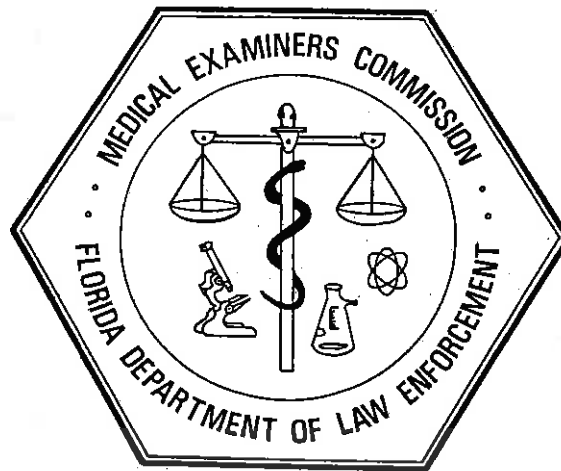




Florida Department
of Law Enforcement



Medical Examiners Commission

2004

ANNUAL REPORT

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Chairman

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From the Chairman of the Medical Examiners Commission

On behalf of the Medical Examiners Commission (MEC), as its Chairman, I am pleased to submit this annual report to Governor Bush and to the Florida Legislature, "*...setting forth the activities and findings of the several district medical examiners*" as required by law. A copy of this annual report is also made available to each Board of County Commissioners, as it is county government that is the sole source of funding for Florida's 24 medical examiner districts.

The Medical Examiners Commission welcomed Deputy State Registrar Ken Jones to the Commission in 2004. Mr. Jones represents the Secretary of Health on the Commission as provided for by Statute. And the Honorable Lane C. Rees vacated his seat on the Commission as the County Commissioner representative due to his lost bid for re-election to the Walton County Commission in the fall of 2004.

As all Floridians know, 2004 was the most active season for hurricanes in Florida on record with the state sustaining death and damage from four major storms. Medical examiners diligently worked through these catastrophic times, dealing with the storms and their aftermath of power outages leading to less than ideal working conditions at their facilities, to say the least. In all there were 123 deaths officially attributed either directly or indirectly to these storms by Florida's medical examiners. FEMORS (Florida Emergency Mortuary Operations Response System) experienced its first activation last year, and by all accounts, was a tremendous asset to those offices in need of qualified personnel and equipment. Their services were directed through the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

The Report of Drugs Identified in Deceased Persons continues to be a model for states to emulate and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) invited MEC staff to their headquarters in an attempt to form a pilot study with the hope of eventually making this a nationwide effort. The Florida report continues to illuminate the tragic and continuing problem of both prescription and illicit drugs and helps our government to allocate its resources toward prevention, education, and treatment.

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

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INTRODUCTION

The Medical Examiners Act, Chapter 406 Part I, Florida Statutes, was enacted by the 1970 Legislature in order to establish minimum and uniform standards of excellence in statewide medical examiner services. Section 406.02(4)(a), Florida Statutes, requires a report to the Governor and to the Legislature correlating and setting forth the activities and findings of the district medical examiners. This report is submitted in compliance with the requirement cited above and illustrates the direction taken by the Medical Examiners Commission during 2004 to assure the maintenance of an effective and viable program of medical examiner services throughout Florida.

SUMMARY

Medical examiners in Florida continue to have at least some sort of oversight over approximately two-thirds of the deaths in Florida (See Charts 1a and 1b). Of the approximately 170,000 deaths in the State of Florida in 2004, 105,120 Florida deaths came under medical examiner jurisdiction. While most of these (83,265 deaths or approximately 79%) were for the review of cremation requests, medical examiners accepted jurisdiction pursuant to Florida Statutes of 21,855 deaths. Forensic autopsies were performed on 16,522 individuals before the death certificate was signed by the medical examiner.

The manner of death (See Table 1A) is one of the most important determinations that is made by the medical examiner. Natural deaths accounted for 40% of the caseload of medical examiners, followed by 25% for non-motor vehicular accidents and 16% for motor vehicular accidents. Suicides, homicides, and undetermined/pending accounted for the remainder at 11%, 5%, and 3% respectively of the cases accepted by medical examiners.

The workload of medical examiner offices continues its increase in Florida in recent years as can be seen in Chart V. Increasingly, cremation has become a more frequent means of final disposition for bodies in Florida and, accordingly, their review and approval by medical examiners have increased. Although the percentage of medical examiner jurisdiction cases accepted as related to Florida's increasing population has decreased, the actual numbers have increased, leading to an ever increasing number of autopsies in recent years.

COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

Mr. Ken Jones assumed his position on the Commission as the representative for the Department of Health in January of 2004. Mr. Jones has been the Deputy State Registrar for the Office of Vital Statistics for twenty years and also serves on the Child Fatality Review Team. Before coming to the Office of Vital Statistics, Mr. Jones worked with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for ten years.

One of the two Medical Examiner representatives, Dr. Stephen J. Nelson, and the Funeral Home Industry representative, Mrs. Mariana Caballero, were reappointed to the Commission in 2004 for additional four year terms by the Governor.

The County Commissioner Representative on the Medical Examiners Commission, Mr. Lane C. Rees, lost his bid for re-election to the Walton County Commission and, as a result, lost his position on the Commission in November of 2004. This created a vacancy on the Commission which is currently pending the Governor's Appointment.

DISTRICT MEDICAL EXAMINER APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

In 2004 the District Medical Examiners from Districts 8, 10, and 12, were reappointed by the Governor for additional three year terms:

District 8:	Dr. William F. Hamilton
District 10:	Dr. Stephen J. Nelson
District 12:	Dr. Russell S. Vega

DISTRICT 1

Dr. Andrea N. Minyard, who had been the Interim Medical Examiner for District 1 since Dr. Gary D. Cumberland's resignation in February of 2004, was subsequently nominated by the Commission to the Governor and received her gubernatorial appointment on July 22, 2004 to the position of District 1 Medical Examiner for a term beginning December 27, 2004 and ending July 1, 2006.

DISTRICT 5

Dr. Steven C. Cogswell was appointed Interim Medical Examiner for District 5 on July 1, 2003, as the result of Dr. Valerie Rao not being recommended for reappointment. Dr. Cogswell was subsequently nominated by the Commission to the Governor and received his gubernatorial appointment on July 22, 2004 which runs until July 1, 2006.

DISTRICT 9

As a result of Dr. Shashi Gore's retirement at the end of his term, Dr. Jan Garavaglia was appointed Interim Medical Examiner for District 9 on July 1, 2004. Dr. Garavaglia was subsequently nominated by the Commission to the Governor and received her gubernatorial appointment on July 22, 2004 which runs until July 1, 2007.

DISTRICT 14

Dr. Charles F. Siebert, Jr, who had been the Interim Medical Examiner for District 14 subsequent to Dr. E. Hunt Scheuerman's resignation in November of 2002, was nominated by the Commission to the Governor and subsequently received his gubernatorial appointment to the position of District 14 Medical Examiner for a term beginning on July 2, 2004 and ending July 1, 2007.

DISTRICT 18

Dr. Paulino O. Vasallo retired as the District 18 Medical Examiner on September 30, 2004. Dr. Robert E. Whitmore, who relocated from San Diego, California, was selected to fill this position and was subsequently nominated by the Commission to the Governor and received his gubernatorial appointment to fill out the remaining term beginning December 27, 2004 and ending July 1, 2005.

PROBABLE CAUSE PANEL

In response to a written complaint submitted to the Commission against Dr. Shashi Gore, District 9 Medical Examiner, a Probable Cause Panel was established to review the allegations. The Panel concurred with many of the points of contention made in the complaint, but did not agree with others. Ultimately, the Commission

found the complaint to be legally sufficient and found Probable Cause. The Commission subsequently suspended Dr. Gore from performing medical examiner autopsies until his announced retirement date of June 30, 2004.

MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION RULE AND PRACTICE GUIDELINES CHANGES

On November 30, 2004 the following rule changes went into effect:

11G-2.004(4)(b) now clarifies that, *Fixed organs shall be retained until the medical examiner has completed his or her studies on them.*

11G-2.004(4)(c) now reads, *All other specimens shall be retained for one year.*

11G-2.004(4)(d) now reads *All other physical evidence not released to another investigative agency or to the owner shall be retained for one year.*

And 11G-2.004(4)(e) was added to the section and reads, *Physical Evidence that is retained for any period longer than is specified above must be held in accordance with Rule 11G-2.006, F.A.C.* (This is the paragraph that incorporated the Practice Guidelines by rule.)

