

# Medical Examiners Commission

## 2007

### *ANNUAL REPORT*

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Chairman

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## From the Chairman of the Medical Examiners Commission

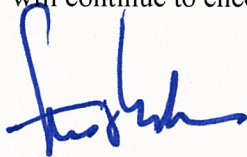
On behalf of the Medical Examiners Commission, as its Chairman, I am pleased to submit this annual report to Governor Crist and to the Florida Legislature, "...*setting forth the activities and findings of the several district medical examiners*" as required by law. A copy of this annual report is also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

2007 included cases that brought national attention to the Florida Medical Examiner System.

The Medical Examiners Commission welcomed State Attorney Mark E. Kohl and District 11 Medical Examiner Bruce Hyma, M.D. to the Commission in 2007. Mr. Kohl will represent state attorney concerns and Dr. Hyma will represent medical examiner concerns as provided by statute. Mr. Kohl replaced State Attorney Bruce Colton and Dr. Hyma replaced Jon R. Thogmartin, M.D. on the Commission.

The Report of Drugs Identified in Deceased Persons continues to include highly sought after information. Due to the rising number of methadone related deaths, the United States Government Accountability Office met with Commission Staff to gather research for prevention, education and treatment. This unique report continues to display the unfortunate yet increasing abuse of both prescription and illicit drugs. Furthermore, the report assists Florida's state and local agencies in allocating and focusing its resources. Our staff continues in its close working relationship with Director Bill Janes in the Governor's Office of Drug Control.

The Medical Examiners Commission continued in a joint initiative to identify unidentified deceased cases in Florida. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the 24 Medical Examiner districts are working together to resolve the more than 600 unidentified deceased cases reported in our state. With new technology and advances in forensic science, the initiative is constantly evolving. This movement has welcomed ideas from the medical examiner offices and will continue to encourage participation to reduce the backlog of cases.



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 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 2007 to ensure the maintenance of an effective and viable program of medical examiner services throughout Florida.

## **SUMMARY**

Medical examiners in Florida continue to have oversight over approximately two-thirds of the deaths in Florida (See Charts Ia and Ib). Of the almost 169,000 deaths in the state of Florida in 2007, 110,037 deaths came under medical examiner jurisdiction. While most of these (87,532 deaths or approximately 70%) were for the review of cremation requests, medical examiners accepted jurisdiction pursuant to Florida Statutes of 22,505 (18%) deaths. Forensic autopsies were performed on 16,746 individuals before the death certificate was signed by the medical examiner.

The manner of death (See Table Ia) is a very important determination that is made by the medical examiner. Natural deaths accounted for 36% of the caseload of medical examiners, followed by 29% for non- motor vehicular accidents and 15% for motor vehicular accidents. Suicides, homicides, and undetermined/pending accounted for the remainder at 12%, 6%, and 2% respectively of the cases accepted by medical examiners.

The workload of medical examiner offices in Florida slightly decreased when compared with 2006 as illustrated 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.

## **COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

Mark E. Kohl, J.D. was appointed by Governor Crist to the Commission in September 2007 to represent state attorney concerns in the state of Florida. Mr. Kohl was elected to the Office of State Attorney for the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (Monroe County) in 2000 and re-elected in 2004. He received his Juris Doctorate from Nova Law Center in 1984. He joined the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit as an Assistant State Attorney in Key West in 1987 and served through 1995. From 1995 to 2000, he practiced privately as a criminal defense attorney. Mr. Kohl replaced State Attorney Bruce H. Colton from the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of Florida on the Commission.

Bruce A. Hyma, M.D. was also appointed to the Commission in September 2007 by Governor Crist. Dr. Hyma has been the District 11 Medical Examiner for Miami-Dade County since 2001. He joined the Miami-Dade Medical Examiner Department in 1987 and in 1988 became an associate medical examiner. Dr. Hyma will represent medical examiner concerns in the state of Florida. He replaced Jon R. Thogmartin, M.D., the District 6 Medical Examiner (Pasco and Pinellas counties) on the Commission.

## **DISTRICT MEDICAL EXAMINER APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS**

In 2007, the District Medical Examiners from Districts 8, 9, 10, and 12 were reappointed by the Governor for additional three-year terms:

|              |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| District 8:  | William F. Hamilton, M.D. |
| District 9:  | Jan C. Garavaglia, M.D.   |
| District 10: | Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.   |
| District 12: | Russell S. Vega, M.D.     |

District 14 was termed for reappointment; however, the Commission voted against recommending Dr. Charles F. Siebert for reappointment by the Governor.

### **DISTRICTS 11 AND 13**

Surveys were sent to the constituents of Districts 11 and 13 for information only as those districts fall under a Home Rule Charter. Bruce A. Hyma, M.D. of District 11 (Miami-Dade County) and Vernard I. Adams, M.D. of District 13 (Hillsborough County) continue as District Medical Examiners there.

### **DISTRICT 5**

As of mid-March 2007, Steven C. Cogswell, M.D. resigned as the District 5 Medical Examiner. Dr. Nelson (District 10) temporarily served as the Interim Medical Examiner until Dr. Thogmartin (District 6) assumed responsibility as the Interim District 5 Medical Examiner in mid-2007. The District determined it would be in their best interest to postpone search committee action until some infrastructure changes were made in the office.

### **DISTRICT 18**

As of October 31, 2006, Robert E. Whitmore, M.D. resigned from his position as the District 18 Medical Examiner. A Search Committee was formed by State Attorney Norman R. Wolfinger and Sajid S. Qaiser, M.D. was selected as the candidate submitted to the Governor for appointment in November 2007.

## **COMMISSION DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

On August 9, 2006, an Administrative Complaint was filed against Charles F. Siebert Jr., M.D. (District 14) charging 39 counts of *negligence or the failure to perform the duties required of a medical examiner with that level of care or skill which is recognized by reasonably prudent medical examiners as being acceptable under similar conditions or circumstances (s. 406.075(1)(i), F.S.)*. This complaint was based on the audit of Dr. Siebert's cases which resulted in 35 charges and four charges from complaints from family members of decedents. In January 2007, Dr. Siebert voluntarily entered into a Quality Assurance Plan with the Commission as a settlement to the August 2006 Administrative Complaint. This plan was incorporated into the Final Order filed on February 8, 2007. The Final Order states that Dr. Siebert would submit to a period of direct and indirect casework supervision as long as he served as the District 14 Medical Examiner. Dr. Siebert selected the physician, Barbara C. Wolf, M.D., as his supervisor under this agreement.

Dr. Siebert did not fully cooperate with the February 8, 2007 Final Order. His lack of cooperation with the supervising physician he chose (Barbara C. Wolf, M.D.) was the primary basis for the Commission not recommending Dr. Seibert for reappointment in May 2007.

On June 13, 2007, another Administrative Complaint was filed against Dr. Siebert charging two counts of *material misrepresentation of data upon which an opinion or conclusion as a medical examiner is based (s. 406.075(1)(g), F.S.)* and two counts of *negligence or the failure to perform the duties required of a medical*

*examiner with that level of care or skill which is recognized by reasonably prudent medical examiners as being acceptable under similar conditions or circumstances (s. 406.075(1)(i), F.S.)* in the Martin Lee Anderson death investigation. The misrepresentation charges are based on the observation in the second autopsy that the thyroid gland had not been sectioned and was completely obscured from view by the still intact strap muscles and trachea. Additionally, the second autopsy report stated that the adrenal glands were not sectioned and were still attached to portions of the diaphragm, yet the inner layers of the adrenal cortices and the medullae were described in Dr. Siebert's autopsy report. Autopsy photographs independently verify this. The negligence charges are based on the Commission's position that the circumstances leading up to the death of Mr. Anderson warranted a thorough inspection of the groin region, to include the removal and inspection of the testes. Given the in-custody nature of the death, a detailed subcutaneous dissection of the decedent to determine injuries and bruising not readily apparent also should have been performed. A formal hearing before the Division of Administrative Hearings was scheduled for January 15-16, 2008. Since Dr. Siebert resigned as of December 28, 2007, the Commission no longer had jurisdiction in this matter and the case was dismissed.

## **VIOLENT CRIME AND DRUG CONTROL COUNCIL**

Through existing partnerships with federal, state, and local law enforcement, the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council (VCDCC) continues to play an integral role in supporting initiatives to protect Florida's citizens, visitors, property and communities. Since the Council's inception in 1993, it has maintained a reputation for initiating and supporting legislation to improve the overall quality of life for the state of Florida and its citizens, especially protecting our children from sexual predators/offenders, cyber crimes, and street gangs. The significant impact of the Council can be realized by the overall financial relief it provides to local and state law enforcement agencies across the state. As a direct result of the Council's 2007 assistance, 71 cases involving 34 different agencies focusing on violent crime, major drug/illicit money laundering, and victim/witness protection and relocation have experienced great success in their investigative efforts.

The Council is composed of 14 members, including a medical examiner representative, which remains vacant awaiting gubernatorial appointment. The Council is routinely briefed on the semi-annual and annual Medical Examiners reports regarding drug-related deaths. In 2007, the Council and Regional Coordinating Teams addressed several topics of interest relating to emerging crime trends, innovative technology, improved investigative techniques, enhanced communication, and advanced training for law enforcement officers and criminal justice agencies.

## **STATE CHILD FATALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The State Child Fatality Review Committee reviewed 170 cases in 2007, representing deaths that occurred in 2006 of infants and children less than 18 years of age that had been verified by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) as being related to child abuse or neglect, compared with 94 deaths in 2005. These cases included 99 males and 71 females. 109 of the children were white, 49 black, five Asian-Pacific, six multi-racial, and one of another race. 41% of the children were less than one year of age and 82% were five years old or younger. There had been prior reports to DCF of abuse or neglect in 45% of the cases.

Florida's data continues to parallel national statistics that indicate a prevalence of neglect-related deaths. Out of 170 deaths, 68% were neglect-related, while 32% were abuse-related. 103 deaths were classified as accidental. Drowning continued to be the major cause of accidental child deaths in Florida. Of the 52 drowning cases, 75% occurred in residential pools and all were attributed to inadequate supervision and classified as preventable. There was an increase in the recognition of infant deaths related to the child's sleep environment, with 22 deaths attributed to unsafe sleeping conditions. Twelve children died in motor vehicle crashes. Three died of hyperthermia after having been left unattended in vehicles. This was a

decrease from the ten deaths of children left in vehicles in 2004, and is believed to have resulted from the media attention given to these deaths and to related criminal prosecutions. 55 of the deaths were classified as homicides. Of these homicides, 76% were children under the age of five years, and 23.5% were killed by inflicted blunt trauma.

The State Child Fatality Review Committee's accomplishments in 2006 included the establishment of local child death review teams available for every county. Additionally, Committee members provided training to over 2,000 child death investigation professionals, including law enforcement, child protection teams, child advocacy centers and the Florida Association of Medical Examiners.

