee, Highlands and Polk counties), or 12 (DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota counties). The incumbent District Medical Examiners continue to serve until reappointed or replaced by the Governor, pursuant to the Florida Constitution.
- District 14 Medical Examiner Appointment – Ms. Koenig informed the Commission that the Governor’s Appointments Office had not yet appointed Jay Radtke, M.D. as the District 14 Medical Examiner, serving Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, and Washington counties.
- Ms. Koenig informed the Commission that the following district medical examiners are up for reappointment in 2017: District 15, Michael D. Bell, M.D. (Home Rule), District 16, Thomas R. Beaver, M.D., District 17, Craig T. Mallak, M.D., J.D. (Home Rule), District 18, Sajid S. Qaiser, M.D., District 19, Roger E. Mittleman, M.D., District 20, Marta U. Coburn, M.D., District 21, Rebecca A. Hamilton, M.D., District 22, Riazul H. Imami, M.D., Ph.D., District 23, Predrag Bulic, M.D., District 24, Marie A. Herrmann, M.D., and District 25, Joshua D. Stephany, M.D. (Home Rule),

The surveys and assessments for these district medical examiners for districts 15-25 will be sent to the constituents of these districts in January 2017. Ms. Koenig indicated that surveys and assessments for the funeral homes will go out via U.S. mail, rather than electronically, due to poor responses to the electronic surveys. Electronic surveys will still go out to all other constituents for each district.

- District 11 Medical Examiner Appointment - Dr. Nelson informed the Commission that Emma Lew, M.D., had been appointed as the District 11 Medical Examiner. Dr. Nelson explained that District 11 (Miami-Dade County) is a home rule district; therefore, the appointment was not subject to approval by the Commission or Governor’s Office.
- 2016 Interim Drugs in Deceased Persons Report – Ms. McNeil reminded the Commission and those in attendance that the data for the Interim Drugs in Deceased Persons Report is due by January 1, 2017.
- 2016 Coverdell Grant Update and Solicitations for 2017 – Ms. McNeil advised the Commission that 2016 funding is expected to be awarded after the first of the year. Award letters will be sent to participating districts as soon as funds have been approved for release. As a reminder, the award period for the 2016 grant will be January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017.

Notices will be sent out in January to begin accepting 2017 funding requests. This will allow the Commission to review and approve the proposals at its February meeting prior to the solicitation close.

### **ISSUE NUMBER 2: UNIDENTIFIED DECEASED INITIATIVE**

Ms. Jan Henderson of the Missing and Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse (MEPIC) informed the Commission that her office will begin visiting each district medical examiner to offer help in assessing the status of that district's unidentified deceased, and to ensure that all information has been entered into NAMUS. Ms. Henderson said that while she is retiring at the end of December 2016, her replacement will conduct the visits. Dr. Nelson volunteered his office for the first visit.

Dr. Nelson asked that staff conduct a survey of the district medical examiners in order to determine if everyone is sending deceased fingerprint cards to the Quality Control Section at FDLE. He also requested that the MEPIC staff to determine if the deceased fingerprint cards that are received by FDLE are being searched against warrants and other criminal history information, and is there any manner to provide the district medical examiners with some type of verification that the cards were processed.

### **ISSUE NUMBER 3: HUMAN DONATION PROGRAM FOR FORENSIC RESEARCH, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

Erin Kimmerle, Ph.D. gave a brief presentation regarding her proposal for a forensic anthropology research facility. Dr. Kimmerle said that she was trying to complete a Legislative Budget Request for state funding of the project.

**A MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY FOR THE COMMISSION TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE PROJECT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA.**

### **ISSUE NUMBER 4: FEMORS-NATIONAL GUARD MASS CASUALTY/FATALITY EXERCISE: MARCH 2017**

Dr. Nelson reminded everyone of the FEMORS/National Guard Mass Casualty Exercise to be held in March, 2017 at the Dade-Collier Training and Transitional Airport (TNT), a public airport located within the Florida Everglades, 36 miles west of the central business district of Miami in Collier County. The airport is owned by Miami-Dade County and operated by the Miami-Dade Aviation Department. The airport is on the Tamiami Trail (US 41) near the border between Miami-Dade and Collier counties in central South Florida.

### **ISSUE NUMBER 5: RESOLUTION FOR STATE ATTORNEY ANGELA COREY, 4<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA**

Dr. Nelson read the following resolution for departing Commission member Angela Corey into the record:

**WHEREAS** the Medical Examiners Commission was created in 1970 by the passage of Chapter 406, Part I, Florida Statutes, also known as the Medical Examiners Act; and

**WHEREAS** this Commission plays a vital role in support of the State of Florida's criminal justice system, to the families of the deceased in determining the cause and manner of death of their loved ones whose deaths come under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner, and by contributing to the protection of the public health of the citizens of the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS** the Honorable Angela B. Corey, J.D., is the elected State Attorney for the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (Duval, Clay and Nassau counties) in the State of Florida, where she has served the citizens since she was initially elected in 2008; and

**WHEREAS** State Attorney Angela B. Corey has served the citizens of Florida as a prosecuting attorney for over thirty years; and

**WHEREAS** State Attorney Angela B. Corey was appointed to the Medical Examiners Commission in August 2011 by Governor Rick Scott to represent the concerns of Florida's prosecuting attorneys; and

**WHEREAS** State Attorney Angela B. Corey has enriched the Medical Examiners Commission with a unique blend of learned wisdom and scholarly legal opinion on the many important issues that have been brought to our Commission's attention during her tenure;

**NOW THEREFORE** let it be resolved that this Commission on behalf of Florida's Medical Examiners, the medical-legal community, and all of the citizens of Florida whom she has served so well, does hereby recognize and commend State Attorney Angela B. Corey for the dedication, exemplary service and valuable guidance she has offered to the Florida medical examiners system and hopes that she maintains this same professionalism and success in all her future endeavors.

**PASSED AND RECORDED**, in the official minutes of the Medical Examiners Commission meeting on this Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2016, in Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida.