Lastly, Rule 11G-2.006, F.A.C. incorporates into Rule the latest version of Practice Guidelines from May of 2003.

As a reminder, the current versions of statute, rule, and Practice Guidelines are posted on FDLE's web site:

<http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/cjst/mec/index.html>

THE 2004 FLORIDA HURRICANE SEASON AND THE FIRST ACTIVATION OF FLORIDA EMERGENCY MORTUARY OPERATIONS RESPONSE SYSTEM (FEMORS)

As stated by the Chairman, 2004 was the most active season for hurricanes in Florida on record with the state sustaining death and damage from four major storms. As of the date of this publication, there were 123 deaths officially attributed either directly or indirectly to these storms by Florida's medical examiners. A review of the causes of death of these cases reveals that almost a third of these deaths were directly caused by trauma suffered during the fury of the storm as they approached, hit, and departed the affected areas. The remainder of these storm-related deaths, however, occurred during the aftermath of the storms due to accidents from cleanup, power outages, motor vehicle accidents, and from natural deaths of those with pre-existing health problems that in general were exacerbated by the stress from the storm. FEMORS (Florida Emergency Mortuary Operations Response System) was put on stand-by for all of these storms, but was actually activated only twice by the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

The official count to date of storm-related deaths as reported to MEC staff by Florida Medical Examiners was:

Hurricane Charley	35
Hurricane Frances	40
Hurricane Ivan	29
Hurricane Jeanne	19

VIOLENT CRIME AND DRUG CONTROL COUNCIL (VCDCC)

The Violent Crime and Drug Control Council is composed of fourteen members, one of whom is the medical examiner representative, Dr. Margarita Arruza (District 4). The Council is routinely briefed on the annual and bi-annual Medical Examiners reports regarding drug-related deaths. Also, in June 2004, the Council invited a former Council member, Dr. Marta U. Coburn, Chief Medical Examiner (District 20), to make a presentation on the Florida Unidentified Decedents Database (FLUIDDB), a web-based clearinghouse offered by the Florida Medical Examiners Office that contains information about those found dead in Florida whose identities remain unknown.

During the past 11 years, the Council has provided either partial or full funding for investigations or trials of many high profile cases. The funds for this came from the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account. From January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004, the Council funded 14 violent crime cases to 12 agencies totaling \$375,053.78. It also funded over \$1.8 Million in drug control funding to 27 cases involving partnerships between nearly 80 local, state, and federal agencies. These cases resulted in the dismantling of over a dozen major drug trafficking organizations, hundreds of arrests, significant seizures of weapons and drugs including cocaine, marijuana, heroin, MDMA, methamphetamine, and prescription drugs. The Council also funded 42 victim/witness protection cases to eight (8) agencies totaling \$123,879.36.

STATE CHILD FATALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Associate Medical Examiner Dr. Barbara Wolf from District 21 became the Commission's representative on the Florida Child Abuse Death Review Team in 2004. This Committee is administered by the Florida Department of Health and utilizes state and local multidisciplinary teams to conduct detailed reviews of the facts and circumstances surrounding child abuse and neglect deaths. The State Team performed case reviews in 2004 of the 35 children who died in 2003 with at least one prior report of abuse or neglect filed with the Department of Children and Families (DCF). Neglect deaths comprised 52% of the cases, while 48% were abuse. The State Team identified drowning as a major concern, and also identified a significant risk of infant death related to unsafe sleeping environments. Due to a statute change, in 2005 the committee will begin to review *all* cases of confirmed child abuse or neglect related deaths, regardless of whether there was a prior report to DCF. This expanded mission will necessitate a greater involvement of local review teams. The State Team has been actively working to establish more local teams and to increase its involvement with those already established. However, this has been hampered by the "Sunset" of the statute which had provided confidentiality protections that enabled the teams to review sensitive materials related to a child's death. The State Team is actively working with the Legislature to restore the confidentiality protection necessary for thorough review of these cases.

ORGAN AND TISSUE PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Dr. Bruce Hyma (District 11) was the Commission's representative on the Organ and Tissue Procurement and Transplantation Advisory Board which is housed in Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA). This board did not meet in 2004, however they have as a goal the realignment of Section 59A-1, Florida Administrative Code with the federal regulations found in the Code of Federal Regulations dealing with the same matter.

ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 32nd Annual Educational Conference, which was to be held on Biscayne Bay at the Sonesta Key Resort, had to be canceled because of the intense workload caused by the multiple hurricanes that hit Florida in such a short period. Plans were for the District 11 Medical Examiner's Office try again to host the 2005 at the same location.

METHODOLOGY

Death numbers in Florida reflect the total number of Certificates of Death recorded in 2004 by local county registrars of Vital Statistics. These include both resident and non-resident deaths. This data was obtained from the Office of Vital Statistics in the Department of Health. Rates related to deaths in this report are medical examiner cases per every one thousand recorded deaths.

Population estimates (as of April 1, 2004) for the State of Florida were provided by the Finance & Economic Analysis Section of the Executive Office of the Governor. Unless otherwise noted, rates related to population in this report are deaths for every one thousand residents.

Information concerning autopsy numbers and other workload distribution figures are supplied by the twenty-four medical examiner districts in their Annual Report Workload Data Forms. These forms are filed annually with the Medical Examiners Commission staff in April or May of each year. (See Tables I and I-A).

TABLE I
2004 District Demographics and Annual Workload Activity Reports

District	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
	Population	Total District Deaths	Natural	Accident-Motor Vehicle	Accident-Non-Motor Vehicle	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Pending	Total Violent Deaths	Fetal Deaths	Human Archaeological Remains	Non-Human Remains	Total Cremation Approvals (CA)	Total Cases Referred to ME	Total Cases Accepted (incl CA)	Cases Referred Minus CA	Cases Accepted Minus CA	Jurisdiction Declined	SDS	Police Custody or Penal Inst.
1	677,268	5,994	338	114	214	99	36	20	50	533	4	2	6	1,988	4,345	2,859	2,357	871	1,486	2	8
2	389,266	2,588	176	58	79	42	30	9	0	218	2	0	1	626	1,441	1,020	815	394	421	2	12
3	154,430	1,453	55	63	39	19	5	4	1	131	0	0	0	515	755	701	240	186	54	1	6
4	1,068,951	9,429	365	208	336	145	132	26	1	848	2	4	18	3,817	5,304	5,030	1,487	1,213	274	7	44
5	885,928	11,290	540	199	246	132	33	8	12	630	6	4	0	7,263	9,043	8,433	1,780	1,170	610	2	6
6	1,333,416	17,716	494	242	539	244	70	33	0	1,128	5	1	13	11,414	13,733	13,036	2,319	1,622	697	0	8
7	484,261	6,088	211	142	129	106	22	4	3	406	2	1	9	3,296	4,371	3,913	1,075	617	458	4	2
8	355,883	3,739	246	102	116	51	23	22	8	322	0	0	5	1,617	2,447	2,185	830	568	262	7	105
9	1,239,753	9,097	627	306	297	147	93	18	1	862	2	2	2	4,326	6,886	5,815	2,560	1,489	1,071	8	5
10	648,233	6,851	348	179	210	78	27	17	0	511	1	2	14	3,397	4,764	4,256	1,367	859	508	7	1
11	2,379,818	19,139	1,267	297	602	211	232	3	45	1,390	0	16	8	6,485	9,422	9,142	2,937	2,657	280	0	43
12	687,654	8,265	375	96	250	109	26	22	0	503	0	1	0	5,573	6,883	6,451	1,310	878	432	0	5
13	1,108,435	9,703	865	252	449	144	73	21	0	939	3	0	11	4,704	7,383	6,508	2,679	1,804	875	6	11
14	278,534	2,672	162	100	63	47	18	7	0	235	0	0	3	746	1,575	1,143	829	397	432	0	5
15	1,242,270	14,004	405	205	385	152	90	31	98	961	1	1	6	5,876	8,191	7,242	2,315	1,366	949	1	4
16	81,236	583	90	23	37	26	3	1	1	91	0	0	6	421	620	602	199	181	18	0	0
17	1,723,131	15,028	747	213	498	229	68	66	40	1,114	4	0	2	5,993	9,477	7,854	3,484	1,861	1,623	5	5
18	521,422	5,445	260	107	191	105	28	11	0	442	2	0	8	2,678	4,652	3,380	1,974	702	1,272	1	4
19	528,686	5,794	374	139	263	79	21	1	0	503	1	2	8	3,239	4,629	4,116	1,390	877	513	2	5
20	306,186	2,497	112	51	140	40	12	0	22	265	0	3	8	1,701	2,262	2,078	561	377	184	2	0
21	569,380	5,886	368	168	279	114	45	10	0	616	0	0	9	3,741	6,852	4,725	3,111	984	2,127	3	11
22	156,985	2,097	91	28	46	28	5	0	0	107	0	1	1	1,423	1,622	1,621	199	198	1	0	1
23	292,245	2,384	118	87	51	53	9	3	0	203	0	4	4	1,321	2,015	1,642	694	321	373	2	1
24	403,361	2,388	119	44	45	33	19	0	3	144	0	2	8	1,105	1,673	1,368	568	263	305	2	3
State	17,516,732	170,130	8,753	3,423	5,504	2,433	1,120	337	285	13,102	35	46	150	83,265	120,345	105,120	37,080	21,855	15,225	64	295