The Committee's 2006 recommendations included the continuation of training professionals and parents in unsafe sleeping environments, drowning prevention and investigations, coping with crying, the role of substance abuse, and death scene investigations. Barbara C. Wolf, M.D., an Associate District 5 Medical Examiner, represents the Medical Examiners Commission on this committee.

### **ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE**

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference was held in St. Petersburg at the Renaissance Vinoy Resort & Golf Club. The conference was hosted by the District 13 (Hillsborough County) Medical Examiners Office and the University of Florida William R. Maples Center for Forensic Medicine. The theme for the conference was *BCRNE Incidents: Medical Examiner Issues in Disaster Response Planning*. The program consisted of a wide variety of interesting and informative lectures including infection control during a bioterrorism event, postal terrorism, nuclear/radiological incidents, chemical terrorism threats and tours of the FEMORS Disaster Portable Morgue Unit.

### **METHODOLOGY**

Death statistics in Florida reflect the total number of Certificates of Death recorded in 2007 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 1,000 recorded deaths.

Population estimates (as of April 1, 2008) 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 1,000 residents.

Information concerning autopsy numbers and other workload distribution figures are supplied by the 24 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 Ia).

**TABLE I**  
**2007 District Demographics and Annual Workload Activity Reports**

| District | 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 | SIDS | Police Custody or Penal Inst. |
|----------|------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|----------|--------------|---------|----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------|-------------------------------|
|          | A          | B                     | C       | D                       | E                           | F       | G        | H            | I       | J                    | K            | L                            | M                 | N                              | O                          | P                              | Q                       | R                       | S                     | T    | U                             |
| 1        | 707,552    | 6,030                 | 373     | 150                     | 262                         | 96      | 46       | 10           | 10      | 574                  | 1            | 3                            | 10                | 2,496                          | 4,730                      | 3,443                          | 2,234                   | 947                     | 1,287                 | 0    | 10                            |
| 2        | 408,742    | 2,664                 | 149     | 84                      | 105                         | 38      | 20       | 12           | 0       | 259                  | 1            | 2                            | 2                 | 327                            | 1,255                      | 735                            | 928                     | 408                     | 520                   | 0    | 11                            |
| 3        | 163,653    | 1,509                 | 74      | 69                      | 47                          | 28      | 11       | 6            | 1       | 162                  | 0            | 0                            | 3                 | 598                            | 903                        | 834                            | 305                     | 236                     | 69                    | 0    | 5                             |
| 4        | 1,151,810  | 9,933                 | 383     | 244                     | 386                         | 143     | 160      | 34           | 3       | 970                  | 1            | 1                            | 36                | 4,483                          | 6,210                      | 5,836                          | 1,727                   | 1,353                   | 374                   | 3    | 72                            |
| 5        | 1,003,610  | 11,914                | 407     | 171                     | 329                         | 146     | 32       | 24           | 0       | 702                  | 5            | 4                            | 1                 | 7,682                          | 9,441                      | 8,791                          | 1,759                   | 1,109                   | 650                   | 2    | 20                            |
| 6        | 1,378,624  | 16,537                | 469     | 251                     | 669                         | 222     | 89       | 22           | 0       | 1,253                | 1            | 1                            | 24                | 11,171                         | 13,533                     | 12,893                         | 2,362                   | 1,722                   | 640                   | 0    | 12                            |
| 7        | 508,014    | 5,687                 | 264     | 113                     | 174                         | 88      | 24       | 16           | 3       | 418                  | 3            | 0                            | 3                 | 3,208                          | 4,348                      | 3,890                          | 1,140                   | 682                     | 458                   | 1    | 2                             |
| 8        | 375,112    | 3,821                 | 211     | 141                     | 182                         | 60      | 25       | 26           | 5       | 439                  | 0            | 1                            | 10                | 1,858                          | 2,738                      | 2,508                          | 880                     | 650                     | 230                   | 2    | 83                            |
| 9        | 1,371,726  | 9,280                 | 653     | 281                     | 335                         | 164     | 149      | 34           | 0       | 963                  | 3            | 0                            | 1                 | 5,103                          | 7,868                      | 6,719                          | 2,765                   | 1,616                   | 1,149                 | 6    | 10                            |
| 10       | 707,305    | 6,746                 | 284     | 145                     | 168                         | 97      | 45       | 14           | 0       | 469                  | 3            | 0                            | 11                | 3,609                          | 4,831                      | 4,362                          | 1,222                   | 753                     | 469                   | 1    | 7                             |
| 11       | 2,462,292  | 18,600                | 807     | 346                     | 572                         | 275     | 256      | 7            | 48      | 1,504                | 9            | 9                            | 13                | 6,989                          | 9,707                      | 9,300                          | 2,718                   | 2,311                   | 407                   | 4    | 64                            |
| 12       | 737,334    | 8,379                 | 360     | 95                      | 266                         | 122     | 48       | 19           | 0       | 550                  | 0            | 0                            | 0                 | 6,037                          | 7,470                      | 6,947                          | 1,433                   | 910                     | 523                   | 2    | 10                            |
| 13       | 1,192,861  | 9,617                 | 925     | 248                     | 549                         | 172     | 87       | 27           | 0       | 1,083                | 0            | 4                            | 35                | 4,802                          | 7,452                      | 6,810                          | 2,650                   | 2,008                   | 642                   | 8    | 25                            |
| 14       | 292,522    | 2,719                 | 132     | 83                      | 89                          | 50      | 22       | 2            | 28      | 274                  | 2            | 0                            | 2                 | 583                            | 2,325                      | 989                            | 1,742                   | 406                     | 1,336                 | 0    | 4                             |
| 15       | 1,295,033  | 13,688                | 381     | 228                     | 577                         | 194     | 108      | 60           | 4       | 1,171                | 4            | 0                            | 3                 | 5,824                          | 8,201                      | 7,376                          | 2,377                   | 1,552                   | 825                   | 2    | 8                             |
| 16       | 78,987     | 574                   | 84      | 22                      | 59                          | 15      | 4        | 1            | 0       | 101                  | 0            | 0                            | 1                 | 442                            | 653                        | 627                            | 211                     | 185                     | 26                    | 0    | 2                             |
| 17       | 1,765,707  | 14,142                | 679     | 244                     | 567                         | 221     | 121      | 32           | 6       | 1,191                | 3            | 0                            | 1                 | 5,874                          | 8,752                      | 7,744                          | 2,878                   | 1,870                   | 1,008                 | 5    | 6                             |
| 18       | 552,109    | 5,421                 | 278     | 118                     | 217                         | 104     | 38       | 8            | 1       | 486                  | 2            | 0                            | 6                 | 2,956                          | 4,280                      | 3,720                          | 1,324                   | 764                     | 560                   | 0    | 5                             |
| 19       | 594,485    | 6,040                 | 373     | 79                      | 266                         | 88      | 20       | 1            | 0       | 454                  | 2            | 3                            | 10                | 3,499                          | 4,812                      | 4,326                          | 1,313                   | 827                     | 486                   | 8    | 3                             |
| 20       | 333,858    | 2,631                 | 137     | 51                      | 176                         | 37      | 14       | 1            | 12      | 291                  | 1            | 1                            | 11                | 1,818                          | 2,507                      | 2,246                          | 689                     | 428                     | 261                   | 1    | 0                             |
| 21       | 666,447    | 6,078                 | 283     | 165                     | 311                         | 102     | 73       | 9            | 2       | 662                  | 2            | 1                            | 0                 | 4,076                          | 7,267                      | 5,021                          | 3,191                   | 945                     | 2,246                 | 1    | 6                             |
| 22       | 164,584    | 2,186                 | 81      | 21                      | 44                          | 22      | 11       | 4            | 0       | 102                  | 1            | 0                            | 2                 | 1,506                          | 1,962                      | 1,689                          | 456                     | 183                     | 273                   | 0    | 1                             |
| 23       | 342,302    | 2,490                 | 142     | 69                      | 69                          | 66      | 23       | 0            | 0       | 227                  | 0            | 0                            | 2                 | 1,455                          | 2,061                      | 1,824                          | 606                     | 369                     | 237                   | 4    | 0                             |
| 24       | 425,698    | 2,291                 | 97      | 34                      | 68                          | 48      | 17       | 7            | 0       | 174                  | 1            | 0                            | 1                 | 1,136                          | 1,643                      | 1,407                          | 507                     | 271                     | 236                   | 1    | 0                             |
| State    | 18,680,367 | 168,977               | 8,026   | 3,452                   | 6,487                       | 2,598   | 1,443    | 376          | 123     | 14,479               | 45           | 30                           | 188               | 87,532                         | 124,949                    | 110,037                        | 37,417                  | 22,505                  | 14,912                | 51   | 366                           |