#### **ISSUE NUMBER 6: RESOLUTION FOR SHERIFF RICK BESELER, CLAY COUNTY**

Dr. Nelson read the following resolution for departing Commission member Sheriff Rick Beseler into the record:

**WHEREAS** the Medical Examiners Commission was created in 1970 by the passage of Chapter 406, Part I, Florida Statutes, also known as the Medical Examiners Act; and

**WHEREAS** this Commission plays a vital role in support of the State of Florida's criminal justice system, to the families of the deceased in determining the cause and manner of death of their loved ones whose deaths come under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner, and by contributing to the protection of the public health of the citizens of the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS** Sheriff Rick Beseler, having over thirty years' experience in law enforcement, is the elected Sheriff of Clay County in the State of Florida, where he has served the citizens since he was initially elected in 2004; and

**WHEREAS** Sheriff Rick Beseler has served his fellow citizens and his community by sitting on many diverse civic organizations, councils, and task forces; and

**WHEREAS** Sheriff Rick Beseler was appointed to the Medical Examiners Commission in August 2013 by Governor Rick Scott to represent the concerns of Florida's sheriffs and the law enforcement community in general; and

**WHEREAS** Sheriff Rick Beseler's many years of law enforcement experience has enriched the Medical Examiners Commission with his keen insight and respected judgement on the many important issues that have been brought to our Commission's attention during his tenure;

**NOW THEREFORE** let it be resolved that this Commission on behalf of Florida's Medical Examiners, the medical-legal community, and all of the citizens of Florida whom he has served so well, does hereby recognize and commend Sheriff Rick Beseler for the dedication, service and valuable guidance he has offered to the Florida medical examiners system and hopes that he maintains this same enthusiasm, professionalism, and success in all his future endeavors.

**PASSED AND RECORDED**, in the official minutes of the Medical Examiners Commission meeting on this Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2016, in Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida.

#### **ISSUE NUMBER 7: 2017 FAME EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE**

Dr. Goldberger reported that the 2017 FAME Educational Conference would be held in Orlando, Florida. The Districts 9 and 25 Medical Examiner's Office will host the 2017 conference. There is no date set at this time, but anticipate the conference will be held either the second or third week of July.

#### **ISSUE NUMBER 8: OTHER BUSINESS**

Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D. gave a presentation regarding emerging drugs in Florida, including carfentanil, U-47700, and new cathinones. He spoke briefly on the Drug Enforcement Administration's recent decision to conduct further studies on Kratom prior to possibly scheduling the drug. Dr. Goldberger anticipates that there are hundreds of deaths in Florida attributed to carfentanil, but the lack of available analytical standards is delaying the identification of the substance.

During this discussion, Dr. Nelson made request that there be better communication between FDLE's crime lab, the county crime labs, and the medical examiner toxicology labs. Dr. Nelson also suggested bringing the now defunct "Crime Laboratory Council" back as a means to aid in the discussion between the labs due to the increase in synthetic drugs nationally and in Florida.

**With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 11:47 A.M.**



# State of Florida Medical Examiners Commission

P.O. Box 1489 | Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489 | (850) 410-8600

December 5, 2016

Erin H. Kimmerle, Ph.D.  
Department of Anthropology  
University of South Florida  
4202 East Fowler Avenue, SOC 107  
Tampa, FL 33620-8100

Dear Dr. Kimmerle:

On November 17, 2016, you presented a proposal to the Medical Examiners Commission regarding a forensic training center that will be associated with the Florida Institute for Forensic Anthropology and Applied Sciences at the University of South Florida in partnership with Pasco-Hernando State College and the Pasco County Sheriff's Office.

You explained that the objective of the proposed forensic training center is to create indoor and outdoor facilities that would include laboratory space for interdisciplinary and collaborative research, education, and professional training in areas relating to human identification, facial imaging, trauma analysis, age estimation, clandestine grave search and recovery, grave excavation, and chemical isotope and elemental analysis. Through this proposal, Florida will join Tennessee and Texas as a preeminent location in the United States for forensic research, allowing for mock crime scenes and hands-on training with real life scenarios through the University of South Florida's Human Donation Program.

Florida has a unique climate and the research that this facility will provide is an opportunity to blend science and law enforcement efforts to solve cold cases and bring closure to families of missing persons. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

The Medical Examiners Commission is supportive of this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen J. Nelson".

Stephen J. Nelson, M.A., M.D., F.C.A.P.  
Chairman, Medical Examiners Commission

SJN:vpk



## **2017 Legislative Bills of Interest**

### **Controlled Substances (SB 150 – Steube)**

This bill creates criminal penalties for trafficking of fentanyl with minimum mandatory terms of imprisonment. It creates criminal penalties for trafficking in synthetic drugs with minimum mandatory terms of imprisonment.

Proposed effective date is October 1, 2017

### **Controlled Substances – Kratom (HB 183 – Jacobs/SB 424 Rouson)**

This bill amends section 893.03, F.S., relating to controlled substances, and adds mitragynine or 7-hydroxymitragynine, the constituents of Kratom, to the list of controlled substances. It provides for an exception for any drug product approved by the US FDA containing these substances, and penalties.

Proposed effective date is October 1, 2016.

### **Drug Overdose (HB 249 – Rommel/SB 588 – Passidomo)**

The treatment for an overdose of a controlled substance is required to be reported to the sheriff or chief law enforcement officer in the county within 24 hours. The report must include the date of overdose, approximate age of the individual receiving treatment, the suspected kind and amount of the controlled substance, and the approximate address of where the individual was picked up, where the overdose occurred, or where the individual resides. The general data is required to be provided to the appropriate county health department. The health departments will compose a semiannual report to the Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council. The reports may be used for distribution of available federal, state, and private funds for local substance abuse services. A sheriff or chief law enforcement officer may designate or partner with a public organization or other agency to receive, store, and manage the reports.

Proposed effective date is October 1, 2017

### **Controlled Substances (HB 477 – Boyd)**

This bill amends section 893.03, F.S., relating to controlled substances by adding fentanyl analogs and other synthetic opioid substitutes (including U47700) to the list of Schedule I controlled substances. It provides criminal penalties for trafficking of fentanyl with minimum mandatory terms of imprisonment. It creates criminal penalties for trafficking in synthetic drugs with minimum mandatory terms of imprisonment. It also provides that distribution of a product containing heroin, fentanyl or a fentanyl analog that results in death is considered manslaughter.

Proposed effective date is upon becoming a law.

### **Controlled Substances (HB 505 – Trumbull)**

This bill amends s. 893.03, F.S., to specify that loflupane I 123, while a component of cocaine, is not a Schedule II substance.

Proposed effective date is July 1, 2017.

**Photographs, Video or Audio Recordings Depicting the Killing of a Person (HB 661 – Latvala)**

This bill expands the public records exemption in s. 406.136, F.S. to include any photograph, video, or audio recording held by an agency that depicts or records the killing of a person, not just a law enforcement officer acting in his or her official capacity. This essentially restores s. 406.136, F.S. to its wording prior to October 1, 2016.