Note: Columns are labeled for easy reference to other tables in report.

TABLE I-A
2004 Workload by Depth of Examination

District	Natural				Acc: Motor Veh				Acc: Non Motor Veh				Suicide				Homicide				Undetermined				Pending				Totals for Year		
	Autopsied	Body Inspected	Case Investigated only	Total	Autopsied	Body Inspected	Case Investigated only	Total	Autopsied	Body Inspected	Case Investigated only	Total	Autopsied	Body Inspected	Case Investigated only	Total	Autopsied	Body Inspected	Case Investigated only	Total	Autopsied	Body Inspected	Case Investigated only	Total	Autopsied	Body Inspected	Case Investigated only	Total	Autopsied	Body Inspected	Case Investigated only
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	aa	bb	cc	dd	ee
1	141	92	105	338	102	8	4	114	163	21	30	214	99	0	0	99	36	0	0	36	19	0	1	20	47	1	2	50	607	122	142
2	94	76	6	176	51	6	1	58	50	19	10	79	42	0	0	42	29	0	1	30	8	1	0	9	0	0	0	0	274	102	18
3	38	16	1	55	63	0	0	63	36	0	3	39	19	0	0	19	5	0	0	5	4	0	0	4	1	0	0	1	166	16	4
4	289	74	2	365	170	35	3	208	256	60	20	336	145	0	0	145	132	0	0	132	26	0	0	26	1	0	0	1	1,019	169	25
5	272	256	12	540	188	11	0	199	148	71	27	246	131	1	0	132	33	0	0	33	7	1	0	8	11	1	0	12	790	341	39
6	285	209	0	494	189	52	1	242	369	162	8	539	244	0	0	244	70	0	0	70	33	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	1,190	423	9
7	179	30	2	211	128	10	4	142	112	14	3	129	105	1	0	106	21	1	0	22	3	1	0	4	3	0	0	3	551	57	9
8	169	77	0	246	98	4	0	102	49	57	10	116	49	2	0	51	23	0	0	23	21	1	0	22	7	1	0	8	416	142	10
9	296	331	0	627	258	48	0	306	208	89	0	297	142	5	0	147	92	1	0	93	16	2	0	18	1	0	0	1	1,013	476	0
10	184	158	6	348	169	10	0	179	137	56	17	210	77	1	0	78	27	0	0	27	17	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	611	225	23
11	836	427	4	1,267	294	3	0	297	501	35	66	602	209	2	0	211	231	1	0	232	3	0	0	3	45	0	0	45	2,119	468	70
12	246	129	0	375	88	7	1	96	167	77	6	250	109	0	0	109	26	0	0	26	22	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	658	213	7
13	565	299	1	865	245	6	1	252	346	99	4	449	141	3	0	144	73	0	0	73	21	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	1,391	407	6
14	64	98	0	162	83	17	0	100	57	6	0	63	47	0	0	47	18	0	0	18	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	276	121	0
15	201	200	4	405	197	8	0	205	300	85	0	385	152	0	0	152	90	0	0	90	31	0	0	31	98	0	0	98	1,069	293	4
16	57	32	1	90	23	0	0	23	33	3	1	37	26	0	0	26	3	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	144	35	2
17	537	205	5	747	205	6	2	213	406	83	9	498	229	0	0	229	68	0	0	68	66	0	0	66	39	1	0	40	1,550	295	16
18	183	77	0	260	106	1	0	107	150	41	0	191	105	0	0	105	28	0	0	28	11	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	583	119	0
19	213	158	3	374	134	5	0	139	147	69	47	263	79	0	0	79	21	0	0	21	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	595	232	50
20	42	70	0	112	44	7	0	51	45	95	0	140	40	0	0	40	12	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	22	205	172	0
21	171	196	1	368	163	4	1	168	171	105	3	279	113	1	0	114	45	0	0	45	8	2	0	10	0	0	0	0	671	308	5
22	35	55	1	91	28	0	0	28	42	4	0	46	28	0	0	28	5	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	138	59	1
23	46	40	32	118	87	0	0	87	51	0	0	51	53	0	0	53	9	0	0	9	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	249	40	32
24	100	18	1	119	41	2	1	44	42	2	1	45	33	0	0	33	18	1	0	19	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	237	23	3
State	5,243	3,323	187	8,753	3,154	250	19	3,423	3,986	1,253	265	5,504	2,417	16	0	2,433	1,115	4	1	1,120	328	8	1	337	279	4	2	285	16,522	4,858	475

Note: Cases Investigated Only means the body was not viewed by a medical examiner (ME), although the case was certified by an ME.
Columns are labeled for easy reference to other tables in report.

TABLE II					
Cases Accepted by Medical Examiners Related to District Population					
(R/.001A)			(N/.001A)		
Rank	Dist	Autopsies and Other Investigations	Rank	Dist	Cremation Approvals
1	16	2.228	1	22	9.065
2	21	1.728	2	6	8.560
3	19	1.659	3	5	8.198
4	13	1.628	4	12	8.104
5	8	1.596	5	7	6.806
6	14	1.425	6	21	6.570
7	18	1.346	7	19	6.127
8	10	1.325	8	20	5.555
9	5	1.321	9	10	5.240
10	1	1.286	10	16	5.182
11	12	1.277	11	18	5.136
12	7	1.274	12	15	4.730
13	22	1.261	13	8	4.544
14	20	1.231	14	23	4.520
15	6	1.216	15	13	4.244
16	3	1.204	16	4	3.571
17	9	1.201	17	9	3.489
18	4	1.135	18	17	3.478
19	11	1.116	19	3	3.335
20	15	1.100	20	1	2.935
21	23	1.098	21	24	2.739
22	17	1.080	22	11	2.725
23	2	1.012	23	14	2.678
24	24	0.652	24	2	1.608

TABLE III								
Autopsies Related to Population, Total Deaths and Violent Deaths								
(cc/B)			(cc/.001A)			(cc/J)		
Rank	Dist	Autopsies/ Total Deaths	Rank	Dist	Autopsies/ Population	Rank	Dist	Autopsies/ Violent Deaths
1	16	0.247	1	16	1.773	1	24	1.646
2	13	0.143	2	13	1.255	2	16	1.582
3	3	0.114	3	21	1.178	3	11	1.524
4	21	0.114	4	8	1.169	4	13	1.481
5	9	0.111	5	7	1.138	5	17	1.391
6	8	0.111	6	19	1.125	6	7	1.357
7	11	0.111	7	18	1.118	7	18	1.319
8	4	0.108	8	3	1.075	8	12	1.308
9	18	0.107	9	14	0.991	9	8	1.292
10	2	0.106	10	12	0.957	10	22	1.290
11	23	0.104	11	4	0.953	11	3	1.267
12	14	0.103	12	10	0.943	12	2	1.257
13	17	0.103	13	17	0.900	13	5	1.254
14	19	0.103	14	1	0.896	14	23	1.227
15	1	0.101	15	6	0.892	15	4	1.202
16	24	0.099	16	5	0.892	16	10	1.196
17	7	0.091	17	11	0.890	17	19	1.183
18	10	0.089	18	22	0.879	18	9	1.175
19	20	0.082	19	15	0.861	19	14	1.174
20	12	0.080	20	23	0.852	20	1	1.139
21	15	0.076	21	9	0.817	21	15	1.112
22	5	0.070	22	2	0.704	22	21	1.089
23	6	0.067	23	20	0.670	23	6	1.055
24	22	0.066	24	24	0.588	24	20	0.774