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



**TABLE Ia**  
**2007 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            | 118          | 21             | 234                    | 373          | 116            | 5              | 29                     | 150          | 170                | 10             | 82                     | 262          | 94           | 2              | 0                      | 96           | 46           | 0              | 0                      | 46           | 9            | 0              | 1                      | 10         | 8          | 0              | 2                      | 10         | 561             | 38             | 348                    |
| 2            | 82           | 48             | 19                     | 149          | 70             | 11             | 3                      | 84           | 68                 | 27             | 10                     | 105          | 37           | 0              | 1                      | 38           | 18           | 0              | 2                      | 20           | 12           | 0              | 0                      | 12         | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 287             | 86             | 35                     |
| 3            | 50           | 22             | 2                      | 74           | 65             | 4              | 0                      | 69           | 37                 | 10             | 0                      | 47           | 28           | 0              | 0                      | 28           | 11           | 0              | 0                      | 11           | 6            | 0              | 0                      | 6          | 1          | 0              | 0                      | 1          | 198             | 36             | 2                      |
| 4            | 309          | 66             | 8                      | 383          | 179            | 65             | 0                      | 244          | 250                | 128            | 8                      | 386          | 143          | 0              | 0                      | 143          | 160          | 0              | 0                      | 160          | 31           | 3              | 0                      | 34         | 3          | 0              | 0                      | 3          | 1,075           | 262            | 16                     |
| 5            | 196          | 140            | 71                     | 407          | 164            | 6              | 1                      | 171          | 189                | 53             | 87                     | 329          | 145          | 1              | 0                      | 146          | 32           | 0              | 0                      | 32           | 23           | 1              | 0                      | 24         | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 749             | 201            | 159                    |
| 6            | 231          | 237            | 1                      | 469          | 202            | 48             | 1                      | 251          | 447                | 210            | 12                     | 669          | 222          | 0              | 0                      | 222          | 89           | 0              | 0                      | 89           | 22           | 0              | 0                      | 22         | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 1,213           | 495            | 14                     |
| 7            | 164          | 99             | 1                      | 264          | 100            | 13             | 0                      | 113          | 129                | 43             | 2                      | 174          | 88           | 0              | 0                      | 88           | 24           | 0              | 0                      | 24           | 11           | 5              | 0                      | 16         | 3          | 0              | 0                      | 3          | 519             | 160            | 3                      |
| 8            | 169          | 41             | 1                      | 211          | 137            | 4              | 0                      | 141          | 86                 | 95             | 1                      | 182          | 60           | 0              | 0                      | 60           | 25           | 0              | 0                      | 25           | 23           | 1              | 2                      | 26         | 4          | 1              | 0                      | 5          | 504             | 142            | 4                      |
| 9            | 376          | 277            | 0                      | 653          | 219            | 62             | 0                      | 281          | 222                | 113            | 0                      | 335          | 158          | 6              | 0                      | 164          | 148          | 1              | 0                      | 149          | 33           | 1              | 0                      | 34         | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 1,156           | 460            | 0                      |
| 10           | 213          | 63             | 8                      | 284          | 123            | 15             | 7                      | 145          | 129                | 7              | 32                     | 168          | 96           | 0              | 1                      | 97           | 45           | 0              | 0                      | 45           | 14           | 0              | 0                      | 14         | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 620             | 85             | 48                     |
| 11           | 745          | 49             | 13                     | 807          | 343            | 3              | 0                      | 346          | 435                | 46             | 91                     | 572          | 272          | 3              | 0                      | 275          | 256          | 0              | 0                      | 256          | 6            | 1              | 0                      | 7          | 48         | 0              | 0                      | 48         | 2,105           | 102            | 104                    |
| 12           | 222          | 138            | 0                      | 360          | 86             | 8              | 1                      | 95           | 190                | 69             | 7                      | 266          | 122          | 0              | 0                      | 122          | 48           | 0              | 0                      | 48           | 18           | 1              | 0                      | 19         | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 686             | 216            | 8                      |
| 13           | 561          | 341            | 23                     | 925          | 226            | 21             | 1                      | 248          | 364                | 43             | 142                    | 549          | 172          | 0              | 0                      | 172          | 86           | 1              | 0                      | 87           | 25           | 2              | 0                      | 27         | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 1,434           | 408            | 166                    |
| 14           | 47           | 84             | 1                      | 132          | 79             | 4              | 0                      | 83           | 56                 | 32             | 1                      | 89           | 50           | 0              | 0                      | 50           | 22           | 0              | 0                      | 22           | 2            | 0              | 0                      | 2          | 21         | 7              | 0                      | 28         | 277             | 127            | 2                      |
| 15           | 306          | 72             | 3                      | 381          | 216            | 12             | 0                      | 228          | 431                | 142            | 4                      | 577          | 194          | 0              | 0                      | 194          | 108          | 0              | 0                      | 108          | 59           | 1              | 0                      | 60         | 4          | 0              | 0                      | 4          | 1,318           | 227            | 7                      |
| 16           | 50           | 34             | 0                      | 84           | 22             | 0              | 0                      | 22           | 52                 | 0              | 7                      | 59           | 14           | 1              | 0                      | 15           | 4            | 0              | 0                      | 4            | 1            | 0              | 0                      | 1          | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 143             | 35             | 7                      |
| 17           | 304          | 367            | 8                      | 679          | 214            | 29             | 1                      | 244          | 390                | 167            | 10                     | 567          | 211          | 10             | 0                      | 221          | 121          | 0              | 0                      | 121          | 28           | 4              | 0                      | 32         | 3          | 2              | 1                      | 6          | 1,271           | 579            | 20                     |
| 18           | 154          | 123            | 1                      | 278          | 108            | 9              | 1                      | 118          | 130                | 81             | 6                      | 217          | 102          | 2              | 0                      | 104          | 38           | 0              | 0                      | 38           | 7            | 1              | 0                      | 8          | 1          | 0              | 0                      | 1          | 540             | 216            | 8                      |
| 19           | 213          | 129            | 31                     | 373          | 79             | 0              | 0                      | 79           | 174                | 58             | 34                     | 266          | 88           | 0              | 0                      | 88           | 20           | 0              | 0                      | 20           | 1            | 0              | 0                      | 1          | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 575             | 187            | 65                     |
| 20           | 79           | 58             | 0                      | 137          | 44             | 7              | 0                      | 51           | 80                 | 54             | 42                     | 176          | 37           | 0              | 0                      | 37           | 14           | 0              | 0                      | 14           | 1            | 0              | 0                      | 1          | 12         | 0              | 0                      | 12         | 267             | 119            | 42                     |
| 21           | 158          | 125            | 0                      | 283          | 160            | 5              | 0                      | 165          | 146                | 162            | 3                      | 311          | 101          | 1              | 0                      | 102          | 73           | 0              | 0                      | 73           | 8            | 1              | 0                      | 9          | 0          | 2              | 0                      | 2          | 646             | 296            | 3                      |
| 22           | 35           | 46             | 0                      | 81           | 21             | 0              | 0                      | 21           | 38                 | 5              | 1                      | 44           | 21           | 1              | 0                      | 22           | 11           | 0              | 0                      | 11           | 2            | 2              | 0                      | 4          | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 128             | 54             | 1                      |
| 23           | 36           | 83             | 23                     | 142          | 62             | 7              | 0                      | 69           | 65                 | 4              | 0                      | 69           | 66           | 0              | 0                      | 66           | 23           | 0              | 0                      | 23           | 0            | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 252             | 94             | 23                     |
| 24           | 61           | 36             | 0                      | 97           | 32             | 1              | 1                      | 34           | 58                 | 7              | 3                      | 68           | 48           | 0              | 0                      | 48           | 17           | 0              | 0                      | 17           | 6            | 1              | 0                      | 7          | 0          | 0              | 0                      | 0          | 222             | 45             | 4                      |
| <b>State</b> | <b>4,879</b> | <b>2,699</b>   | <b>448</b>             | <b>8,026</b> | <b>3,067</b>   | <b>339</b>     | <b>46</b>              | <b>3,452</b> | <b>4,336</b>       | <b>1,566</b>   | <b>585</b>             | <b>6,487</b> | <b>2,569</b> | <b>27</b>      | <b>2</b>               | <b>2,598</b> | <b>1,439</b> | <b>2</b>       | <b>2</b>               | <b>1,443</b> | <b>348</b>   | <b>25</b>      | <b>3</b>               | <b>376</b> | <b>108</b> | <b>12</b>      | <b>3</b>               | <b>123</b> | <b>16,746</b>   | <b>4,670</b>   | <b>1,089</b>           |

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**

| Autopsies and<br>Other |      |                | Cremation |      |           |
|------------------------|------|----------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Rank                   | Dist | Investigations | Rank      | Dist | Approvals |
| 1                      | 16   | 2.342          | 1         | 22   | 9.150     |
| 2                      | 8    | 1.733          | 2         | 12   | 8.188     |
| 3                      | 13   | 1.683          | 3         | 6    | 8.103     |
| 4                      | 3    | 1.442          | 4         | 5    | 7.654     |
| 5                      | 21   | 1.418          | 5         | 7    | 6.315     |
| 6                      | 19   | 1.391          | 6         | 21   | 6.116     |
| 7                      | 14   | 1.388          | 7         | 19   | 5.886     |
| 8                      | 18   | 1.384          | 8         | 16   | 5.596     |
| 9                      | 7    | 1.342          | 9         | 20   | 5.445     |
| 10                     | 1    | 1.338          | 10        | 18   | 5.354     |
| 11                     | 20   | 1.282          | 11        | 10   | 5.102     |
| 12                     | 6    | 1.249          | 12        | 8    | 4.953     |
| 13                     | 12   | 1.234          | 13        | 15   | 4.497     |
| 14                     | 15   | 1.198          | 14        | 23   | 4.251     |
| 15                     | 9    | 1.178          | 15        | 13   | 4.026     |
| 16                     | 4    | 1.175          | 16        | 4    | 3.892     |
| 17                     | 22   | 1.112          | 17        | 9    | 3.720     |
| 18                     | 5    | 1.105          | 18        | 3    | 3.654     |
| 19                     | 23   | 1.078          | 19        | 1    | 3.528     |
| 20                     | 10   | 1.065          | 20        | 17   | 3.327     |
| 21                     | 17   | 1.059          | 21        | 11   | 2.838     |
| 22                     | 2    | 0.998          | 22        | 24   | 2.669     |
| 23                     | 11   | 0.939          | 23        | 14   | 1.993     |
| 24                     | 24   | 0.637          | 24        | 2    | 0.800     |

**TABLE III**

**Autopsies Related to  
Total Deaths, Population, and Violent Deaths**

| Autopsies/<br>Total Deaths |      |              | Autopsies/<br>Population |      |            | Autopsies/<br>Violent Deaths |      |                |
|----------------------------|------|--------------|--------------------------|------|------------|------------------------------|------|----------------|
| Rank                       | Dist | Total Deaths | Rank                     | Dist | Population | Rank                         | Dist | Violent Deaths |
| 1                          | 16   | 0.249        | 1                        | 16   | 1.810      | 1                            | 16   | 1.416          |
| 2                          | 13   | 0.149        | 2                        | 8    | 1.344      | 2                            | 11   | 1.400          |
| 3                          | 8    | 0.132        | 3                        | 3    | 1.210      | 3                            | 13   | 1.324          |
| 4                          | 3    | 0.131        | 4                        | 13   | 1.202      | 4                            | 10   | 1.322          |
| 5                          | 9    | 0.125        | 5                        | 7    | 1.022      | 5                            | 24   | 1.276          |
| 6                          | 11   | 0.113        | 6                        | 15   | 1.018      | 6                            | 19   | 1.267          |
| 7                          | 4    | 0.108        | 7                        | 18   | 0.978      | 7                            | 22   | 1.255          |
| 8                          | 2    | 0.108        | 8                        | 21   | 0.969      | 8                            | 12   | 1.247          |
| 9                          | 21   | 0.106        | 9                        | 19   | 0.967      | 9                            | 7    | 1.242          |
| 10                         | 14   | 0.102        | 10                       | 14   | 0.947      | 10                           | 3    | 1.222          |
| 11                         | 20   | 0.101        | 11                       | 4    | 0.933      | 11                           | 9    | 1.200          |
| 12                         | 23   | 0.101        | 12                       | 12   | 0.930      | 12                           | 8    | 1.148          |
| 13                         | 18   | 0.100        | 13                       | 6    | 0.880      | 13                           | 15   | 1.126          |
| 14                         | 24   | 0.097        | 14                       | 10   | 0.877      | 14                           | 18   | 1.111          |
| 15                         | 15   | 0.096        | 15                       | 11   | 0.855      | 15                           | 23   | 1.110          |
| 16                         | 19   | 0.095        | 16                       | 9    | 0.843      | 16                           | 4    | 1.108          |
| 17                         | 1    | 0.093        | 17                       | 20   | 0.800      | 17                           | 2    | 1.108          |
| 18                         | 10   | 0.092        | 18                       | 1    | 0.793      | 18                           | 17   | 1.067          |
| 19                         | 7    | 0.091        | 19                       | 22   | 0.778      | 19                           | 5    | 1.067          |
| 20                         | 17   | 0.090        | 20                       | 5    | 0.746      | 20                           | 14   | 1.011          |
| 21                         | 12   | 0.082        | 21                       | 23   | 0.736      | 21                           | 1    | 0.977          |
| 22                         | 6    | 0.073        | 22                       | 17   | 0.720      | 22                           | 21   | 0.976          |
| 23                         | 5    | 0.063        | 23                       | 2    | 0.702      | 23                           | 6    | 0.968          |
| 24                         | 22   | 0.059        | 24                       | 24   | 0.521      | 24                           | 20   | 0.918          |