Proposed effective date is October 1, 2017.

**Elder Abuse Fatality Review Teams (HB 703 – Watson / SB 518 – Gibson)**

This bill authorizes the establishment of elder abuse fatality review teams to review fatal and near-fatal incidents of elder abuse. Such review teams may be established at the local, regional or state level. A medical examiner is among those listed as possible members of the review team. The review teams are assigned to the Department of Children and Families for administrative purposes.

Proposed effective date is July 1, 2017.

**Stroke Centers (HB 785 – Magar)**

This bill directs the Agency for Health Care Administration to include hospitals meeting criteria for acute stroke ready centers on the list of stroke centers. It also creates s. 395.30381, F.S., which requires all stroke centers (acute ready, primary and comprehensive), emergency medical service providers and medical examiners to submit to the Department of Health patient quality assurance proceedings, records, or reports associated with any treatment or service provided to a person suffering a stroke. This information will be used to evaluate stroke care system effectiveness, and monitor patient outcomes.

Proposed effective date is July 1, 2017.

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to drug overdoses; providing  
 3           legislative findings and intent; creating s. 893.22,  
 4           F.S.; requiring certain persons to report controlled  
 5           substance overdoses; providing for a reporting agency  
 6           in each county; defining the term "overdose";  
 7           providing requirements for such reports; providing  
 8           immunity for persons who make such reports in good  
 9           faith; requiring sharing of data with specified  
 10          entities; providing for use of such data; requiring  
 11          maintenance of records for a specified period;  
 12          prohibiting failure to make such reports, whether by  
 13          omission or willfully; providing criminal penalties;  
 14          providing an effective date.

15  
 16   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17  
 18           Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that substance abuse  
 19 and drug overdose is a major health problem that affects the  
 20 lives of many people, multiple service systems, and leads to  
 21 such profoundly disturbing consequences as permanent injury or  
 22 death. Heroin, opiates, illegal drug, and accidental overdoses  
 23 are a crisis and stress the financial, health care, and public  
 24 safety resources because there exist no central databases that  
 25 can quickly help address this problem. Quick data collection

26 will allow all agencies to focus on specific age groups, areas,  
27 criminal behavior, and needed public education and prevention  
28 with the maximum utilization of resources. Further, it is the  
29 intent of the Legislature to require the collaboration of local,  
30 regional, and state agencies, service systems, and program  
31 offices to achieve the goals of chapter 893, Florida Statutes,  
32 and address the needs of the public; to establish a  
33 comprehensive system addressing the problems associated with  
34 drug overdoses; and to reduce duplicative requirements across  
35 local, county, state, and health care agencies. This act is  
36 designed to address the crisis of drug overdoses.

37 (2) It is the goal of the Legislature in this act to:

38 (a) Discourage substance abuse and accidental or  
39 intentional overdoses by quickly identifying the type of drug  
40 involved, whether prescription or illegal, the age of the  
41 individual involved, and the areas where drug overdoses pose a  
42 potential risk to the public, schools, workplaces, and  
43 communities.

44 (b) Provide a central data point in each county so that  
45 data can be shared between the health care community and  
46 municipal, county, and state agencies to quickly identify needs  
47 and provide short and long term solutions while protecting and  
48 respecting the rights of individuals.

49 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature in this act to  
50 maximize:

51        (a) The efficiency of financial, public education, health  
52 professional, and public safety resources so that these  
53 resources may be concentrated on areas and groups in need on the  
54 performance of professional functions necessary to carry out the  
55 intent of chapter 893, Florida Statutes.

56        (b) The utilization of funding programs for the  
57 dissemination of available federal, state, and private funds  
58 through contractual agreements with community-based  
59 organizations or units of state or local government that deliver  
60 local substance abuse services in accordance with s. 397.321(4),  
61 Florida Statutes.

62        Section 2. Section 893.22, Florida Statutes, is created to  
63 read:

64        893.22 Mandatory reporting of controlled substance  
65 overdoses.—

66        (1) (a) A physician, nurse, paramedic, emergency medical  
67 technician, or health care worker, or employee thereof, and any  
68 employee of a hospital, sanatorium, or other institution or  
69 provider who knowingly attends or treats or who is requested to  
70 attend or treat an overdose of a controlled substance listed in  
71 s. 893.03, shall report, within 24 hours, such attention or  
72 treatment, or request therefor, to the sheriff or chief law  
73 enforcement officer in the county in which such attention or  
74 treatment is administered or request therefor received.

75        (b) The sheriff or chief law enforcement officer in each

76 | county in its discretion may designate or partner with a public  
77 | organization or other agency, such as the medical examiner, to  
78 | receive, store, and manage the reports and other data described  
79 | in this section.

80 | (c) For purposes of this section, the term "overdose"  
81 | means a condition, including, but not limited to, extreme  
82 | physical illness, decreased level of consciousness, respiratory  
83 | depression, coma, or death resulting from the consumption or use  
84 | of any substance listed in 893.03 that requires medical  
85 | attention, assistance or treatment, and clinical suspicion for  
86 | drug overdose, such as respiratory depression, unconsciousness,  
87 | or altered mental status, without other conditions to explain  
88 | the clinical condition.

89 | (2) A person who reports an overdose of a controlled  
90 | substance under this section shall include in the report:

91 | (a) The date of overdose.

92 | (b) The approximate age of the person receiving attention  
93 | or treatment.

94 | (c) The suspected kind and quantity of controlled  
95 | substances involved in the overdose.

96 | (d) The approximate address of where the person was picked  
97 | up, where the overdose took place, or where the person resides.

98 | (3) A person who makes a report under this section in good  
99 | faith is not subject to civil or criminal liability for making  
100 | the report.

101       (4) The sheriff or chief law enforcement officer in each  
102 county, or other organization or agency as designated by such  
103 officer pursuant to subsection (1), shall share the general  
104 data, excluding any data relating to a criminal charge, with  
105 health care professionals and the county health department. Each  
106 county health department shall make a semiannual report to the  
107 Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council in accordance with a  
108 schedule set by the council summarizing the data for that  
109 county. The council may use the reports to maximize the  
110 utilization of funding programs for the dissemination of  
111 available federal, state, and private funds for local substance  
112 abuse services in accordance with s. 397.321(4).