TABLE IV						
Percent of Medical Examiner Cases Autopsied						
	(a/d)	(e/h)	(i/l)	(m/p)	(q/t)	(u/x)
District	Natural	Accident: Motor Vehicle	Accident: Non-Motor Vehicle	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined
1	41.7%	89.5%	76.2%	100.0%	100.0%	95.0%
2	53.4%	87.9%	63.3%	100.0%	96.7%	88.9%
3	69.1%	100.0%	92.3%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
4	79.2%	81.7%	76.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
5	50.4%	94.5%	60.2%	99.2%	100.0%	87.5%
6	57.7%	78.1%	68.5%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
7	84.8%	90.1%	86.8%	99.1%	95.5%	75.0%
8	68.7%	96.1%	42.2%	96.1%	100.0%	95.5%
9	47.2%	84.3%	70.0%	96.6%	98.9%	88.9%
10	52.9%	94.4%	65.2%	98.7%	100.0%	100.0%
11	66.0%	99.0%	83.2%	99.1%	99.6%	100.0%
12	65.6%	91.7%	66.8%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
13	65.3%	97.2%	77.1%	97.9%	100.0%	100.0%
14	39.5%	83.0%	90.5%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
15	49.6%	96.1%	77.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
16	63.3%	100.0%	89.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
17	71.9%	96.2%	81.5%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
18	70.4%	99.1%	78.5%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
19	57.0%	96.4%	55.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
20	37.5%	86.3%	32.1%	100.0%	100.0%	N/A
21	46.5%	97.0%	61.3%	99.1%	100.0%	80.0%
22	38.5%	100.0%	91.3%	100.0%	100.0%	N/A
23	39.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
24	84.0%	93.2%	93.3%	100.0%	94.7%	N/A
State	59.9%	92.1%	72.4%	99.3%	99.6%	97.3%

TABLE V Ranking of Violent Death Rates (Per Population / 1000)										
(D/.001A)			(E/.001A)		(G/.001A)		(F/.001A)		(J/.001A)	
Ranking	Dist	Mot Veh Acc/ Population	Dist	Non M-V Acc/ Population	Dist	Homicides/ Population	Dist	Suicides/ Population	Dist	Total Violent/ Population
1	3	0.408	19	0.497	4	0.123	16	0.320	16	1.120
2	14	0.359	21	0.490	11	0.097	7	0.219	21	1.082
3	23	0.298	20	0.457	21	0.079	18	0.201	19	0.951
4	21	0.295	16	0.455	2	0.077	21	0.200	8	0.905
5	7	0.293	13	0.405	9	0.075	6	0.183	20	0.865
6	8	0.287	6	0.404	15	0.072	23	0.181	3	0.848
7	16	0.283	18	0.366	13	0.066	22	0.178	18	0.848
8	10	0.276	12	0.364	8	0.065	14	0.169	13	0.847
9	19	0.263	8	0.326	14	0.065	12	0.159	6	0.846
10	9	0.247	10	0.324	18	0.054	19	0.149	14	0.844
11	13	0.227	1	0.316	1	0.053	5	0.149	7	0.838
12	5	0.225	4	0.314	6	0.052	1	0.146	4	0.793
13	18	0.205	15	0.310	24	0.047	8	0.143	10	0.788
14	4	0.195	22	0.293	7	0.045	4	0.136	1	0.787
15	6	0.181	17	0.289	10	0.042	17	0.133	15	0.774
16	22	0.178	5	0.278	19	0.040	20	0.131	12	0.731
17	1	0.168	7	0.266	17	0.039	13	0.130	5	0.711
18	20	0.167	11	0.253	20	0.039	3	0.123	9	0.695
19	15	0.165	3	0.253	12	0.038	15	0.122	23	0.695
20	2	0.149	9	0.240	5	0.037	10	0.120	22	0.682
21	12	0.140	14	0.226	16	0.037	9	0.119	17	0.646
22	11	0.125	2	0.203	3	0.032	2	0.108	11	0.584
23	17	0.124	23	0.175	22	0.032	11	0.089	2	0.560
24	24	0.109	24	0.112	23	0.031	24	0.082	24	0.357

TABLE VI Ranking of Districts by Number of Violent Deaths			
(J)			
Rank	Violent Deaths	District	Geographical Area of Florida with Population Ranking (#)
1	1390	11	Miami (# 1)
2	1128	6	St. Petersburg (# 3)
3	1114	17	Ft. Lauderdale (# 2)
4	961	15	Palm Beach (# 4)
5	939	13	Tampa (# 6)
6	862	9	Orlando (# 5)
7	848	4	Jacksonville (# 7)
8	630	5	Leesburg (# 8)
9	616	21	Ft. Myers (# 12)
10	533	1	Pensacola (# 10)
11	511	10	Lakeland (# 11)
12	503	12	Sarasota (# 9)
13	503	19	Ft. Pierce (# 13)
14	442	18	Melbourne (# 14)
15	406	7	Daytona Beach (# 15)
16	322	8	Gainesville (# 18)
17	265	20	Naples (# 19)
18	235	14	Panama City (# 21)
19	218	2	Tallahassee (# 17)
20	203	23	St. Augustine (# 20)
21	144	24	Sanford (# 16)
22	131	3	Live Oak (# 23)
23	107	22	Port Charlotte (# 22)
24	91	16	Florida Keys (# 24)
State	13,102		

TABLE VII District Death Rates as Related to Autopsy Rates			
(B/A)% (cc/B) (cc/.001A)			
Dist	Deaths/Population	Autopsies/Total Deaths	Autopsies/Population
1	0.89%	0.101	0.896
2	0.66%	0.106	0.704
3	0.94%	0.114	1.075
4	0.88%	0.108	0.953
5	1.27%	0.070	0.892
6	1.33%	0.067	0.892
7	1.26%	0.091	1.138
8	1.05%	0.111	1.169
9	0.73%	0.111	0.817
10	1.06%	0.089	0.943
11	0.80%	0.111	0.890
12	1.20%	0.080	0.957
13	0.88%	0.143	1.255
14	0.96%	0.103	0.991
15	1.13%	0.076	0.861
16	0.72%	0.247	1.773
17	0.87%	0.103	0.900
18	1.04%	0.107	1.118
19	1.10%	0.103	1.125
20	0.82%	0.082	0.670
21	1.03%	0.114	1.178
22	1.34%	0.066	0.879
23	0.82%	0.104	0.852
24	0.59%	0.099	0.588
State	0.97%	0.097	0.943

