

Donation and Death Investigation Workshop

June 8-9, 2026

BACKGROUND

Medicolegal death investigators, including medical examiners and coroners, play an integral role in donation. Supporting effective relationships requires advanced knowledge of the death investigation process and established procedures to preserve evidence and mitigate potential disruptions introduced by the donation process. Many donors are under the jurisdiction of medicolegal death investigators, and the lack of effective support may lead to donation restrictions.

The Donation and Death Investigation Workshop provides training aimed at promoting the preservation of evidence to foster enhanced relationships with death investigation partners. The workshop builds upon material outlined in the Guide to Medical Examiner and Coroner Cases published by the American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB), the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO), the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA), and the International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME).

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The workshop provides content beneficial to donation professionals actively supporting medicolegal death investigation professionals within their service areas, including medical examiner and coroner liaisons, donation organization management, clinical personnel, and operations personnel, while also providing medicolegal professionals a greater understanding of the donation process.

LOCATION



7000 Millhouse Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516





Schedule at a Glance

DAY ONE

DAY TWO

8:00 AM	Welcome & Program Overview
8:30 AM	Review of Medicolegal Death Investigation Systems
9:00 AM	What is Evidence? How donation impacts death investigation.
10:00 AM	Break
10:30 AM	Cause and Manner of Death
11:30 AM	Medical, Social, & Behavioral History: The intersection between donation & death investigation.
12:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Interactive Group Discussion
2:00 PM	Post-Mortem Interval
3:00 PM	Break
3:30 PM	Forensic Toxicology & Sample Collection
4:30 PM	Interactive Group Discussion & Closing
5:30 PM	Networking Reception & Tour

8:00 AM	Forensic Photography & Physical Exam
9:00 AM	Navigating Pronouncement, DCD, & Brain Death
10:00 AM	Break
10:30 AM	Pediatric Deaths & Homicides
11:30 AM	Interactive Group Discussion
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Forensic Cardiac Pathology & Heart for Valve Donation
2:00 PM	Records, Clots, & Diagnostics
2:45 PM	Forensic Imaging: The impact of imaging on shared cases
3:30 PM	Break
3:45 PM	Navigating Complex Cases & Interactive Group Discussion
4:45 PM	Closing





Day One Presentation Details

Welcome & Program Overview

The opening presentation will provide an overview of the Donation and Death Investigation Workshop, including an overview of the workshop agenda, an introduction to the Guide to Medical Examiner and Coroner Cases, introductions to the speakers, and other key housekeeping items.

8:00 AM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Outline the goals and objectives of the Donation and Death Investigation Workshop.
- 2. Review the intent and structure of the Guide to Medical Examiner & Coroner Cases.

Speaker. Jonathan Boyd, MS, LSSBB, CTBS

Review of Medicolegal Death Investigation Systems

This presentation will provide an overview of the patchwork system of the medicolegal death investigation systems and practices throughout the United States, including types of jurisdictions, common professional roles, reporting structures, and functions.

8:30 AM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Review common titles such as Medical Examiner, Coroner, and Forensic Pathologist.
- 2. Summarize various types of medicolegal death investigation systems.
- 3. Distinguish variations in medicolegal office structures and jurisdictions.

Speaker. Brian Ehret, BS, F-ABMDI

What is Evidence? How donation impacts death investigation.

Through this presentation, we will define evidence, discuss how evidence can be discovered, and outline the responsibility of donation programs to provide and preserve evidence for death investigators in cases under investigation.

9:00 AM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Define evidence and its impact on the death investigation process.
- 2. Summarize the jurisdiction and authority of death investigators.
- 3. Review the role that donation organizations play in collecting, generating, communicating, and distributing evidence.
- 4. Outline methods for ensuring the integrity of the chain of custody.

Speaker. Brian Ehret, BS, F-ABMDI

Cause and Manner of Death

This presentation will explore the differences in cause and manner of death, and the role death investigators play in their determination. Through this lecture, participants will gain a greater understanding of the medicolegal death investigation process, an understanding of the differences between cause of death, manner of death, and their separation from the justice/prosecution of criminal cases.

10:30 AM

Learning Objective

- 1. Summarize the purpose of death certification.
- 2. Define common causes and manners of death.
- 3. Outline key differences in cause and manner of death.
- 4. Review case scenarios and their classifications.