113       (5) The sheriff or chief law enforcement officer in each  
114 county, or other organization or agency designated pursuant to  
115 subsection (1), shall maintain the records described in this  
116 section. Such records shall be kept and made available for a  
117 period of not less than 5 years for inspection and copying by  
118 law enforcement officers whose duty it is to enforce the laws of  
119 this state relating to controlled substances. Law enforcement  
120 officers are not required to obtain a subpoena, court order, or  
121 search warrant in order to obtain access to copies of such  
122 records.

123       (6) A person who:

124       (a) Fails by omission to report the treatment of a drug  
125 overdose of a substance listed in s. 893.03 within 24 hours

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126 | after discovery as required in this section commits a  
127 | misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.  
128 | 775.082 or s. 775.083.

129 | (b) Willfully refuses to report the treatment of a drug  
130 | overdose of a substance listed in s. 893.03 within 24 hours  
131 | after discovery as required in this section commits a  
132 | misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.  
133 | 775.082 or s. 775.083.

134 | Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2017.



1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to stroke centers; amending s.  
 3           395.3038, F.S.; directing the Agency for Health Care  
 4           Administration to include hospitals that meet the  
 5           criteria for acute stroke ready centers on a list of  
 6           stroke centers; directing the agency to adopt rules  
 7           governing such criteria and the development of certain  
 8           electronic forms to provide reports to the Department  
 9           of Health; creating s. 395.30381, F.S.; requiring  
 10          stroke centers to provide certain information to the  
 11          department; requiring the department to establish a  
 12          statewide stroke registry; providing immunity from  
 13          liability under certain circumstances; requiring the  
 14          department to adopt rules; amending s. 395.3041,  
 15          F.S.; conforming a provision and deleting obsolete  
 16          dates; providing an effective date.

17  
 18   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

19  
 20           Section 1. Section 395.3038, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 21   to read:

22           395.3038   State-listed ~~primary stroke centers and~~  
 23   ~~comprehensive~~ stroke centers; notification of hospitals.-

24           (1) The agency shall make available on its website and to  
 25   the department a list of the name and address of each hospital

26 | that meets the criteria for an acute stroke ready center, a  
27 | primary stroke center, ~~or and the name and address of each~~  
28 | ~~hospital that meets the criteria for~~ a comprehensive stroke  
29 | center. The list of ~~primary and comprehensive~~ stroke centers  
30 | must include only those hospitals that attest in an affidavit  
31 | submitted to the agency that the hospital meets the named  
32 | criteria, or those hospitals that attest in an affidavit  
33 | submitted to the agency that the hospital is certified as an  
34 | acute stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, or a  
35 | comprehensive stroke center by a nationally recognized ~~an~~  
36 | accrediting organization.

37 | (2) (a) If a hospital no longer chooses to meet the  
38 | criteria for an acute stroke ready center, a primary stroke  
39 | center, or a comprehensive stroke center, the hospital shall  
40 | notify the agency and the agency shall immediately remove the  
41 | hospital from the list of stroke centers.

42 | (b)1. This subsection does not apply if the hospital is  
43 | unable to provide stroke treatment services for a period of time  
44 | not to exceed 2 months. The hospital shall immediately notify  
45 | all local emergency medical services providers when the  
46 | temporary unavailability of stroke treatment services begins and  
47 | when the services resume.

48 | 2. If stroke treatment services are unavailable for more  
49 | than 2 months, the agency shall remove the hospital from the  
50 | list of ~~primary or comprehensive~~ stroke centers until the

51 hospital notifies the agency that stroke treatment services have  
 52 been resumed.

53 (3) The agency shall adopt by rule criteria for an acute  
 54 stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, and a  
 55 comprehensive stroke center which are substantially similar to  
 56 the certification standards for the same categories of primary  
 57 stroke centers of a nationally recognized accrediting  
 58 organization ~~the Joint Commission~~.

59 ~~(4) The agency shall adopt by rule criteria for a~~  
 60 ~~comprehensive stroke center. However, if the Joint Commission~~  
 61 ~~establishes criteria for a comprehensive stroke center, agency~~  
 62 ~~rules shall be substantially similar.~~

63 (4)~~(5)~~ This act is not a medical practice guideline and  
 64 may not be used to restrict the authority of a hospital to  
 65 provide services for which it is licensed under chapter 395. The  
 66 Legislature intends that all patients be treated individually  
 67 based on each patient's needs and circumstances.

68 (5) The agency shall adopt by rule standardized electronic  
 69 forms for each acute stroke ready center, primary stroke center,  
 70 and comprehensive stroke center to report to the department such  
 71 information as required in s. 395.30381.

72 Section 2. Section 395.30381, Florida Statutes, is created  
 73 to read:

74 395.30381 Statewide stroke registry.-

75 (1) Each acute ready stroke center, primary stroke center,

76 comprehensive stroke center, emergency medical service provider,  
77 and medical examiner shall submit to the department patient care  
78 quality assurance proceedings, records, or reports associated  
79 with any treatment or service provided to a person suffering a  
80 stroke. Such information shall be used to evaluate stroke care  
81 system effectiveness, ensure compliance with standards  
82 established pursuant to s. 395.3038, and monitor patient  
83 outcomes.

84 (2) The department shall establish a statewide stroke  
85 registry to ensure that patient care quality assurance  
86 proceedings, records, and reports required to be submitted under  
87 subsection (1) are maintained and available for use to improve  
88 or modify the stroke care system, ensure compliance with  
89 standards, and monitor stroke patient outcomes. The department  
90 may contract with a private entity to establish and maintain the  
91 registry. No liability of any kind or character for damages or  
92 other relief shall arise or be enforced against any acute ready  
93 stroke center, primary stroke center, comprehensive stroke  
94 center, emergency medical service provider, or medical examiner  
95 by reason of having provided such information to the department.

96 (3) The department shall adopt rules to administer this  
97 section.

98 Section 3. Subsections (1), (2), and (4) of section  
99 395.3041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

100 395.3041 Emergency medical services providers; triage and

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2017

101 transportation of stroke victims to a stroke center.-

102 (1) By June 1 of each year, the department shall send the  
103 list of acute stroke ready centers, primary stroke centers, and  
104 comprehensive stroke centers to the medical director of each  
105 licensed emergency medical services provider in this state.

106 (2) The department shall develop a sample stroke-triage  
107 assessment tool. The department must post this sample assessment  
108 tool on its website and provide a copy of the assessment tool to  
109 each licensed emergency medical services provider ~~no later than~~  
110 ~~June 1, 2005~~. Each licensed emergency medical services provider  
111 must use a stroke-triage assessment tool that is substantially  
112 similar to the sample stroke-triage assessment tool provided by  
113 the department.