TABLE VIII

Fifteen Year Comparison of SIDS Deaths

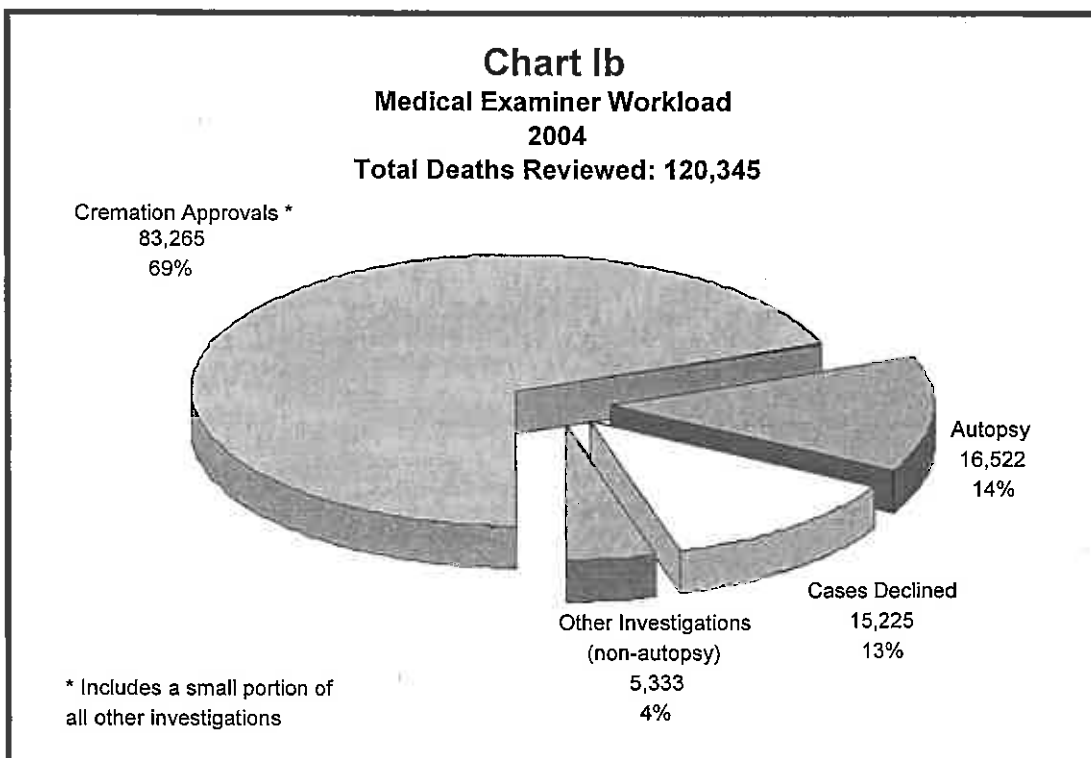
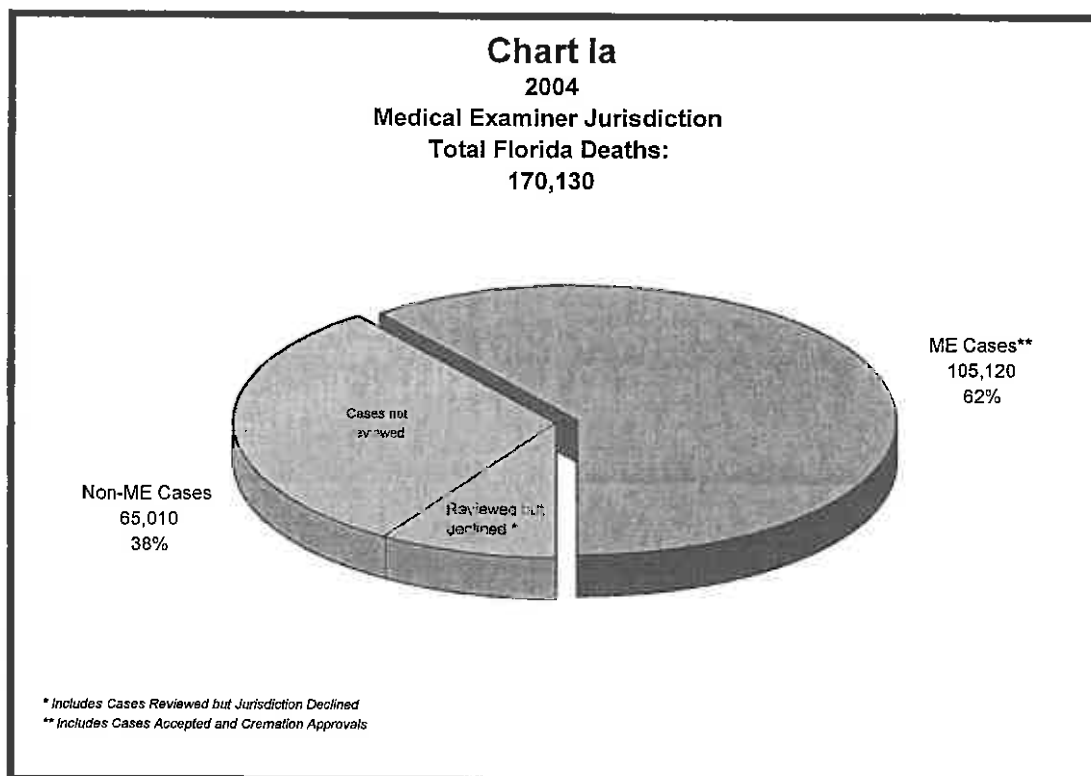
Dist	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
1	12	11	13	11	11	3	9	7	6	8	2	5	2	6	2
2	8	12	8	1	8	5	2	6	3	6	2	1	0	2	2
3	6	1	2	4	4	2	1	2	3	1	3	1	0	1	1
4	15	24	12	19	10	13	12	10	11	8	15	7	6	9	7
5	10	4	3	10	6	5	6	7	1	9	1	6	3	2	2
6	11	9	8	14	11	6	14	16	6	7	7	0	0	0	0
7	3	3	2	5	4	1	7	2	4	4	6	4	2	2	4
8	3	9	7	8	5	5	5	4	6	5	3	3	6	8	7
9	20	18	12	11	18	9	12	13	9	13	3	11	17	11	8
10	25	12	12	22	10	11	10	14	8	15	10	3	5	7	7
11	32	29	27	24	18	19	18	8	11	9	8	0	4	2	0
12	6	9	10	4	5	4	0	3	1	0	1	1	1	0	0
13	16	11	18	10	10	13	12	10	16	13	10	13	10	4	6
14	6	4	4	1	1	1	7	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	0
15	11	12	3	9	5	7	10	3	2	2	1	1	3	2	1
16	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
17	18	19	9	19	10	13	2	7	10	4	10	9	2	8	5
18	6	2	4	5	10	5	4	3	1	0	5	1	1	1	1
19	4	7	5	5	5	5	7	3	3	2	2	2	4	0	2
20	2	2	1	3	3	1	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	2	2
21	8	7	5	6	1	6	3	8	6	2	5	2	1	3	3
22	2	1	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	0
23	3	6	6	7	2	3	6	7	2	0	3	1	0	2	2
24	13	5	6	1	3	4	2	3	2	7	2	6	3	0	2
State	241	217	179	200	160	144	151	137	115	118	102	80	73	73	64

TABLE IX

Fifteen Year Comparison of Violent Death Rates

(JL001A)

Dist	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
1	0.573	0.580	0.577	0.592	0.581	0.564	0.597	0.583	0.574	0.517	0.576	0.664	0.714	0.763	0.787
2	0.604	0.705	0.651	0.666	0.615	0.634	0.615	0.541	0.572	0.554	0.688	0.530	0.621	0.359	0.560
3	1.110	1.152	0.662	0.832	0.802	0.689	0.670	0.723	0.681	0.660	0.749	0.690	0.976	0.773	0.848
4	0.767	0.683	0.659	0.628	0.638	0.613	0.609	0.589	0.598	0.620	0.634	0.703	0.740	0.743	0.793
5	0.813	0.692	0.672	0.739	0.676	0.685	0.618	0.648	0.702	0.587	0.702	0.784	0.796	0.755	0.711
6	0.618	0.581	0.590	0.574	0.565	0.644	0.582	0.615	0.597	0.642	0.647	0.721	0.766	0.805	0.846
7	0.645	0.725	0.594	0.728	0.673	0.663	0.626	0.716	0.705	0.724	0.652	0.670	0.814	0.769	0.838
8	0.844	0.788	0.764	0.780	0.694	0.743	0.698	0.696	0.718	0.672	0.733	0.705	0.802	0.947	0.905
9	0.750	0.629	0.601	0.584	0.639	0.669	0.657	0.582	0.691	0.664	0.621	0.655	0.615	0.617	0.695
10	0.624	0.548	0.638	0.645	0.538	0.626	0.578	0.604	0.590	0.614	0.622	0.641	0.669	0.665	0.788
11	0.826	0.787	0.741	0.811	0.705	0.730	0.720	0.684	0.670	0.648	0.598	0.585	0.615	0.586	0.584
12	0.633	0.461	0.497	0.523	0.500	0.584	0.599	0.547	0.557	0.559	0.627	0.634	0.554	0.689	0.731
13	0.765	0.752	0.710	0.738	0.776	0.783	0.729	0.743	0.793	0.818	0.795	0.797	0.896	0.879	0.847
14	0.536	0.774	0.563	0.694	0.658	0.748	0.744	0.603	0.767	0.669	0.847	0.884	0.863	0.891	0.844
15	0.683	0.651	0.631	0.610	0.651	0.614	0.641	0.623	0.651	0.659	0.660	0.700	0.691	0.789	0.774
16	0.817	1.132	0.840	0.881	0.960	0.815	0.943	1.003	0.909	1.126	0.741	1.464	1.085	1.242	1.120
17	0.369	0.541	0.534	0.628	0.597	0.613	0.636	0.638	0.596	0.625	0.544	0.609	0.649	0.641	0.646
18	0.598	0.559	0.563	0.597	0.527	0.640	0.618	0.576	0.595	0.583	0.701	0.750	0.888	0.872	0.848
19	0.754	0.706	0.635	0.622	0.686	0.677	0.604	0.575	0.650	0.622	0.675	0.858	0.867	0.897	0.951
20	0.878	0.885	0.837	0.802	0.731	0.815	0.736	0.890	0.787	0.797	0.704	0.756	0.836	0.838	0.865
21	0.875	0.752	0.910	0.782	0.868	0.772	0.822	0.834	0.874	0.927	0.912	0.956	0.941	0.929	1.082
22	0.715	0.476	0.590	0.559	0.368	0.556	0.518	0.442	0.394	0.497	0.551	0.505	0.485	0.507	0.682
23	0.957	0.739	0.686	0.717	0.653	0.723	0.625	0.759	0.738	0.735	0.723	0.630	0.694	0.680	0.695
24	0.311	0.278	0.301	0.289	0.284	0.278	0.334	0.370	0.459	0.342	0.318	0.299	0.335	0.385	0.357
State	0.711	0.691	0.644	0.668	0.635	0.657	0.643	0.636	0.652	0.647	0.647	0.682	0.715	0.721	0.748