Speaker. Craig Nelson, MD

Medical, Social, and Behavioral History. Intersections between donation professionals & death investigation.

This presentation summarizes key intersections between donation professionals and medicolegal systems regarding the creation and collection of donor history. We will assess the value of commonly obtained donor information, such as medical and social history, behavioral history, and medical records, and how this information plays a vital role in the procurement of tissue, as well as how it can assist the medicolegal professionals with correlating autopsy findings, ultimately determining the cause and manner of death.

11:30 AM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Outline the impact of medical, social, and behavioral history on death investigation.
- 2. Recognize ways to improve engagement between donation and death investigation professionals by providing donor information.
- 3. Highlight examples where providing donor information aided the death investigation process.
- 4. Highlight examples where the medicolegal professional obtained information at the scene investigation that may rule out a patient as a donor.

Speaker. Brian Ehret, BS, F-ABMDI

Interactive Group Discussions

1:30 PM

During interactive group discussions, participants will participate in roundtable peer reviews. Attendees will examine the concepts presented throughout the day, guided by a designated expert. Participants will assess cases, explore how principles discussed in earlier lectures influence difficult situations, and identify practices that could enhance collaboration between donation and depth investigation professionals.

Learning Objectives

- 1. Review concepts presented in prior presentations.
- 2. Identify opportunities for improvement to drive collaboration on shared cases.
- 3. Evaluate case studies through peer review.

Post-Mortem Interva

The session examines the post-mortem interval, the time elapsed since death, including physiological changes and methods to estimate the interval. Case studies will illustrate the application of an art-versus-science concept in medicolegal death investigations, as well as the variables that affect accuracy.

2:00 PM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Outline the concept of the post-mortem interval and physiological changes that occur after death.
- 2. Describe post-mortem changes, including rigor mortis, algor mortis, and livor mortis, and how variables can influence the onset and progress.
- 3. Interpret case studies to demonstrate how the usage of multiple post-mortem interval indicators in the field.
- 4. Discuss ethical considerations and potential errors in post-mortem interval determination and accuracy.

Speaker. Michelle Rippy, Ed.D.

Forensic Toxicology & Sample Collection

This session will examine indicators of drug use, highlighting the variety of drugs and current trends across different regions of the country. Real-world case studies will illustrate the importance of thorough investigation and the use of empathetic and cognitive interviewing to gather historical data. The presentation will also review suitable forensic toxicology sample sources, collection techniques, and how postmortem artifacts can affect results.

3:30 PM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Summarize the difference between clinical drug screening and forensic toxicology.
- 2. Outline current trends in drug use and drug-related deaths.
- 3. Review the value of antemortem samples in forensic toxicology.
- 4. Discuss samples used for forensic toxicological analysis.
- 5. Review sample collection methodologies and the impact of postmortem artifacts.

Speaker. Erin Worrell, BS, D-ABMDI

Day Two Presentation Details

Forensic Photography & Physical Exam

Organ, tissue, and eye donation often occurs before a death investigator views the body. The recovery process may create significant artifacts, potentially hindering the evaluation of physical evidence. This presentation will review methods for preserving evidence through written and photographic records, how donation professionals can effectively document physical findings, and best practices in forensic photography.

8:00 AM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Identify critical physical findings that could be compromised or disrupted during the donation process.
- Summarize the importance of documenting physical assessments and using proper documentation methods.
- 3. Review best practices in forensic photography, including methodologies for full-body photographs, the use of photography scales, intraoperative photography techniques, and capturing detailed documentation of medical artifacts and injuries.

Speaker. Gregory Schmunk MD

Navigating Pronouncement, Brain Death, and DCD

A strong understanding of logistics, processes, and communication related to death pronouncement is vital for effective collaboration between donation and death investigation professionals. Donation after circulatory death (DCD) and pending brain death testing pose unique challenges. This presentation will review the clinical process for determining brain death, the DCD process, and how donation organizations can foster effective cooperation between their teams and death investigators. The session will be co-presented by a physician from the organ procurement organization perspective and a forensic pathologist to offer insights from the death investigation standpoint.

9:00 AM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Identify challenges in brain death testing.
- 2. Describe the DCD process.
- Summarize the organ recovery process.
- 4. Review the sensitive nature of reporting death pronouncement and withdrawal of care to the death investigator.