114 (4) Each emergency medical services provider licensed  
115 under chapter 401 must comply with all sections of this act ~~by~~  
116 ~~July 1, 2005~~.

117 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

**CHAPTER 11G-5  
DISTRICT MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

- 11G-5.002 Establishment of Medical Examiner Districts
- 11G-5.003 District Medical Examiner Terms of Office
- 11G-5.004 Process for District Medical Examiner Candidate Nomination to the Governor

**11G-5.002 Establishment of Medical Examiner Districts.**

The following districts and counties are designated as Florida's medical examiner districts:

- (1) District 1 – Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton;
- (2) District 2 – Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Taylor, Wakulla;
- (3) District 3 – Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee;
- (4) District 4 – Clay, Duval, Nassau;
- (5) District 5 – Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Marion, Sumter;
- (6) District 6 – Pasco, Pinellas;
- (7) District 7 – Volusia;
- (8) District 8 – Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, Union;
- (9) District 9 – Orange, Osceola;
- (10) District 10 – Hardee, Highlands, Polk;
- (11) District 11 – Miami-Dade;
- (12) District 12 – DeSoto, Manatee, Sarasota;
- (13) District 13 – Hillsborough;
- (14) District 14 – Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Washington;
- (15) District 15 – Palm Beach;
- (16) District 16 – Monroe;
- (17) District 17 – Broward;
- (18) District 18 – Brevard;
- (19) District 19 – Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, St. Lucie;
- (20) District 20 – Collier;
- (21) District 21 – Glades, Hendry, Lee;
- (22) District 22 – Charlotte;
- (23) District 23 – Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns;
- (24) District 24 – Seminole.

*Rulemaking Authority 406.04 FS. Law Implemented 406.05 FS. History—New 2-23-93.*

**11G-5.003 District Medical Examiner Terms of Office.**

The term of office for a district medical examiner appointed by the governor shall be three years. A gubernatorial appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the unexpired portion of the term. For the purpose of administration, the 24 district medical examiners serve staggered terms, in accord with the following rotation:

- (1) First year – Districts 1 through 7;
- (2) Second year – Districts 8 through 14;
- (3) Third year – Districts 15 through 24.

*Rulemaking Authority 406.04 FS. Law Implemented 406.06(1)(a) FS. History—New 2-23-93, Amended 5-21-12.*

**11G-5.004 Process for District Medical Examiner Candidate Nomination to the Governor.**

(1) Policy Statement. Nominations for appointment as a district medical examiner shall be made only after solicitation of comments from city, county and state officials as well as from directors of funeral homes. Candidates nominated by the Medical Examiners Commission will be submitted to the Governor within 30 days after the Commission has voted on the matter. It is not the intent of the Commission to serve as the primary recruiting source for district medical examiner candidates, rather, the Commission

intends that this responsibility should remain primarily within the district. The Commission will provide a medical examiner member of the Commission to participate in the candidate screening process at the district level.

(2) Procedure for Nomination for Reappointment of District Medical Examiners.

(a) Prior to the expiration of each incumbent district medical examiner's three year term of appointment, the Medical Examiners Commission staff shall survey by written correspondence the district's state attorney(s), public defender(s), sheriff(s), police chief(s), county commissioner(s), funeral home directors and a member of the local medical community. The survey will solicit input from each relevant to performance of the incumbent district medical examiner and ask for a "favorable" or "non-favorable" response regarding nomination for reappointment. Additionally, the survey will ask for suggestions for improving district medical examiner services. The survey shall request recommendations for the nomination of the incumbent or any other qualified candidate(s) to serve as district medical examiner.

(b) A summary of the survey results shall be provided to the Commission. Copies of the survey responses shall be forwarded to the incumbent district medical examiner by Commission staff. The incumbent, together with any other qualified candidates named in the survey responses, shall be notified in writing as to the date, time and place of the Commission meeting which will be considering the reappointment of the district medical examiner.

(c) The Commission chairman may request establishment of a committee, as referred to in paragraph 11G-5.004(3)(b), F.A.C., to address concerns regarding the incumbent district medical examiner raised in the survey responses or to initiate a search for other candidates for nomination by the Commission.

(3) Procedure to fill a District Medical Examiner Vacancy.

(a) The Governor will be notified by the Commission upon determination that a district medical examiner position has become vacant or is anticipated to become vacant. The Commission shall also notify the respective state attorney(s), public defender(s), sheriff(s), police chief(s), county commission(s) and funeral home directors for that medical examiner district, requesting that names of potential candidates for the position of district medical examiner be submitted to the candidate search committee established in paragraph 11G-5.004(3)(b), F.A.C.

(b) Within 30 days of being notified of a vacancy or anticipated vacancy, the Chairman of the Commission shall call for a district candidate search committee to be established and appoint a chairman. The search committee shall consist of invited representatives from the offices of the state attorney(s), public defender(s), sheriff(s), police chief(s), county commission(s), funeral homes and a representative of the local medical community from within the bounds of that particular medical examiner district and a physician member of the Medical Examiners Commission or other medical examiner designated by the Chairman. The search committee shall be requested to:

1. Seek applications from interested candidates who are licensed physicians and experienced practitioners of pathology who possess qualifications to take the examination or already possess the primary certification offered by the American Board of Pathology, American Osteopathic Board of Pathology, or equal qualification rendered by a non-United States medical specialty certifying agency.

2. Establish an interview team, which shall have a quorum of three participants, to interview interested candidates meeting minimum position qualifications. If the district includes a medical school, the dean of the medical school should be invited to participate as a member of the interview team.

3. Assure that the candidate(s) recommended to the Commission for nomination as district medical examiner is in agreement with the respective county representatives regarding the medical examiner budget as outlined in Section 406.06(3), F.S.

4. Review background information about the final candidate(s) from present and past sources, to include a criminal history check, comments of county medical associations, employment references, local hospitals, government agencies and funeral homes with which the candidate(s) has a prior working relationship. Background inquiries should incorporate information on work performance and working relationships, as well as the candidate(s) reasons for and circumstances of leaving employment.

5. Submit an interview package to the Medical Examiners Commission staff for each candidate recommended to the Commission for nomination consisting of: pertinent correspondence regarding the candidate(s); results of background inquiries; letters of reference; and a letter from the candidate(s) to the Commission staff authorizing the release of information from former employers and the Board of Medicine in the state in which the candidate(s) is or was licensed.

6. Complete the candidate selection and interview process and submit interview packages to the Commission within 90 days of appointment of the candidate search committee unless additional time is requested in writing and approved by the Commission Chairman.