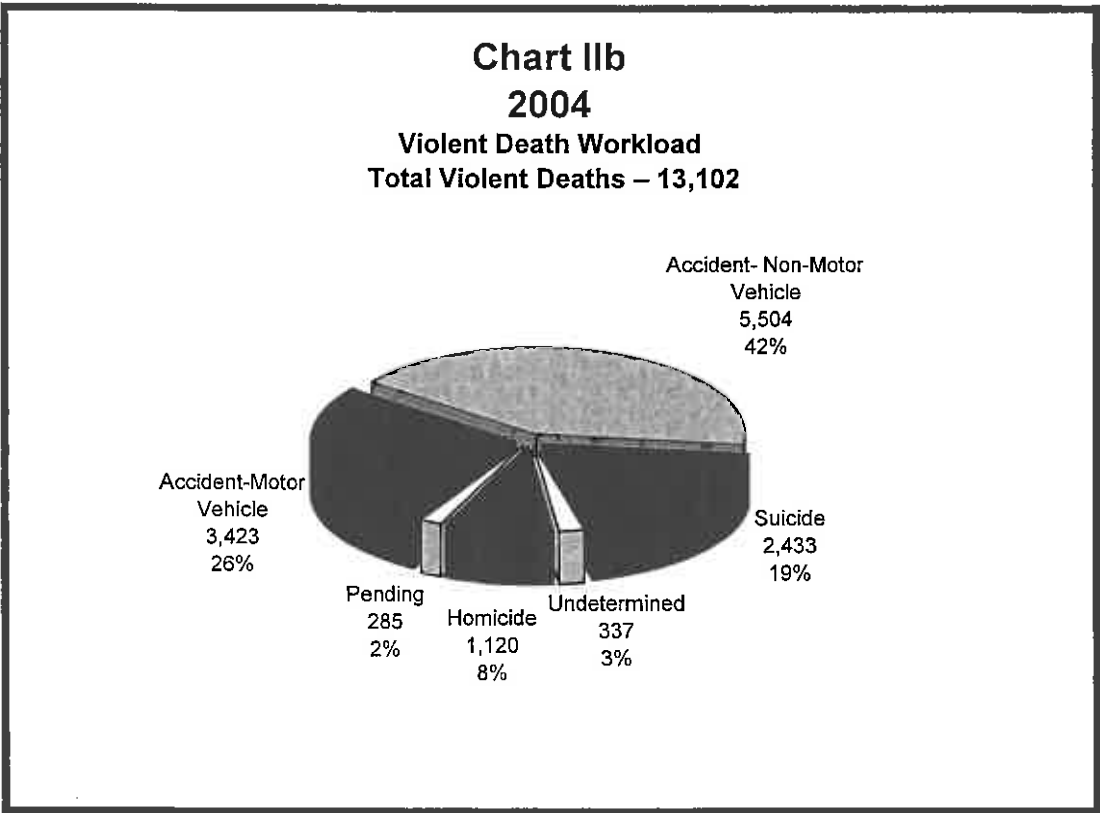
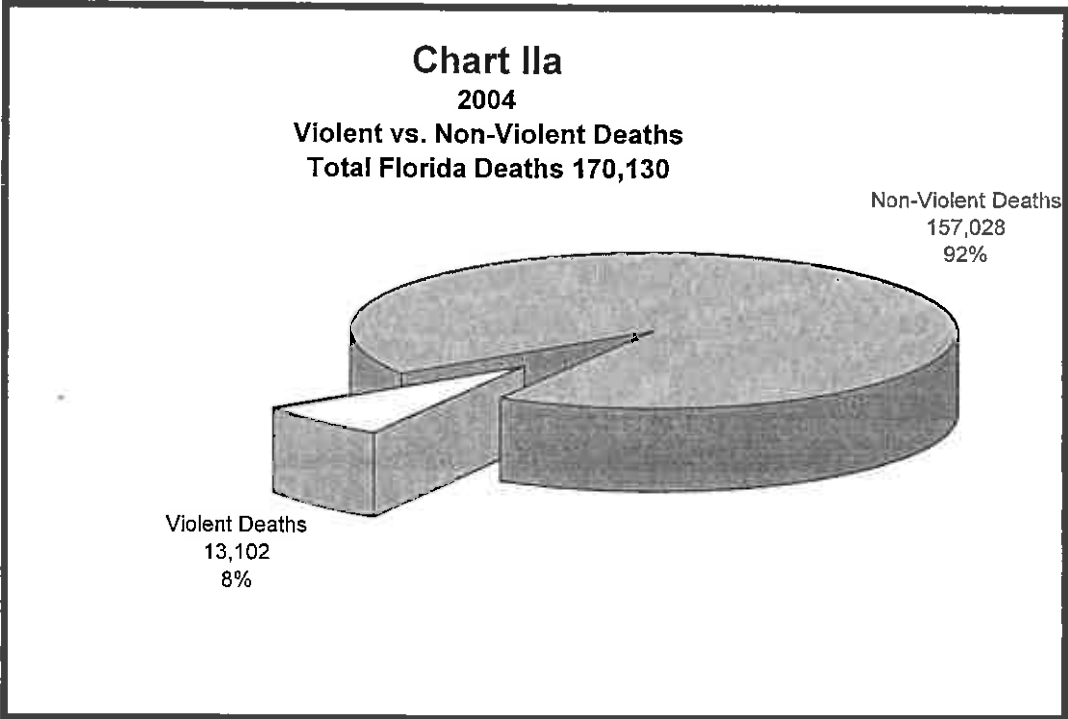


Chart IIIa
2004 Autopsy Workload as
Percent of Florida Population
Total Florida Population: 17,516,732

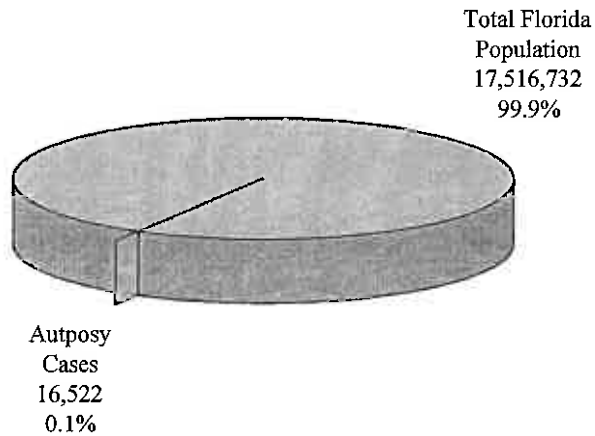


Chart IIIb
2004 Autopsy Workload as
Percent of Florida Deaths
Total Florida Deaths: 170,130