**TABLE IV**

**Percent of Medical Examiner Cases Autopsied**

| <b>District</b> | <b>Natural</b> | <b>Accident: Motor Vehicle</b> | <b>Accident: Non-Motor Vehicle</b> | <b>Suicide</b> | <b>Homicide</b> | <b>Undetermined</b> |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1               | 31.6%          | 77.3%                          | 64.9%                              | 97.9%          | 100.0%          | 90.0%               |
| 2               | 55.0%          | 83.3%                          | 64.8%                              | 97.4%          | 90.0%           | 100.0%              |
| 3               | 67.6%          | 94.2%                          | 78.7%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 100.0%              |
| 4               | 80.7%          | 73.4%                          | 64.8%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 91.2%               |
| 5               | 48.2%          | 95.9%                          | 57.4%                              | 99.3%          | 100.0%          | 95.8%               |
| 6               | 49.3%          | 80.5%                          | 66.8%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 100.0%              |
| 7               | 62.1%          | 88.5%                          | 74.1%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 68.8%               |
| 8               | 80.1%          | 97.2%                          | 47.3%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 88.5%               |
| 9               | 57.6%          | 77.9%                          | 66.3%                              | 96.3%          | 99.3%           | 97.1%               |
| 10              | 75.0%          | 84.8%                          | 76.8%                              | 99.0%          | 100.0%          | 100.0%              |
| 11              | 92.3%          | 99.1%                          | 76.0%                              | 98.9%          | 100.0%          | 85.7%               |
| 12              | 61.7%          | 90.5%                          | 71.4%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 94.7%               |
| 13              | 60.6%          | 91.1%                          | 66.3%                              | 100.0%         | 98.9%           | 92.6%               |
| 14              | 35.6%          | 95.2%                          | 62.9%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 100.0%              |
| 15              | 80.3%          | 94.7%                          | 74.7%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 98.3%               |
| 16              | 59.5%          | 100.0%                         | 88.1%                              | 93.3%          | 100.0%          | 100.0%              |
| 17              | 44.8%          | 87.7%                          | 68.8%                              | 95.5%          | 100.0%          | 87.5%               |
| 18              | 55.4%          | 91.5%                          | 59.9%                              | 98.1%          | 100.0%          | 87.5%               |
| 19              | 57.1%          | 100.0%                         | 65.4%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 100.0%              |
| 20              | 57.7%          | 86.3%                          | 45.5%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 100.0%              |
| 21              | 55.8%          | 97.0%                          | 46.9%                              | 99.0%          | 100.0%          | 88.9%               |
| 22              | 43.2%          | 100.0%                         | 86.4%                              | 95.5%          | 100.0%          | 0.0%                |
| 23              | 25.4%          | 89.9%                          | 94.2%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | N/A                 |
| 24              | 62.9%          | 94.1%                          | 85.3%                              | 100.0%         | 100.0%          | 85.7%               |
| <b>State</b>    | <b>60.8%</b>   | <b>88.8%</b>                   | <b>66.8%</b>                       | <b>98.9%</b>   | <b>99.7%</b>    | <b>92.6%</b>        |

**TABLE V**  
**Ranking of Violent Death Rates**  
**(Per Population / 1000)**

| <b>Ranking</b> | <b>Dist</b> | <b>Mot Veh Acc/<br/>Population</b> | <b>Dist</b> | <b>Non M-V Acc/<br/>Population</b> | <b>Dist</b> | <b>Homicides/<br/>Population</b> | <b>Dist</b> | <b>Suicides/<br/>Population</b> | <b>Dist</b> | <b>Total Violent/<br/>Population</b> |
|----------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1              | 3           | 0.422                              | 16          | 0.747                              | 4           | 0.139                            | 23          | 0.193                           | 16          | 1.279                                |
| 2              | 8           | 0.376                              | 20          | 0.527                              | 21          | 0.110                            | 16          | 0.190                           | 8           | 1.034                                |
| 3              | 14          | 0.284                              | 6           | 0.485                              | 9           | 0.109                            | 18          | 0.188                           | 21          | 0.999                                |
| 4              | 16          | 0.279                              | 8           | 0.485                              | 11          | 0.104                            | 7           | 0.173                           | 18          | 0.965                                |
| 5              | 21          | 0.248                              | 21          | 0.467                              | 15          | 0.083                            | 3           | 0.171                           | 3           | 0.941                                |
| 6              | 7           | 0.222                              | 13          | 0.460                              | 14          | 0.075                            | 14          | 0.171                           | 20          | 0.896                                |
| 7              | 18          | 0.214                              | 19          | 0.447                              | 13          | 0.073                            | 12          | 0.165                           | 7           | 0.844                                |
| 8              | 1           | 0.212                              | 15          | 0.446                              | 18          | 0.069                            | 6           | 0.161                           | 1           | 0.837                                |
| 9              | 4           | 0.212                              | 18          | 0.393                              | 17          | 0.069                            | 8           | 0.160                           | 14          | 0.820                                |
| 10             | 13          | 0.208                              | 1           | 0.370                              | 3           | 0.067                            | 21          | 0.153                           | 13          | 0.820                                |
| 11             | 2           | 0.206                              | 12          | 0.361                              | 23          | 0.067                            | 15          | 0.150                           | 6           | 0.810                                |
| 12             | 10          | 0.205                              | 7           | 0.343                              | 22          | 0.067                            | 19          | 0.148                           | 15          | 0.774                                |
| 13             | 9           | 0.205                              | 4           | 0.335                              | 8           | 0.067                            | 5           | 0.145                           | 19          | 0.764                                |
| 14             | 23          | 0.202                              | 5           | 0.328                              | 12          | 0.065                            | 13          | 0.144                           | 4           | 0.763                                |
| 15             | 6           | 0.182                              | 17          | 0.321                              | 1           | 0.065                            | 10          | 0.137                           | 5           | 0.730                                |
| 16             | 15          | 0.176                              | 14          | 0.304                              | 6           | 0.065                            | 1           | 0.136                           | 12          | 0.730                                |
| 17             | 5           | 0.170                              | 3           | 0.287                              | 10          | 0.064                            | 22          | 0.134                           | 2           | 0.719                                |
| 18             | 20          | 0.153                              | 22          | 0.267                              | 16          | 0.051                            | 17          | 0.125                           | 17          | 0.684                                |
| 19             | 11          | 0.141                              | 2           | 0.257                              | 2           | 0.049                            | 4           | 0.124                           | 9           | 0.681                                |
| 20             | 17          | 0.138                              | 9           | 0.244                              | 7           | 0.047                            | 9           | 0.120                           | 22          | 0.626                                |
| 21             | 19          | 0.133                              | 10          | 0.238                              | 20          | 0.042                            | 24          | 0.113                           | 11          | 0.598                                |
| 22             | 12          | 0.129                              | 11          | 0.232                              | 24          | 0.040                            | 11          | 0.112                           | 23          | 0.587                                |
| 23             | 22          | 0.128                              | 23          | 0.202                              | 19          | 0.034                            | 20          | 0.111                           | 10          | 0.533                                |
| 24             | 24          | 0.080                              | 24          | 0.160                              | 5           | 0.032                            | 2           | 0.093                           | 24          | 0.324                                |

| Rank         | Violent Deaths | District | Geographical Area of Florida with Population Ranking (#) |
|--------------|----------------|----------|--|
| 1            | 1,504          | 11       | Miami (#1)   |
| 2            | 1,253          | 6        | St. Petersburg (#3)                                      |
| 3            | 1,191          | 17       | Ft. Lauderdale (#2)                                      |
| 4            | 1,171          | 15       | Palm Beach (#5)  |
| 5            | 1,083          | 13       | Tampa (#6)   |
| 6            | 970            | 4        | Jacksonville (#7)  |
| 7            | 963            | 9        | Orlando (#4)   |
| 8            | 702            | 5        | Leesburg (#8)  |
| 9            | 662            | 21       | Ft. Myers (#12)  |
| 10           | 574            | 1        | Pensacola (#10)  |
| 11           | 550            | 12       | Sarasota (#9)  |
| 12           | 486            | 18       | Melbourne (#14)  |
| 13           | 469            | 10       | Lakeland (#11)   |
| 14           | 454            | 19       | Ft. Pierce (#13)   |
| 15           | 439            | 8        | Gainesville (#18)  |
| 16           | 418            | 7        | Daytona Beach (#15)                                      |
| 17           | 291            | 20       | Naples (#20)   |
| 18           | 274            | 14       | Panama City (#21)  |
| 19           | 259            | 2        | Tallahassee (#17)  |
| 20           | 227            | 23       | St. Augustine (#19)                                      |
| 21           | 174            | 24       | Sanford (#16)  |
| 22           | 162            | 3        | Live Oak (#23)   |
| 23           | 102            | 22       | Port Charlotte (#22)                                     |
| 24           | 101            | 16       | Florida Keys (#24)                                       |
| <b>State</b> | <b>14,479</b>  |          |  |

| Dist         | Deaths/Population | Autopsies/Total Deaths | Autopsies/Population |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1            | 0.85%             | 0.093                  | 0.793                |
| 2            | 0.65%             | 0.108                  | 0.702                |
| 3            | 0.92%             | 0.131                  | 1.210                |
| 4            | 0.86%             | 0.108                  | 0.933                |
| 5            | 1.19%             | 0.063                  | 0.746                |
| 6            | 1.20%             | 0.073                  | 0.880                |
| 7            | 1.12%             | 0.091                  | 1.022                |
| 8            | 1.02%             | 0.132                  | 1.344                |
| 9            | 0.68%             | 0.125                  | 0.843                |
| 10           | 0.95%             | 0.092                  | 0.877                |
| 11           | 0.76%             | 0.113                  | 0.855                |
| 12           | 1.14%             | 0.082                  | 0.930                |
| 13           | 0.81%             | 0.149                  | 1.202                |
| 14           | 0.93%             | 0.102                  | 0.947                |
| 15           | 1.06%             | 0.096                  | 1.018                |
| 16           | 0.73%             | 0.249                  | 1.810                |
| 17           | 0.80%             | 0.090                  | 0.720                |
| 18           | 0.98%             | 0.100                  | 0.978                |
| 19           | 1.02%             | 0.095                  | 0.967                |
| 20           | 0.79%             | 0.101                  | 0.800                |
| 21           | 0.91%             | 0.106                  | 0.969                |
| 22           | 1.33%             | 0.059                  | 0.778                |
| 23           | 0.73%             | 0.101                  | 0.736                |
| 24           | 0.54%             | 0.097                  | 0.521                |
| <b>State</b> | <b>0.90%</b>      | <b>0.099</b>           | <b>0.896</b>         |