(c) The Commission staff shall review interview packages for completeness, prior to their being submitted to the Medical Examiners Commission and, if directed by the Chairman, make additional inquiries concerning the candidate's background or qualification.

1. The Commission staff shall verify each candidate's medical licensure status.

2. The Commission staff shall notify all candidates in writing of the time and place of the Commission meeting at which the district nomination(s) will be considered.

(d) The Commission, by majority vote, shall nominate one or more candidates to the Governor, to fill a district medical examiner office vacancy prior to the expiration of six months from the date of the vacancy. Nothing herein is intended to restrict the Commission's consideration of candidates for nomination only to those persons who may be recommended by a candidate search committee.

(e) The Commission will notify each candidate in writing as to the action taken by the Commission regarding their nomination as district medical examiner.

(f) The Commission will notify the chairman of the candidate search committee in writing on action taken by the commission regarding candidates submitted by the district to fill a district medical examiner vacancy. If the Commission does not vote to nominate any of the candidates submitted by the candidate search committee, the chairman of the committee may be requested to submit other candidates. The Office of the Governor will be notified that none of the candidates submitted for that district were acceptable and that the position is still vacant.

*Rulemaking Authority 406.04 FS. Law Implemented 406.06(1)(a) FS. History—New 2-23-93, Amended 9-27-93, 5-21-12.*



**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant Summary:**

Total Amount Requested by Districts (17)	\$59,128.50
Total Allotment for Medical Examiners	\$42,901.00

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/20/17)  
District Two Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Two Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to purchase a new dictation system. The current system is outdated and a new system will help the office stay operational.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Dictation System	\$3,000.00

**Total Request Amount: \$3,000.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,500.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/19/17)  
District Four Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Other**

**The District Four Medical Examiner Office** requests funds for continuing education for staff to support the enhancement of forensic paraprofessionals in forensic digital photography and major case printing techniques.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
2	Fingerprint Classification and Comparison @ \$795.00 each	\$1,590.00
3	Digital Photography for Law Enforcement @ \$595.00 each	\$1,785.00

**Total Request Amount: \$3,375.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Category: Other**

**The District Four Medical Examiner Office** requests funds for continuing education for staff to support the enhancement of forensic paraprofessionals in forensic digital photography and major case printing techniques.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Fingerprint Classification and Comparison @ \$795.00 each	\$795.00
3	Digital Photography for Law Enforcement @ \$595.00 each	\$1,785.00

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,580.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/19/17)  
District Five Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

The District Five Medical Examiner Office requests funds to purchase eight wheel assemblies needed to repair two non-functional autopsy tables. In order to ensure the safety of morgue staff and the integrity of the decedents housed at the facility, District Five has begun the process of replacing the wheel assemblies. The cost to repair the tables is half the cost of purchasing new ones. District 5 also requests funds to purchase a computer monitor and wall mount so front office staff can view a digital list of decedents that are currently in their custody. Utilizing a wall monitor linked to the cooler inventory spreadsheet will replace the current whiteboard system which often gets filled up or has smudged/illegible handwriting. Additionally, funds are requested to purchase four professional tactical flashlights to replace the outdated flashlights currently used for scene investigations. The smaller, higher quality flashlights are more appropriate for scene investigations in that they are portable, have more options for brightness and beam dilation, and have a longer battery life.

Quantity	Item	Cost
8	Caster, 8"x1.625" Arbor, Chrome Plated (8 @ \$289.80 each)	\$2,318.40
1	Dell 28 Ultra HD 4K 28" Monitor	\$449.99
1	Humanscale M8 with Fixed Height Hard Wall Mount	\$89.88
4	SoloRay Pro ZX-1 Professional Series Flashlight (4 @ \$55.59)	\$222.36

**Total Request Amount: \$3,080.63**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Category: Equipment**

The District Five Medical Examiner Office requests funds to purchase eight wheel assemblies needed to repair two non-functional autopsy tables. In order to ensure the safety of morgue staff and the integrity of the decedents housed at the facility, District Five has begun the process of replacing the wheel assemblies. The cost to repair the tables is half the cost of purchasing new ones. Funds are also requested to purchase four professional tactical flashlights to replace the outdated flashlights currently used for scene investigations. The smaller, higher quality flashlights are more appropriate for scene investigations in that they are portable, have more options for brightness and beam dilation, and have a longer battery life.

Quantity	Item	Cost
8	Caster, 8"x1.625" Arbor, Chrome Plated (8 @ \$289.80 each)	\$2,318.00
4	SoloRay Pro ZX-1 Professional Series Flashlight (4 @ \$55.59)	\$222.00

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,540.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/17/17)  
District Six Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

The District Six Medical Examiner Office requests funds for three Digital SLR cameras to be used during decedent processing within the autopsy suite. The cameras will provide for high quality digital image documentation during decedent processing and autopsy. The quality images are extremely beneficial for all agencies within the criminal justice system that this Office serves. District Six also requests funds for two portable tablets with protective cases to be used during death scene investigations. The new technology available in the form of portable tablets will increase the accuracy and timeliness of data collection and entry into the Medical Examiner database system. The tablets also allow for the use of the built-in cameras to further supplement scene documentation with digital photography in certain circumstances.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
3	Nikon Digital SLR Camera with Lens (3 @ \$447 each)	\$1,341.00
2	Portable Tablet (2 @ \$747 each)	\$1,494.00
2	Protective Tablet Case (2 @ \$90)	\$180.00

**Total Request Amount: \$3,015.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Category: Equipment**

The District Six Medical Examiner Office requests funds for two Digital SLR cameras to be used during decedent processing within the autopsy suite. The cameras will provide for high quality digital image documentation during decedent processing and autopsy. The quality images are extremely beneficial for all agencies within the criminal justice system that this Office serves. District Six also requests funds for two portable tablets with protective cases to be used during death scene investigations. The new technology available in the form of portable tablets will increase the accuracy and timeliness of data collection and entry into the Medical Examiner database system. The tablets also allow for the use of the built-in cameras to further supplement scene documentation with digital photography in certain circumstances.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
2	Nikon Digital SLR Camera with Lens (2 @ \$447 each)	\$894.00
2	Portable Tablet (2 @ \$747 each)	\$1,494.00
2	Protective Tablet Case (2 @ \$90)	\$180.00

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,568.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/11/17)  
District Seven Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

The District Seven Medical Examiner Office requests funds to purchase an autopsy saw and blades.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Autopsy Saw	\$2,450.00
5	Round Blade for Autopsy Saw	\$550.00

**Total Request Amount: \$3,000.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Category: Equipment**

The District Seven Medical Examiner Office requests funds to purchase an autopsy saw.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Autopsy Saw	\$2,450.00

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,450.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/20/17)  
District Eight Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

The **District Eight Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to purchase two new Stryker saws to be used for the opening of the cranium, bone marrow dissection, and cast removal. The tasks are routinely performed by the Medical Examiner, Associate Medical Examiners, and Forensic Autopsy Technicians.