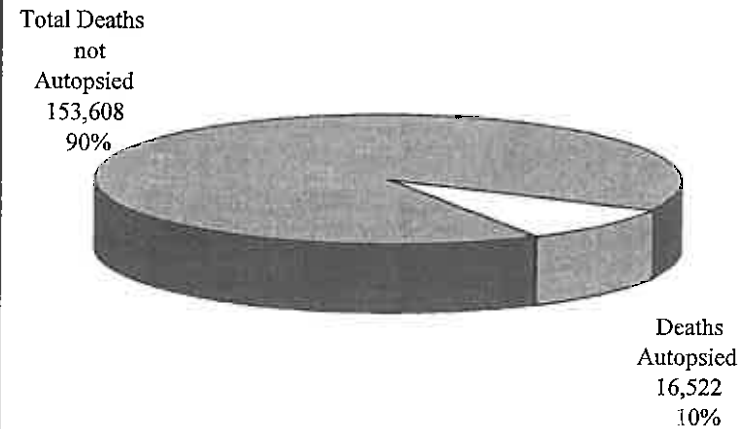


Chart IIIc
2004 Autopsy Workload as Percent of
Deaths Referred to Medical Examiners

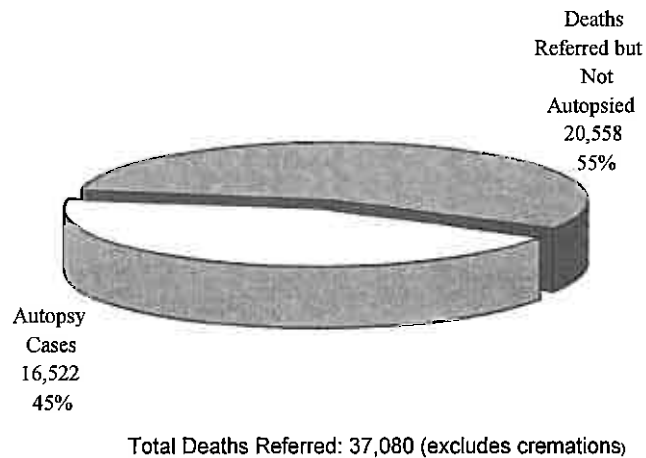


Chart III d
2004 Autopsy Workload as
Percent of Deaths Accepted
Total Deaths Accepted: 21,855

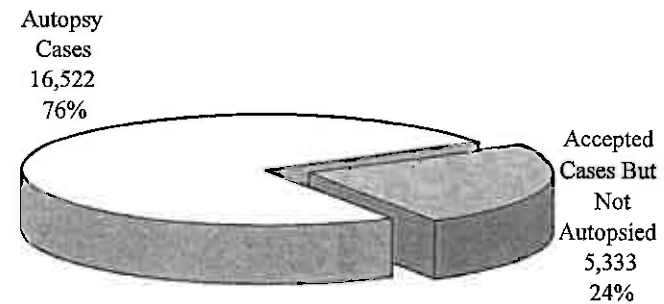


Chart IVa
Workload by Depth of
Examinations -
Homicide

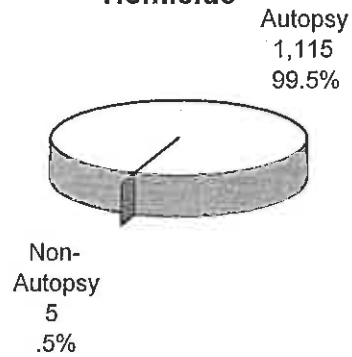


Chart IVb
Workload by Depth of
Examinations -
Suicide

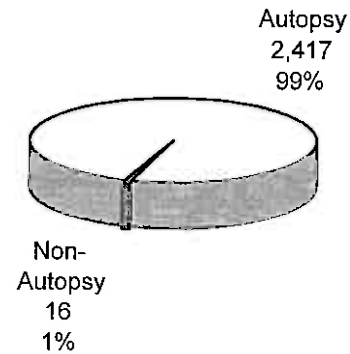


Chart IVc
Workload by Depth of
Examinations -
Undetermined

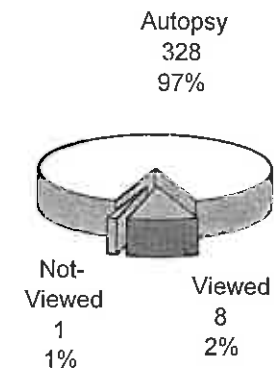


Chart IVd
Workload by Depth of
Examinations -
Accident: Motor Vehicle

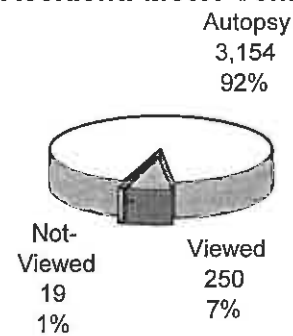


Chart IVe
Workload by Depth of
Examinations -
Accident: Non-Motor Vehicle

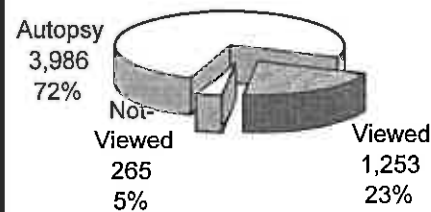


Chart IVf
Workload by Depth of
Examinations -
Natural

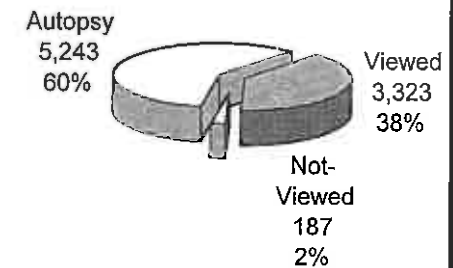
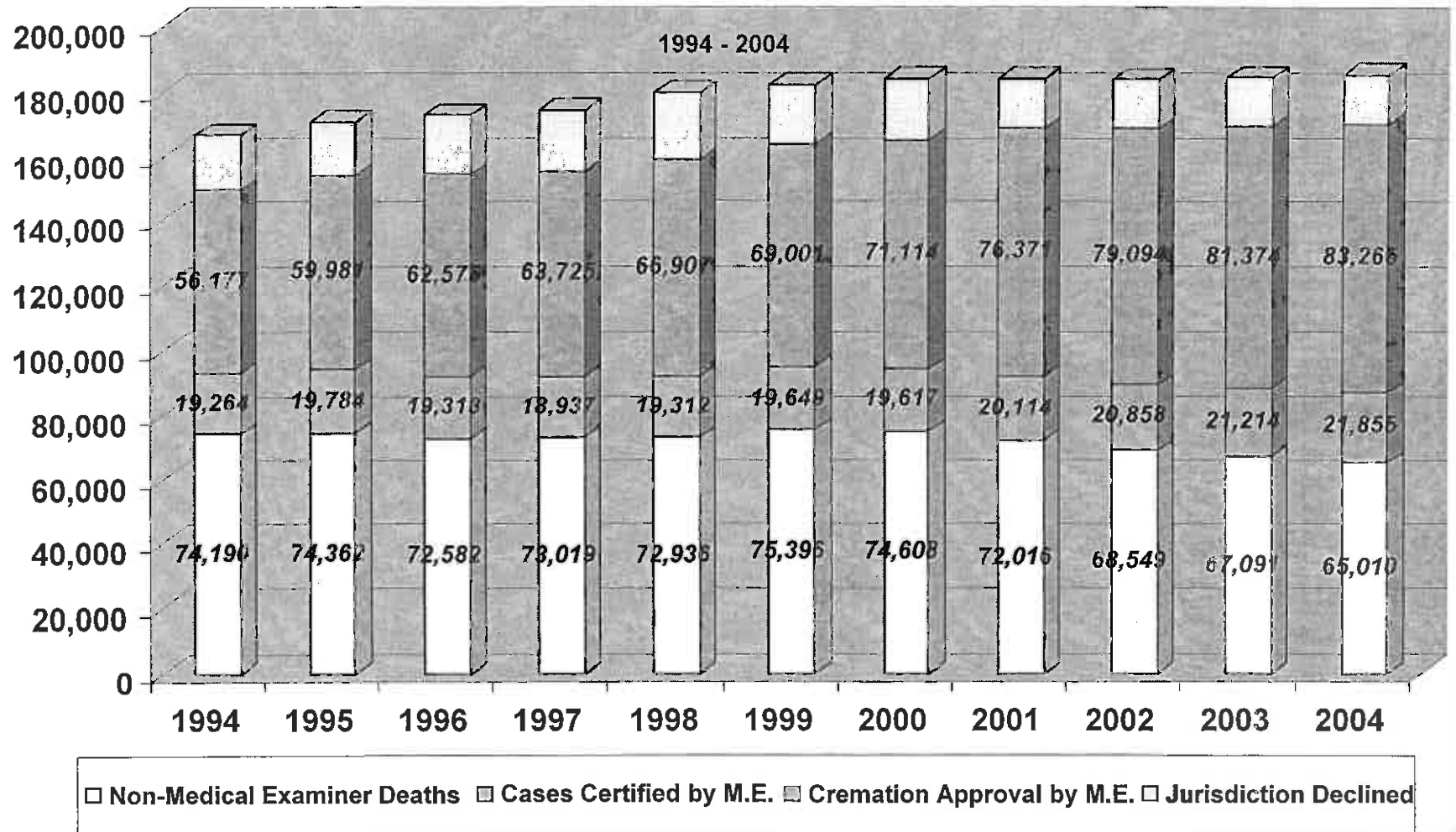