**TABLE VIII**

**Fifteen Year Comparison of SIDS Deaths**

| Dist         | 1993       | 1994       | 1995       | 1996       | 1997       | 1998       | 1999       | 2000       | 2001      | 2002      | 2003      | 2004      | 2005      | 2006      | 2007      |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1            | 11         | 11         | 3          | 9          | 7          | 6          | 8          | 2          | 5         | 2         | 6         | 2         | 3         | 3         | 0         |
| 2            | 1          | 8          | 5          | 2          | 6          | 3          | 6          | 2          | 1         | 0         | 2         | 2         | 0         | 2         | 0         |
| 3            | 4          | 4          | 2          | 1          | 2          | 3          | 1          | 3          | 1         | 0         | 1         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         |
| 4            | 19         | 10         | 13         | 12         | 10         | 11         | 8          | 15         | 7         | 6         | 9         | 7         | 8         | 4         | 3         |
| 5            | 10         | 6          | 5          | 6          | 7          | 1          | 9          | 1          | 6         | 3         | 2         | 2         | 8         | 1         | 2         |
| 6            | 14         | 11         | 6          | 14         | 16         | 6          | 7          | 7          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         |
| 7            | 5          | 4          | 1          | 7          | 2          | 4          | 4          | 6          | 4         | 2         | 2         | 4         | 7         | 5         | 1         |
| 8            | 8          | 5          | 5          | 5          | 4          | 6          | 5          | 3          | 3         | 6         | 8         | 7         | 0         | 5         | 2         |
| 9            | 11         | 18         | 9          | 12         | 13         | 9          | 13         | 3          | 11        | 17        | 11        | 8         | 12        | 10        | 6         |
| 10           | 22         | 10         | 11         | 10         | 14         | 8          | 15         | 10         | 3         | 5         | 7         | 7         | 0         | 0         | 1         |
| 11           | 24         | 18         | 19         | 18         | 8          | 11         | 9          | 8          | 0         | 4         | 2         | 0         | 2         | 5         | 4         |
| 12           | 4          | 5          | 4          | 0          | 3          | 1          | 0          | 1          | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 2         |
| 13           | 10         | 10         | 13         | 12         | 10         | 16         | 13         | 10         | 13        | 10        | 4         | 6         | 7         | 5         | 8         |
| 14           | 1          | 1          | 1          | 7          | 1          | 1          | 2          | 0          | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         |
| 15           | 9          | 5          | 7          | 10         | 3          | 2          | 2          | 1          | 1         | 3         | 2         | 1         | 2         | 0         | 2         |
| 16           | 1          | 0          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 1          | 0          | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         |
| 17           | 19         | 10         | 13         | 2          | 7          | 10         | 4          | 10         | 9         | 2         | 8         | 5         | 3         | 5         | 5         |
| 18           | 5          | 10         | 5          | 4          | 3          | 1          | 0          | 5          | 1         | 1         | 1         | 1         | 2         | 1         | 0         |
| 19           | 5          | 5          | 5          | 7          | 3          | 3          | 2          | 2          | 2         | 4         | 0         | 2         | 4         | 2         | 8         |
| 20           | 3          | 3          | 1          | 2          | 0          | 2          | 0          | 1          | 1         | 0         | 2         | 2         | 2         | 2         | 1         |
| 21           | 6          | 1          | 6          | 3          | 8          | 6          | 2          | 5          | 2         | 1         | 3         | 3         | 2         | 1         | 1         |
| 22           | 0          | 0          | 2          | 0          | 0          | 1          | 0          | 2          | 1         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 2         | 0         | 0         |
| 23           | 7          | 2          | 3          | 6          | 7          | 2          | 0          | 3          | 1         | 0         | 2         | 2         | 7         | 4         | 4         |
| 24           | 1          | 3          | 4          | 2          | 3          | 2          | 7          | 2          | 6         | 3         | 0         | 2         | 4         | 1         | 1         |
| <b>State</b> | <b>200</b> | <b>160</b> | <b>144</b> | <b>151</b> | <b>137</b> | <b>115</b> | <b>118</b> | <b>102</b> | <b>80</b> | <b>73</b> | <b>73</b> | <b>64</b> | <b>76</b> | <b>58</b> | <b>51</b> |

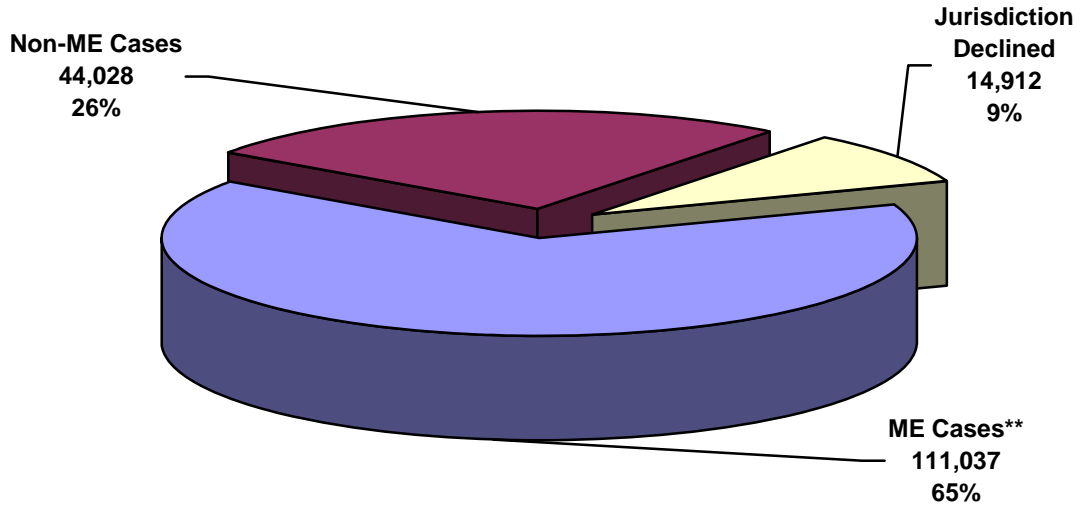
**TABLE IX**

**Fifteen Year Comparison of Violent Death Rates**

| <b>Dist</b>  | <b>1993</b>  | <b>1994</b>  | <b>1995</b>  | <b>1996</b>  | <b>1997</b>  | <b>1998</b>  | <b>1999</b>  | <b>2000</b>  | <b>2001</b>  | <b>2002</b>  | <b>2003</b>  | <b>2004</b>  | <b>2005</b>  | <b>2006</b>  | <b>2007</b>  |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1            | 0.592        | 0.581        | 0.564        | 0.597        | 0.583        | 0.574        | 0.517        | 0.576        | 0.664        | 0.714        | 0.763        | 0.787        | 0.867        | 0.831        | 0.811        |
| 2            | 0.666        | 0.615        | 0.634        | 0.615        | 0.541        | 0.572        | 0.554        | 0.688        | 0.530        | 0.621        | 0.359        | 0.560        | 0.736        | 0.640        | 0.634        |
| 3            | 0.832        | 0.802        | 0.689        | 0.670        | 0.723        | 0.681        | 0.660        | 0.749        | 0.690        | 0.976        | 0.773        | 0.848        | 0.981        | 0.910        | 0.990        |
| 4            | 0.628        | 0.638        | 0.613        | 0.609        | 0.589        | 0.598        | 0.620        | 0.634        | 0.703        | 0.740        | 0.743        | 0.793        | 0.802        | 0.792        | 0.842        |
| 5            | 0.739        | 0.676        | 0.685        | 0.618        | 0.648        | 0.702        | 0.587        | 0.702        | 0.784        | 0.796        | 0.755        | 0.711        | 0.792        | 0.782        | 0.699        |
| 6            | 0.574        | 0.565        | 0.644        | 0.582        | 0.615        | 0.597        | 0.642        | 0.647        | 0.721        | 0.766        | 0.805        | 0.846        | 0.825        | 0.893        | 0.909        |
| 7            | 0.728        | 0.673        | 0.663        | 0.626        | 0.716        | 0.705        | 0.724        | 0.652        | 0.670        | 0.814        | 0.769        | 0.838        | 0.867        | 0.810        | 0.823        |
| 8            | 0.780        | 0.694        | 0.743        | 0.698        | 0.696        | 0.718        | 0.672        | 0.733        | 0.705        | 0.802        | 0.947        | 0.905        | 1.072        | 1.049        | 1.170        |
| 9            | 0.584        | 0.639        | 0.669        | 0.657        | 0.582        | 0.691        | 0.664        | 0.621        | 0.655        | 0.615        | 0.617        | 0.695        | 0.730        | 0.721        | 0.702        |
| 10           | 0.645        | 0.538        | 0.626        | 0.578        | 0.604        | 0.590        | 0.614        | 0.622        | 0.641        | 0.669        | 0.665        | 0.788        | 0.569        | 0.764        | 0.663        |
| 11           | 0.811        | 0.705        | 0.730        | 0.720        | 0.684        | 0.670        | 0.648        | 0.598        | 0.585        | 0.615        | 0.586        | 0.584        | 0.608        | 0.621        | 0.611        |
| 12           | 0.523        | 0.500        | 0.584        | 0.599        | 0.547        | 0.557        | 0.559        | 0.627        | 0.634        | 0.554        | 0.689        | 0.731        | 0.763        | 0.753        | 0.746        |
| 13           | 0.738        | 0.776        | 0.783        | 0.729        | 0.743        | 0.793        | 0.818        | 0.795        | 0.797        | 0.896        | 0.879        | 0.847        | 0.864        | 0.908        | 0.908        |
| 14           | 0.694        | 0.658        | 0.748        | 0.744        | 0.603        | 0.767        | 0.669        | 0.847        | 0.884        | 0.863        | 0.891        | 0.844        | 0.845        | 0.927        | 0.937        |
| 15           | 0.610        | 0.651        | 0.614        | 0.641        | 0.623        | 0.651        | 0.659        | 0.660        | 0.700        | 0.691        | 0.789        | 0.774        | 0.792        | 0.833        | 0.904        |
| 16           | 0.881        | 0.960        | 0.815        | 0.943        | 1.003        | 0.909        | 1.126        | 0.741        | 1.464        | 1.085        | 1.242        | 1.120        | 1.226        | 1.180        | 1.279        |
| 17           | 0.628        | 0.597        | 0.613        | 0.636        | 0.638        | 0.596        | 0.625        | 0.544        | 0.609        | 0.649        | 0.641        | 0.646        | 0.693        | 0.666        | 0.675        |
| 18           | 0.597        | 0.527        | 0.640        | 0.618        | 0.576        | 0.595        | 0.583        | 0.701        | 0.750        | 0.888        | 0.872        | 0.848        | 1.002        | 0.981        | 0.880        |
| 19           | 0.622        | 0.686        | 0.677        | 0.604        | 0.575        | 0.650        | 0.622        | 0.675        | 0.858        | 0.867        | 0.897        | 0.951        | 0.827        | 0.835        | 0.764        |
| 20           | 0.802        | 0.731        | 0.815        | 0.736        | 0.890        | 0.787        | 0.797        | 0.704        | 0.756        | 0.836        | 0.838        | 0.865        | 0.941        | 0.946        | 0.872        |
| 21           | 0.782        | 0.868        | 0.772        | 0.822        | 0.834        | 0.874        | 0.927        | 0.912        | 0.956        | 0.941        | 0.929        | 1.082        | 1.113        | 1.047        | 0.993        |
| 22           | 0.559        | 0.368        | 0.556        | 0.518        | 0.442        | 0.394        | 0.497        | 0.551        | 0.505        | 0.485        | 0.507        | 0.682        | 0.669        | 0.605        | 0.620        |
| 23           | 0.717        | 0.653        | 0.723        | 0.625        | 0.759        | 0.738        | 0.735        | 0.723        | 0.630        | 0.694        | 0.680        | 0.695        | 0.649        | 0.624        | 0.663        |
| 24           | 0.289        | 0.284        | 0.278        | 0.334        | 0.370        | 0.459        | 0.342        | 0.318        | 0.299        | 0.335        | 0.385        | 0.357        | 0.335        | 0.081        | 0.409        |
| <b>State</b> | <b>0.668</b> | <b>0.635</b> | <b>0.657</b> | <b>0.643</b> | <b>0.636</b> | <b>0.652</b> | <b>0.647</b> | <b>0.647</b> | <b>0.682</b> | <b>0.715</b> | <b>0.721</b> | <b>0.748</b> | <b>0.772</b> | <b>0.773</b> | <b>0.775</b> |