Also, the **District Eight Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to purchase two Canon EOS Rebel T6 Digital SLR cameras for taking of medicolegal autopsy photographs, to document personal effects of the decedents, and for use in decedent identification.

Quantity	Item	Cost per Unit	Total Cost
2 each	Stryker Autopsy Saw Model #810	\$2,377	\$4,754
2 each	Canon EOS Rebel T6 Digital SLR Camera & Accessories	\$447	\$894

**Category: Indirect Costs**

The **District Eight Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to offset indirect costs associated with the above purchase.

Quantity	Item	Cost
1	Indirect Costs (10%)	\$565

**Total Requested Amount: \$6,213**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Category: Equipment**

The **District Eight Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to purchase a new Stryker saw to be used for the opening of the cranium, bone marrow dissection, and cast removal. The tasks are routinely performed by the Medical Examiner, Associate Medical Examiners, and Forensic Autopsy Technicians.

Quantity	Item	Cost per Unit	Total Cost
1	Stryker Autopsy Saw Model #810	\$2,377	\$2,377

**Category: Indirect Costs**

The **District Eight Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to offset indirect costs associated with the above purchase.

Quantity	Item	Cost
1	Indirect Costs (10%)	\$237.70

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,614.70**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/19/17)  
District Nine Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Nine Medical Examiner Office** requests funds for an autopsy cart and tray top. These carts and tray tops are vital to District Nine's daily morgue operations, as well as being instrumental in mass fatality incidents. By allocating funds for additional autopsy carts and tray tops, District Nine will be able to increase their operational capacity to store and move decedents throughout their workflow process.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Autopsy Cart and Tray Top	\$3,682.00

**Total Request Amount: \$3,682.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,577.00**



**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/06/17)  
District Ten Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Consultants/Contracts**

**The District Ten Medical Examiner Office** requests funds for anthropology services. This consultant is needed to aid in the identification of unknown decedents and assist in determining cause and manner of death. Without these services, medical examiner cases would stagnate and not move forward. These services will improve the timeliness and eliminate backlog of medical examiner cases.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Anthropology Services	\$3,000.00

**Total Request Amount: \$3,000.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,576.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/17/17)  
District Eleven Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Eleven Medical Examiner Office** requests funds for three HP Elite Desk 800 computers which will replace computers that are more than five years old and no longer under warranty. Newer applications require more computing capacity and RAM than District Eleven's older computers can provide. These computers will expedite the office's processes and allow for the sharing of information in a timely manner.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
3	HP Elite Desk 800 PCs (3 @ \$1,052.36 each)	\$3,157.08

**Total Request Amount: \$3,157.08**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,576.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/11/17)  
District Twelve Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Twelve Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to purchase new computer equipment that would facilitate and increase concurrent analytical and data analysis with their newly purchased case management database; and/or upgrade software operating systems that would interface more efficiently with new hardware technology of their current case management database, thus providing better service to the public; and/or apply funds towards their new computer database's CME Software Annual Maintenance fee.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Computer equipment/software	\$8,000.00

**Total Request Amount: \$8,000.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,576.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/18/17)  
District Fifteen Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Fifteen Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to assist with the purchase of 2x objective microscope lenses used in histologic examination of human tissue. At present four of their microscopes do not have a 2x objective which is critical in making pathologic diagnosis.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
4	2x Objective Microscope Lens	\$3,000.00

**Total Request Amount: \$3,000.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Fifteen Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to assist with the purchase of 2x objective microscope lenses used in histologic examination of human tissue. At present four of their microscopes do not have a 2x objective which is critical in making pathologic diagnosis.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
3	2x Objective Microscope Lens	\$2,547.00

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,547.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/12/17)  
District Sixteen Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Sixteen Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to purchase a cadaver stretcher to be used in daily morgue operations. Work load is unpredictable and an additional cart will allow for the movement of decedents throughout the work flow process.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Cadaver Stretcher	\$2,687.00

**Total Request Amount: \$2,687.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,576.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/10/17)  
District Seventeen Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Other**

**The District Seventeen Medical Examiner Office** requests funds for CAP Forensic Pathology FR Continuing Education for 16 staff to be applied toward certifications and/or licensure. This program provides each staff participant up to 12 CEs per year.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	CAP Forensic Pathology FR Continuing Education	\$2,875.00

**Total Request Amount: \$2,875.00**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,577.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/18/17)  
District Eighteen Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment & Supplies**

The District Eighteen Medical Examiner Office requests funds to purchase a Digital SLR camera to be used in death investigations. Funds are also requested for various equipment items and supplies that will help investigators respond with improved timeliness and effectiveness at death scenes. Work boots will ensure investigators have proper footwear for terrain encountered (brush, swampy areas, etc.), and rain gear will protect equipment and investigators from the elements so they can focus on surveying the death scene.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Digital SLR Camera	\$449.00
4	Rain Cover Camera Protector	\$55.00
4	Nylon Rain Suit	\$160.00
4	Waterproof Work Boots	\$260.00
4	LED Tactical Flashlight	\$60.00
4	Golf Umbrella Extra Large Oversize	\$120.00
4	Portable Ultra Bright LED Handheld Flashlight	\$52.00
4	LED Headlamp	\$112.00
4	Heavy Duty Waterproof Duffle Bag	\$116.00
4	Car Phone Mount Holder	\$40.00
4	Spider Camera Holster	\$200.00
4	Soft Shell Jacket, Safety Yellow/Black, D18 ME Logo	\$276.30
4	Set of 5 Waterproof Notepads	\$43.00
4	12 Pack Waterproof and Resistance to Fade Neutral Pen	\$48.00

**Total Request Amount: \$1,991.30**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$1,991.30**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/19/17)  
District Nineteen Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Nineteen Medical Examiner Office** requests funds to purchase an autopsy saw and a document shredder.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Autopsy Saw	\$1,282.75
1	Document Shredder	\$1,499.41

**Total Request Amount: \$2,782.16**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,576.00**



**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/18/17)  
District Twenty-One Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Twenty-One Medical Examiner Office** requests funds for the purchase of 800 MHz radios. During an emergency, cell phone communication may not be available. The District 21 Medical Examiner's local emergency management and first responder agencies communicate through 800 MHz radios.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	800 MHz radio and accessories	\$3,770.34