CHART V

Historical Workload Medical Examiner Cases Compared to All Florida Deaths



APPENDIX 1

MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION

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County Commissioner Representative Vacant

STAFF

Medical Examiners Commission

Florida Department of Law Enforcement

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APPENDIX 2

FLORIDA DISTRICT MEDICAL EXAMINERS

District 1

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e-mail: stew@polaris.net

District 3

ME Services provided by Dist. 4

District 4

Margarita Arruza, M.D.
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Forensic Adminis Terri McCrackin
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District 5

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District 6

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District 7

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District 8

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District 9

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District 10

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District 11

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District 12

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District 13

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District 14

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District 15

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District 20

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District 21

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e-mail: medex23@co.st-johns.fl.us

District 24

ME Services provided by District 7

APPENDIX 3

FLORIDA ASSOCIATE MEDICAL EXAMINERS

District 1

Robert E. Brierty, M.D.
(Frederick P. Hobin, M.D.)

District 2

David E. Craig, M.D.
David J. Dolson, M.D.
Lynn H. Dolson, 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.
Gregory V. Scott, M.D., M.B.A.
Stephen L. Sgan, M.D.
Benjamin M. Turner, M.D.
Thomas P. Wood, M.D.

District 3

(ME Services Covered by District 4)

District 4

Jessie C. Giles, M.D.
Aurelian Nicolaescu, M.D.
E. Hunt Scheuerman, M.D.

District 5

Julia V. Martin, M.D.
Krzysztof B. Podjaski, M.D.
(Laura S. Hair, M.D.)
(Susan S. Ignacio, M.D.)
(Thomas R. Parsons, M.D.)
(Christopher I. Wilson, M.D.)

District 6

Susan S. Ignacio, M.D.
Noel A. Palma, M.D.
Daniel L. Schultz, M.D.
Christopher I. Wilson, M.D.

District 7

Thomas R. Parsons, M.D.
(Steven C. Cogswell, M.D.)
(Frederick P. Hobin, M.D.)

District 8

Herman Baer, M.D.
Martha J. Burt, M.D.
James M. Crawford, M.D., Ph.D.
William H. Donnelly, M.D.
Carolyn M. Hopkins, M.D.
(Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)

District 9

Marie H. Hansen, M.D.
Frederick P. Hobin, M.D.
Sara H. Irrgang, M.D.
(Thomas R. Beaver, M.D.)
(Thomas R. Parsons, M.D.)

District 10

George D. Leidel, M.D.
Vera Volnikh, M.D.
(Jay S. Barnhart, M.D.)
(Charles A. Diggs, M.D.)
(Susan S. Ignacio, M.D.)
(Roger E. Mittleman, M.D.)
(Noel A. Palma, M.D.)

District 11

Matthew J. Bowes, M.D.
Martha J. Burt, M.D.
Joseph H. Davis, M.D.
D'Michelle P. Dupre, M.D.
Eva Gyori, M.D.
Kenneth D. Hutchins, M.D.
Emma O. Lew, M.D.
Erik K. Mont, M.D.
Reinhard W. Motte, M.D.
Jacqueline Nembhard, M.D.
Melissa A. Pasquale, M.D.
Mark J. Shuman, M.D.
(Manfred Borges, M.D.)
(Marta Coburn, M.D.)
(Lance G. Davis, M.D.)
(Michael D. Hunter, M.D.)
(Joshua A. Perper, M.D.)

District 12

Wilson A. Broussard, M.D.
Laura S. Hair, M.D.

District 13

Leszek Chrostowski, M.D.
Sam P. Gulino, M.D.
Jacqueline A. Lee, M.D.
Christena Roberts, M.D.
(Laura S. Hair, M.D.)

District 14

(Susan S. Ignacio, M.D.)
(Noel A. Palma, M.D.)
(Barbara C. Wolf, M.D.)

District 15

Stuart M. Graham, M.D.
Linda R. O'Neil, M.D.
Eroston A. Price, M.D.
(Charles A. Diggs, M.D.)
(Roger E. Mittleman, M.D.)
(Reinhard W. Motte, M.D.)

District 16

Mark J. Shuman, M.D.

District 17

Lance G. Davis, M.D.
Reinhard W. Motte, M.D.
(Ray Fernandez, M.D.)
(Bruce A. Hyma, M.D.)
(Emma O. Lew, M.D.)

District 18

Sajid S. Qaiser, M.D.
(Charles A. Diggs, M.D.)
(Roger E. Mittleman, M.D.)

District 19

Jay S. Barnhart, M.D.
Charles A. Diggs, M.D.
(Michael D. Bell, M.D.)
(Stuart M. Graham, M.D.)
(Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)
(Linda R. O'Neil, M.D.)
(Eroston Price, M.D.)
(Sajid Qaiser, M.D.)
(Robert E. Whitmore, M.D.)

District 20

Manfred Borges, Jr., M.D.
(Rebecca A. Hamilton, M.D.)

District 21

Robert Pfalzgraf, M.D.
Barbara C. Wolf, M.D.

District 22

Bonifacio T. Floro, M.D.
Peter H. K. Tan, M.D.
James Weiner, M.D.
(Manfred Borges, Jr., M.D.)

District 23

(Thomas R. Beaver, M.D.)
(Frederick P. Hobin, M.D.)
(Thomas R. Parsons, M.D.)

District 24

(ME Services Covered by District 7)

APPENDIX 4

Florida Medical Examiner Districts



APPENDIX 5

Medical Examiners Commission

Representing	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Medical Examiners	X				X				X			X Dr. Thogmartin					X	
Medical Examiners		X				X		Dr. Nelson		X				X				X
State Attorneys	X				X				X Mr. Colton				X				X	
Public Defenders			X				X			X Mr. Dillinger					X			
County Commissions				X				X				X				X		
Sheriffs			X				X Sheriff Reid				X				X			
Funeral Home Industry		X				X				X Mrs. Caballero				X				X
Attorney General Rep.	Standing Appointment with no term					Mr. Krauss												
DOH Rep.	Standing Appointment with no term					Mr. Jones												

X indicates when that particular Commission Representative's term is due for reappointment

The names included on the chart are the current Commission Members placed at the year in which they actually began to serve on the Commission

APPENDIX 6

DISTRICT MEDICAL EXAMINER

Three Year Term Schedules

District	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
1																		
2																		
3																		
4																		
5																		
6																		
7							Home Rule Appointment Authority Began											
8																		
9																		
10																		
11		Home Rule Appointment Authority Began																
12																		
13		Home Rule Appointment Authority Began																
14																		
15			Home Rule Appointment Authority Began															
16																		
17																		
18																		
19																		
20																		
21																		
22																		
23																		
24																		

Shaded areas indicate the re-appointment year for each district.

Home Rule Appointment Authority Began indicates the year in which these districts utilized their home rule authority to hire a DME without gubernatorial involvement.