## Chart Ia

2007 Medical Examiner Jurisdiction  
Total Florida Deaths: 168,977

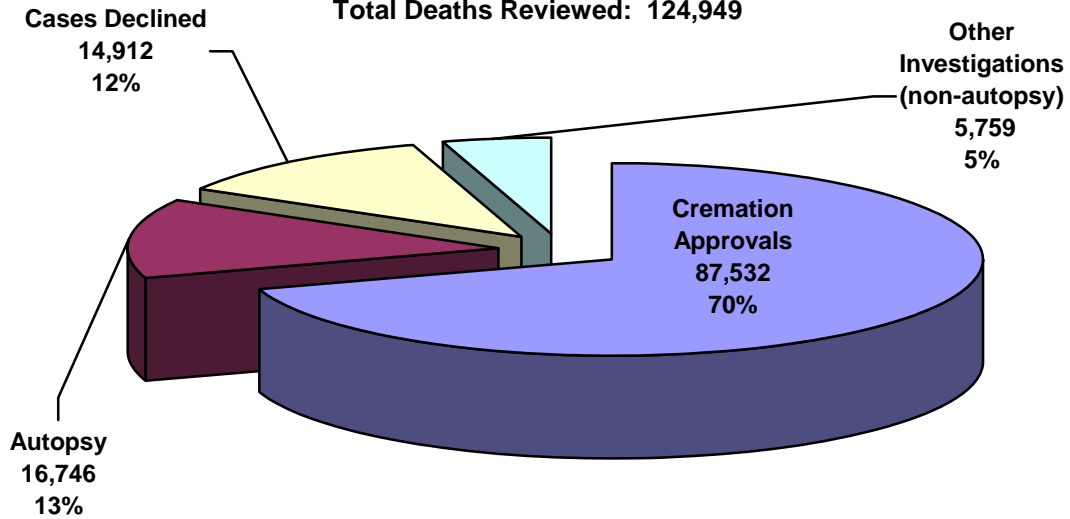


\* Total Non-ME Cases: 58,940. Includes Jurisdiction Declined Cases.

\*\* Includes Cases Accepted and Cremation Approvals

## Chart Ib

2007 Medical Examiner Workload  
Total Deaths Reviewed: 124,949



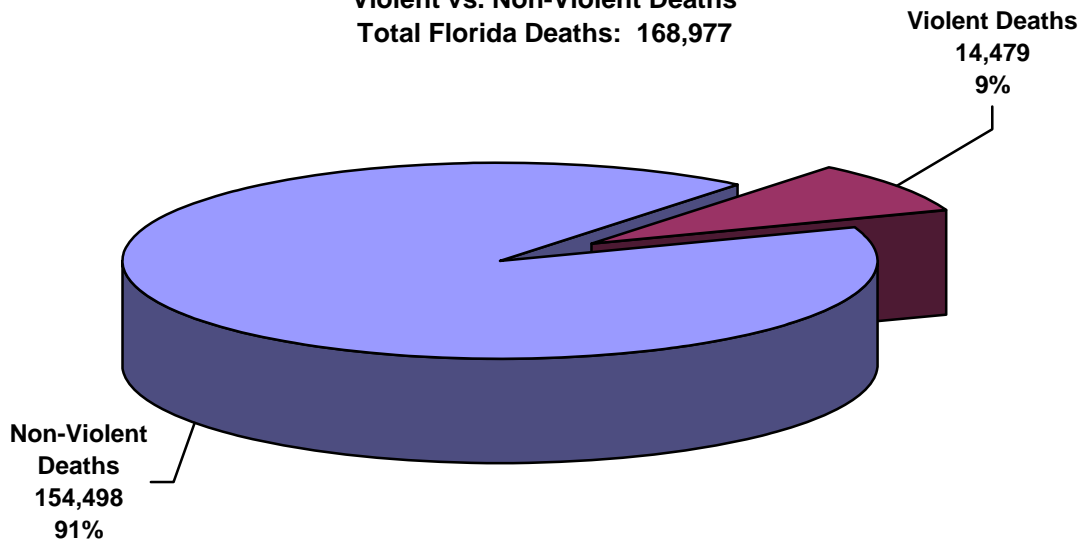


## Chart IIa

2007

Violent vs. Non-Violent Deaths

Total Florida Deaths: 168,977

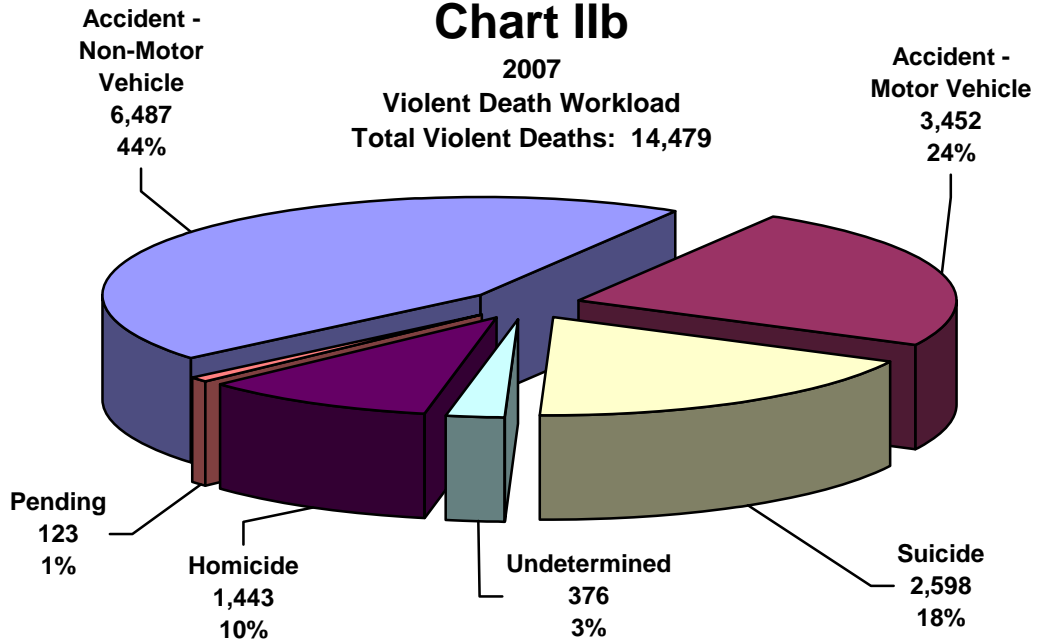


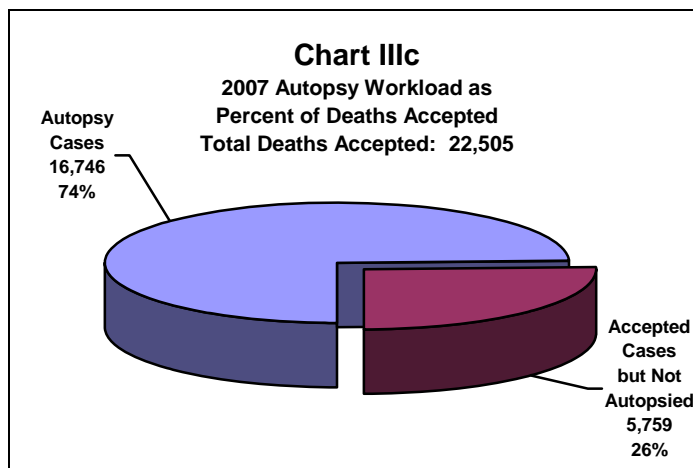
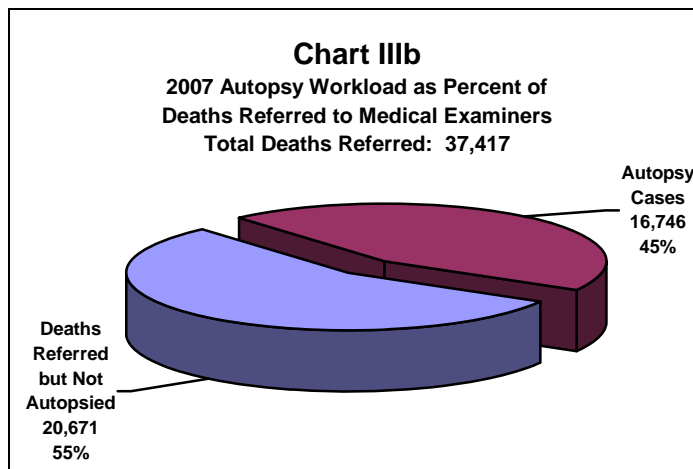
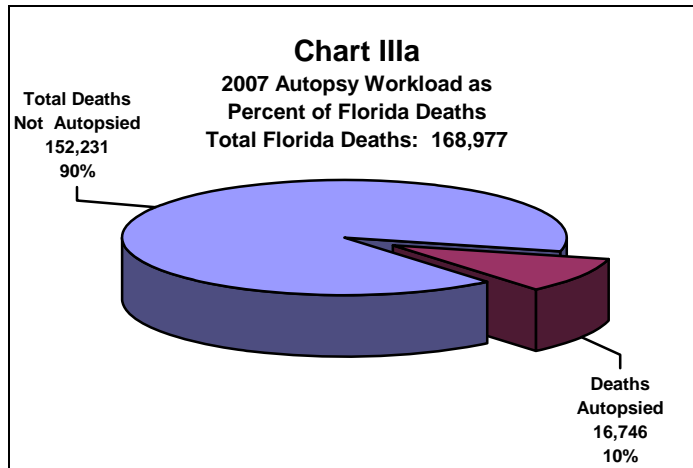
## Chart IIb