**Total Request Amount: \$3,770.34**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,576.00**

**2017 Paul Coverdell Grant  
Expenditure List (Received 01/20/17)  
District Twenty-Three Medical Examiner Office**

**Category: Equipment**

**The District Twenty-Three Medical Examiner Office** requests funds for the purchase of a touch screen all-in-one computer for the digital x-ray system. A small laptop is currently being used which limits the ability to view and diagnose x-rays. The benefits of digital x-ray technology include decreased radiation exposure for technicians and higher quality image for diagnosis. This funding will allow the office to have a dedicated all-in-one computer mounted in the autopsy suite for x-rays.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Touch Screen All-In-One Computer	\$2,499.99

**Total Request Amount: \$2,499.99**

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Total Proposed Amount: \$2,500.00**



## State of Florida Medical Examiners Commission


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P.O. Box 1489 | Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489 | (850) 410-8600

January 18, 2017

### MEMORANDUM

To: Medical Examiners Commission Members

From: Victoria G. Koenig, Bureau Chief   
Medical Examiners Commission Staff

Subject: Probationary Case File Audit – Final Order against Sajid S. Qaiser, M.D.

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On July 7, 2016, the Medical Examiners Commission filed a final order on MEC case #15-1 regarding the McDonough complaint. The final order provided that Sajid S. Qaiser, M.D., be placed on one year of probation, to include the drafting of new office policies and procedures. The Commission included a provision that MEC staff shall conduct a second audit in order to determine that new policies have been put in place and are being followed and if so, the Commission may terminate the period of probation early.

On December 12, 2016, the District 18 Medical Examiner's Office was notified that Commission staff would conduct an audit of all files for calendar year 2016 for cases in which jurisdiction was accepted, but a visual inspection rather than an invasive autopsy was conducted. The audit was scheduled for January 12-13, 2017, and advanced notice was provided to allow the office to pull the files for review.

From January 12-13, 2017, staff members Doug Culbertson, Beth McNeil, and I reviewed 212 visual inspection case files for the 2016 calendar year. In each of these cases, it was evident that the new policies and procedures were in effect and being followed. All case files contained the pertinent medical records to support the findings of the cause and manner of death for each visual external examination conducted. If required, toxicology reports for ante-mortem blood (hospital admit) or post-mortem blood or vitreous were present in the case file. Each of the toxicology reports included a request for quantification of toxicology results and payment for such requests was made by the District 18 Medical Examiner's Office.

Based on the results of this audit, staff finds that Sajid S. Qaiser, M.D., has complied with the terms of his probation to date. The documentation contained within the case files indicates that new office policies and procedures are in place and being followed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

VGK/dc



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## **Winners announced for the 29th Annual "In the Company of Women" Awards**

*Tickets on sale now for the awards ceremony / reception, scheduled for March 8, 2017  
at the Coral Gables Country Club*

### **MIAMI (December 02, 2016) —**

In celebration of International Women's Day on March 8, 2017, the Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade in conjunction with the Miami-Dade Commission for Women and the Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department will honor 12 of Miami-Dade's most distinguished women leaders during the 29th Annual In the Company of Women Awards Ceremony and Reception, at 6 p.m., at the Coral Gables Country Club, 990 Alhambra Circle, in Coral Gables, FL.

The women will be honored for their professional and pluralistic achievements in one of 12 categories. This year's honorees include:

### **2017 Winners:**

**Mayor's Pioneer** - Carol Kruse, Director, Zoo Miami

**Posthumous** - Julie Kay, Journalist, Daily Business Review

**Arts & Entertainment** - Nannette Zapata, COO and Art Curator, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

**Business & Economics** – Patricia Nelson, Regional Head of Strategic Accounts, AvMed

**Education and Research** - Dr. Lenore Rodicio, Executive Vice President and Provost, Miami-Dade College

**Government and Law (Elected Official)** – Honorable Nushin Sayfie, Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court Judge, Criminal Division; and Honorable Angelica Zayas, Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court Judge, Juvenile Division

**Government and Law (Non-Elected)** - Dr. Emma Lew, Director and Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department

**Health and Human Services** - Annie Neasman, MS, RN, President and CEO, Jessie Trice Community Health Center, Inc.

**Science & Technology** - Dr. Yesim Darici, Director, FIU Center for Women's and Gender Studies

**Sports & Athletics** - Leslie Nixon, J.D., Ed.D., Director, Government and Community Affairs, Miami Dolphins LTD/Miami Dolphins Foundation.

**Community Spirit** - Maria M. Blet, Chair of the Women's Leadership Council, United Way Worldwide / United Way of Miami-Dade

Nominations were solicited from the general public from September through October 2016 and had to meet the following criteria: professional development, community responsibility, leadership and vision, contribution to women's progress and promotion of pluralism. Winners were chosen by a selection panel comprised of previous winners and of representatives from the host organizations.

The event will feature a pre-event reception with drinks, hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction, followed by the awards ceremony. Tickets are \$60 in advance, \$65 at the door; children 12-17 are \$25, and under 12 are free. Tickets can be purchased [here](#). For more information, visit <http://www.miamidade.gov/parks/company-of-women.asp>.

In the Company of Women takes place in March in commemoration of Women's History Month and is hosted by the Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade, the Miami-Dade County Commission for Women, and the Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department. Proceeds support Miami-Dade Parks and parks programming, including The Women's Park and the Girls Empowerment and Mentoring (G.E.M.) Summer Arts Program.

#### **About The Miami-Dade County Commission for Women**

The Commission for Women falls within the purview of Miami-Dade's Office of Community Advocacy, a division of the Office of the Chair. The Miami-Dade County Commission for Women was created in 1971 as an advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners, the County administration and the public at large about issues pertaining to the status of women. The Commission for Women also advocates for women in the community and strives to improve their quality of life. For more information call (305) 375-4967, email [cfw@miamidade.gov](mailto:cfw@miamidade.gov); or visit the website at [www.miamidade.gov/advocacy/women-board-home.asp](http://www.miamidade.gov/advocacy/women-board-home.asp).

[Miami-Dade Parks](#) is the third largest county park system in the United States, consisting of 270 parks and 13,573 acres of land. It is one of the most unique park and recreation systems in the world. The non-profit [Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade](#) supports Miami-Dade Parks' efforts to further develop Miami-Dade County's world-class parks system for residents and visitors.

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