2007

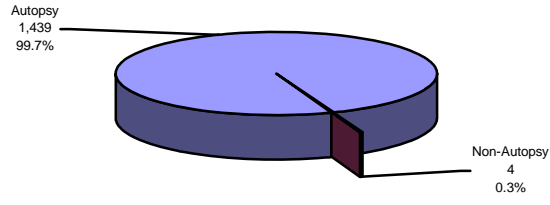
Violent Death Workload

Total Violent Deaths: 14,479

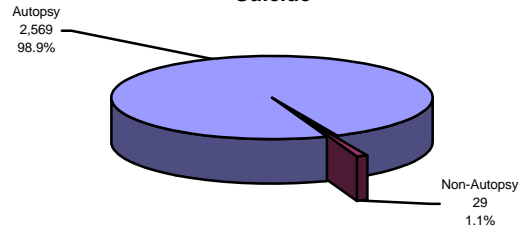




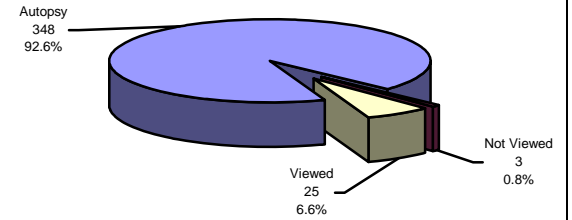
**Chart IVa**  
Workload by Depth of Examinations  
Homicide



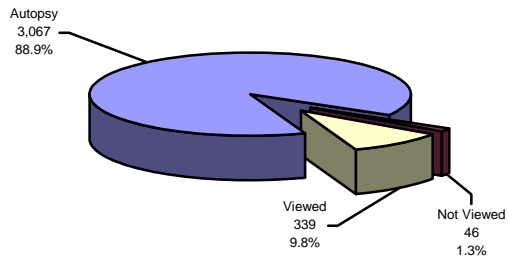
**Chart IVb**  
Workload by Depth of Examinations  
Suicide



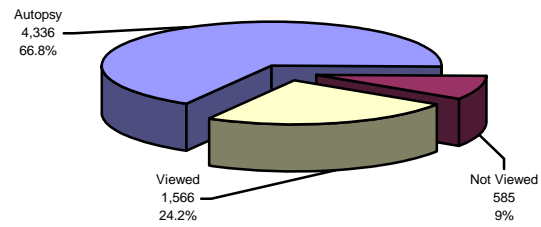
**Chart IVc**  
Workload by Depth of Examinations  
Undetermined



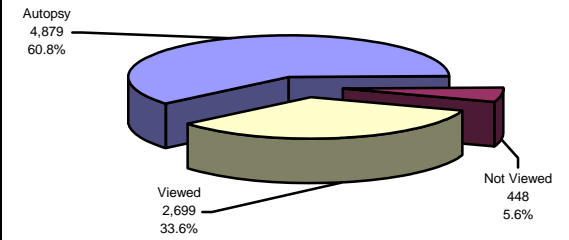
**Chart IVd**  
Workload by Depth of Examinations  
Accident: Motor Vehicle



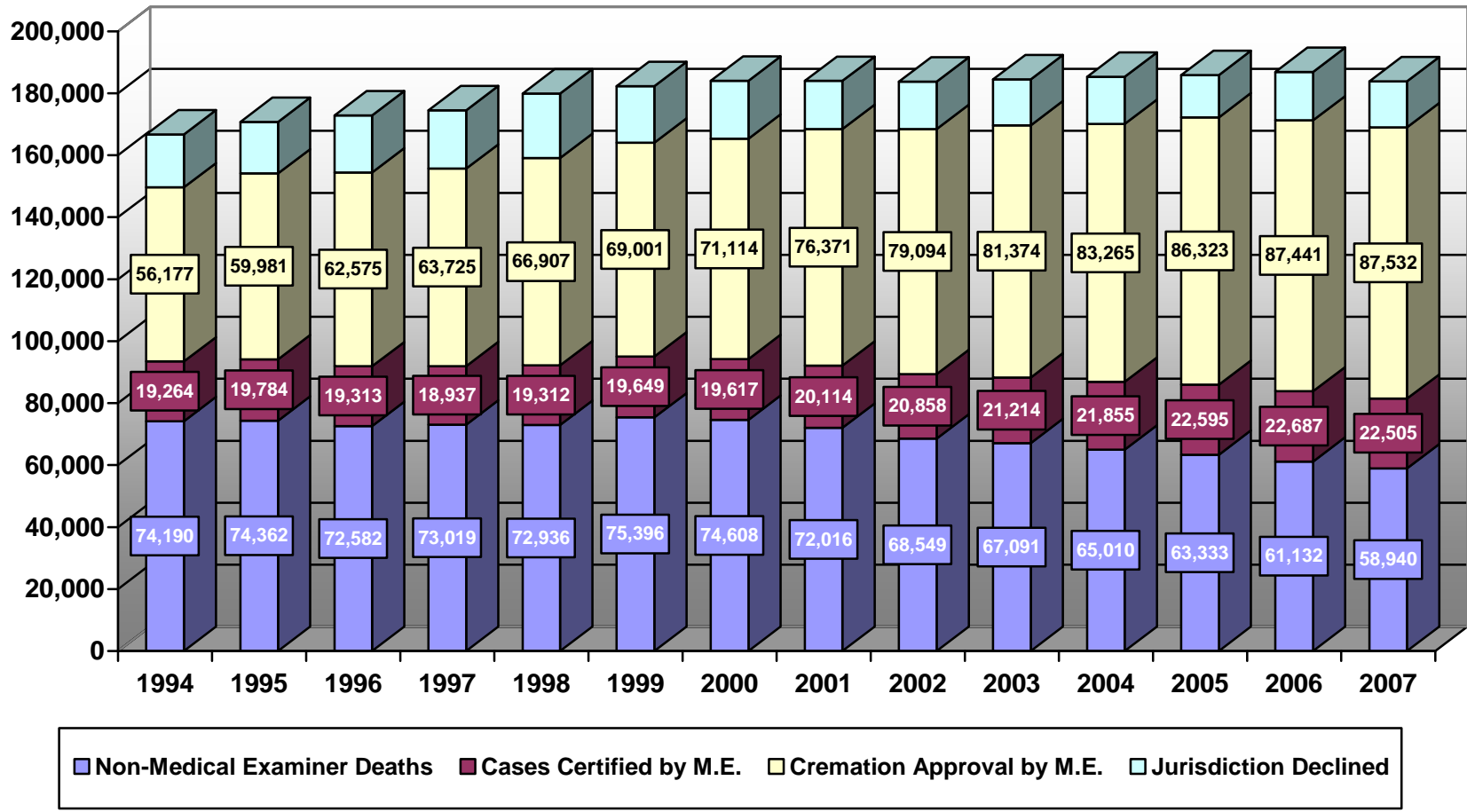
**Chart IVe**  
Workload by Depth of Examinations  
Accident: Non-Motor Vehicle



**Chart IVf**  
Workload by Depth of Examinations  
Natural



**Chart V**  
**Historical Workload**  
**Cases Referred to Medical Examiners**  
**1994-2007**



# APPENDIX 1

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e-mail: [ai786@aol.com](mailto:ai786@aol.com)

### District 23

**Terrence R. Steiner, M.D.**  
4501 Avenue A  
St. Augustine, Florida 32095  
Office Mgr Koni Rogers  
(904) 209-0820  
FAX: (800) 255-8617  
e-mail: [medex23@co.st-johns.fl.us](mailto:medex23@co.st-johns.fl.us)

### District 24

ME Services provided by District 7

## APPENDIX 3

### FLORIDA ASSOCIATE MEDICAL EXAMINERS

#### District 1

Cameron F. Snider, M.D.  
(Michael D. Bell, M.D.)  
(Wilson A. Broussard, M.D.)  
(Frederick P. Hobin, M.D.)

#### District 2

Anthony J. Clark, M.D.  
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.  
Stephen L. Sgan, M.D.  
Benjamin M. Turner, M.D.  
Thomas P. Wood, M.D.

#### District 3

Dixie Co. ME Service by Dist. 8  
Madison Co. ME Service by Dist. 2  
Remaining Co.'s Service by Dist. 4

#### District 4

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

#### District 5

Wendy A. Lavezzi, M.D.  
Barbara C. Wolf, M.D.  
(Susan S. Ignacio, M.D.)  
(Wayne D. Kurz, M.D.)  
(Noel A. Palma, M.D.)  
(Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)  
(Christopher I. Wilson, M.D.)

#### District 6

Susan S. Ignacio, M.D.  
Wayne D. Kurz, M.D.  
Noel A. Palma, M.D.  
Christopher I. Wilson, M.D.  
(Wilson A. Broussard, M.D.)  
(Wendy A. Lavezzi, M.D.)  
(Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)

#### District 7

Predrag Bulic, M.D.  
(Frederick P. Hobin, M.D.)

#### District 8

Martha J. Burt, M.D.  
James M. Crawford, M.D., Ph.D.  
William H. Donnelly, M.D.  
Carolyn M. Hopkins, M.D.  
(Charles A. Diggs, M.D.)  
(Wendy A. Lavezzi, M.D.)  
(Roger E. Mittleman, M.D.)  
(Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)  
(Christena L. Robers, M.D.)  
(Terrence R. Steiner, M.D.)  
(Barbara C. Wolf, M.D.)

#### District 9

Marie H. Hansen, M.D.  
Sara H. Irrgang, M.D.  
Joshua D. Stephany, M.D.  
Gary L. Utz, M.D.  
(Wendy Lavezzi, M.D.)  
(George D. Leidel, M.D.)  
(Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)  
(Sajid Qaiser, M.D.)  
(Jon R. Thogmartin, M.D.)  
(Vera Volnikh, M.D.)  
(Barbara Wolf, 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.)  
(Wayne D. Kurz, M.D.)  
(Roger E. Mittleman, M.D.)  
(Noel A. Palma, M.D.)  
(Jon R. Thogmartin, M.D.)  
(Christopher I. Wilson, M.D.)

#### District 11

David Fintan Garavan, M.D.  
Chester S. Gwin, M.D.  
Kenneth D. Hutchins, M.D.  
Emma O. Lew, M.D.  
Erik K. Mont, M.D.  
Eva Gyori Schiff, M.D.  
Mark J. Shuman, M.D.  
Allecia M. Wilson, M.D.  
(Manfred Borges, M.D.)  
(Stephen J. Cina, M.D.)  
(Marta Coburn, M.D.)  
(Lance G. Davis, M.D.)  
(Boiko G. Iouri, M.D., Ph.D.)  
(Gertrude M. Juste, M.D.)  
(Joshua A. Perper, M.D.)

#### District 12

Wilson A. Broussard, M.D.  
Suzanne R. Utley-Bobak, M.D.  
(Laura S. Hair, M.D.)  
(Frederick P. Hobin, M.D.)  
(Robert R. Pfalzgraf, M.D.)  
(Daniel L. Schultz, M.D.)

#### District 13

Leszek Chrostowski, M.D.  
Laura S. Hair, M.D.  
Jacqueline A. Lee, M.D.  
Daniel L. Schultz, M.D.

#### District 14

(Andrea N. Minyard, M.D.)  
(Cameron F. Snider, M.D.)

#### District 15

Stuart M. Graham, M.D.  
Reinhard W. Motte, M.D.  
Linda R. O'Neil, M.D.  
Jennifer Park, D.O.  
(Iouri G. Boiko, M.D., Ph.D.)  
(Stephen J. Cina, M.D.)  
(Lance Davis, M.D.)  
(Charles A. Diggs, M.D.)  
(Gertrude M. Juste, M.D.)  
(Roger E. Mittleman, M.D.)  
(Erik K. Mont, M.D.)  
(Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)

#### District 16

Mark J. Shuman, M.D.  
Zhiming Li, M.D.  
(Kenneth Hutchins, M.D.)  
(Bruce A. Hyma, M.D.)  
(Emma O. Lew, M.D.)  
(Erik K. Mont, M.D.)

#### District 17

Iouri G. Boiko, M.D., Ph.D.  
Stephen J. Cina, M.D.  
Lance G. Davis, M.D.  
Gertrude M. Juste, M.D.  
(Satish Chundru, D.O.)  
(Ray Fernandez, M.D.)  
(Kenneth Hutchins, M.D.)  
(Bruce A. Hyma, M.D.)  
(Emma O. Lew, M.D.)  
(Erik K. Mont, M.D.)  
(Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)  
(Wendolyn Sneed, M.D.)

#### District 18

Krzysztof Podjaski, M.D.  
(Charles A. Diggs, M.D.)  
(Felipe E. Dominguez, 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.)  
(Frederick P. Hobin, M.D.)  
(Stephen J. Nelson, M.D.)  
(Linda R. O'Neil, M.D.)  
(Mark J. Shuman, M.D.)  
(Sajid Qaiser, M.D.)

#### District 20

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

#### District 21

Robert Pfalzgraf, M.D.  
(Wendolyn Sneed, M.D.)

#### District 22

Daniel L. Schultz, M.D.  
Peter H. K. Tan, M.D.  
(Manfred Borges, Jr., M.D.)

#### District 23

Wendy Ann Stroh, D.O.  
(Frederick P. Hobin, M.D.)

#### District 24

(ME Services Covered by Dist. 7)

## Florida Medical Examiner Districts

**District 1**

Escambia  
Okaloosa  
Santa Rosa  
Walton

**District 2**

Franklin  
Gadsden  
Jefferson  
Leon  
Liberty  
Taylor  
Wakulla

**District 3** \*Covered by

Columbia \*4  
Dixie \*8  
Hamilton \*4  
Lafayette \*4  
Madison \*2  
Suwannee \*4

**District 4**

Clay  
Duval  
Nassau  
**District 5**  
Citrus  
Hernando  
Lake  
Marion  
Sumter

**District 6**

Pasco  
Pinellas

**District 7**

Volusia

**District 8**

Alachua  
Baker  
Bradford  
Gilchrist  
Levy  
Union

**District 9**

Orange  
Osceola

**District 10**

Hardee  
Highlands  
Polk

**District 11**

Dade

**District 12**

DeSoto  
Manatee  
Sarasota

**District 13**

Hillsborough

**District 14**

Bay  
Calhoun  
Gulf  
Holmes  
Jackson  
Washington

**District 15**

Palm Beach

**District 16**

Monroe

**District 17**

Broward

**District 18**

Brevard

**District 19**

Indian River  
Martin  
Okeechobee  
St. Lucie

**District 20**

Collier

**District 21**

Glades  
Hendry  
Lee

**District 22**

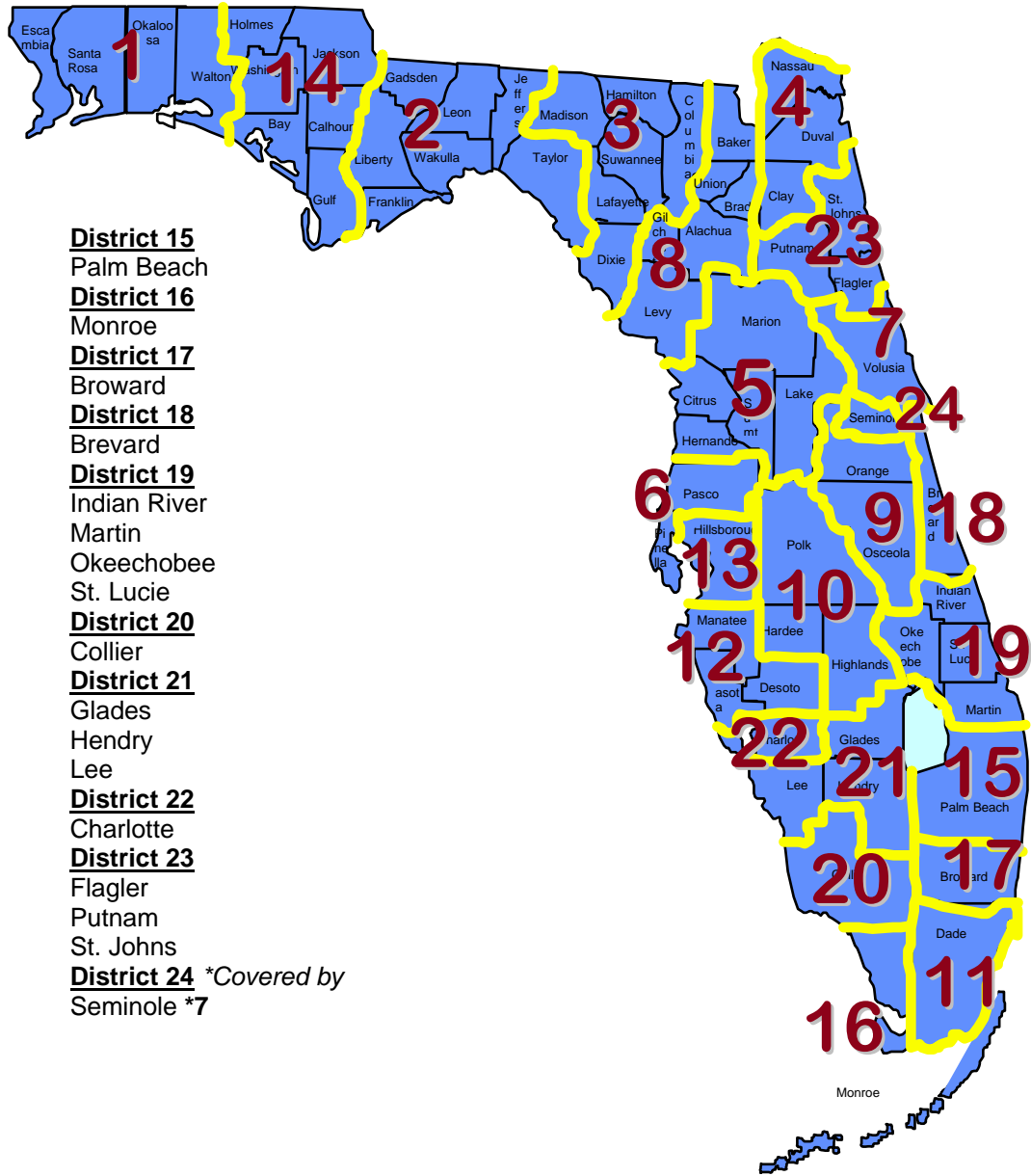
Charlotte

**District 23**

Flagler  
Putnam  
St. Johns

**District 24** \*Covered by

Seminole \*7





## APPENDIX 5

### MEDICAL EXAMINERS COMMISSION

| REPRESENTING          | COMMISSIONER                  | APPOINTMENT                       | REAPPOINTMENT | TERM |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|
| Medical Examiners     | Stephen J. Nelson, M.A., M.D. | 1998                              | 2000 / 2004   | 2008 |
|                       | Bruce A. Hyma, M.D.           | 2007                              | 2011          | 2015 |
| State Attorneys       | Mark E. Kohl, J.D.            | 2007                              | 2011          | 2015 |
| Public Defenders      | Vacant                        | -                                 | -             | -    |
| County Commissions    | Vacant                        | -                                 | -             | -    |
| Sheriffs              | Grady C. Judd, Jr.            | 2005                              | 2009          | 2013 |
| Funeral Home Industry | Mariana Caballero             | 2000                              | 2004          | 2008 |
| Attorney General      | Robert J. Krauss, J.D.        | Standing appointment with no term |               |      |
| Department of Health  | Kenneth T. Jones              | Standing appointment with no term |               |      |

## APPENDIX 6

### DISTRICT MEDICAL EXAMINER THREE YEAR TERM SCHEDULES

| DISTRICT | NEXT THREE TERM YEARS          |      |      |
|----------|--------------------------------|------|------|
| 1        | 2009                           | 2012 | 2015 |
| 2        | 2009                           | 2012 | 2015 |
| 3        | 2009                           | 2012 | 2015 |
| 4        | 2009                           | 2012 | 2015 |
| 5        | 2009                           | 2012 | 2015 |
| 6        | 2009                           | 2012 | 2015 |
| 7        | Home Rule Authority Began 1997 |      |      |
| 8        | 2010                           | 2013 | 2016 |
| 9        | 2010                           | 2013 | 2016 |
| 10       | 2010                           | 2013 | 2016 |
| 11       | Home Rule Authority Began 1992 |      |      |
| 12       | 2010                           | 2013 | 2016 |
| 13       | Home Rule Authority Began 1992 |      |      |
| 14       | 2010                           | 2013 | 2016 |
| 15       | Home Rule Authority Began 1993 |      |      |
| 16       | 2008                           | 2011 | 2014 |
| 17       | 2008                           | 2011 | 2014 |
| 18       | 2008                           | 2011 | 2014 |
| 19       | 2008                           | 2011 | 2014 |
| 20       | 2008                           | 2011 | 2014 |
| 21       | 2008                           | 2011 | 2014 |
| 22       | 2008                           | 2011 | 2014 |
| 23       | 2008                           | 2011 | 2014 |
| 24       | 2008                           | 2011 | 2014 |



[www.fdle.state.fl.us/cjst/mec](http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/cjst/mec)