Speakers. Yolanda T. Becker, MD, FACS, FAST, CTBS & Catherine Miller, MD

Pediatric Deaths and Homicides

Pediatric deaths and homicides are under intense scrutiny and pose unique challenges for both donation and death investigation professionals. This presentation will analyze these complex cases, explore ways to enhance collaboration among stakeholders, outline effective measures to preserve evidence, and discuss potential solutions to navigate such difficult situations.

10:30 AM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Recognize common obstacles in conducting pediatric death investigations.
- 2. Summarize common challenges in conducting homicide death investigations.
 3. Outline key considerations that death investigators face when assessing the potential for donation in pediatric death and homicide cases.
- 4. Highlight methods that donation professionals can use to preserve evidence.

Speaker. Anna G. McDonald, MD

Heart Donation & Forensic Cardiac Pathology

Diagnosing cardiac-related diseases and abnormalities is often crucial for determining the cause and manner of death. Heart and valve donations present unique challenges in the death investigation process, requiring close collaboration between donation and investigation professionals. This presentation outlines the specific hurdles of heart donation, methods to preserve vital cardiac findings, and ways donation organizations can ensure key information is effectively communicated to their medicolegal partners.

1:00 PM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Summarize key cardiac findings and their influence on establishing cause and manner of death.
- 2. Identify diagnostics, reports, and additional information that may be collected to ensure the heart can be recovered for transplant.

 3. Outline the diagnostics, reports, and other information that may be collected to ensure heart valves can be recovered.
- 4. Review the process of cardiac diseases and abnormalities following valvectomy.

Speaker. Wayne Daniels, DO, MS, CTBS

Records, Clots, and Diagnostics: How we can support the death investigation process.

Donation organizations collect vital information during donor screening and recovery. Accurate identification, documentation, and reporting of this information are crucial for maintaining the integrity of the death investigation process and building trust between donation and death investigation professionals. This presentation will cover how medical records, chemistry reports, serology results, physician consultations, and the identification of injuries or anatomical abnormalities during organ, tissue, and eye recovery should be documented and reported to death investigators by donation professionals.

2:00 PM

- 1. Analyze key information essential to the death investigation process.
- 2. Outline the impact of clinical diagnostics, such as chemistry reports, cultures, and infectious disease testing results, on death investigations.
- 3. Compare and contrast the differences between antemortem and postmortem clots and how clots affect the death investigation process.
- 4. Review methods and practices that donation organizations might use to preserve, document, and report findings and diagnostics.

Speaker. Catherine Miller, MD

Forensic Imaging. The Impact of Imaging on Shared Cases

Imaging techniques such as X-rays, echocardiograms, computed tomography scans, and magnetic resonance imaging enable the assessment of anatomical structures and the detection of injuries. These data provide a valuable opportunity to evaluate and document internal findings before the donation process. This presentation will review the concept of forensic imaging and describe the role imaging plays in both donation and death investigation processes.

2:45 PM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Identify common methods of imaging.
- Review the impact of imaging in the death investigation process.
- 3. Discuss ways donation organizations can maximize access to clinical antemortem and postmortem imaging to preserve evidence.
- 4. Explain methods for documenting, collecting, and distributing imaging and radiographic reports on shared donation and death investigation

Speaker. Paul S. Uribe, MD

Navigating Complex Cases: Panel Case Review

During this panel discussion, experienced professionals in donation and death investigation will share particularly challenging cases and the methods they used to ensure a smooth process in both donation and investigation. Panelists will discuss strategies they adopted to preserve evidence, effective communication among stakeholders, and lessons learned from handling complex cases.

3:45 PM

Learning Objectives

- 1. Examine cases that highlight the advantages of collaboration between donation and death investigation professionals.
- Demonstrate the application of principles and practices discussed in the workshop.
- 3. Highlight ways to improve relationships and case results by preserving and sharing evidence from donation organizations with death investigators involved in shared cases.

Speakers. Ryan Nelson, BS, CTBS, and Melinda Collison, BS, CTBS, CFSP

Faculty



Jonathan Boyd, MS, LSSBB, CTBS

Director, Tissue Acquisition, Lonza, Inc.

Jonathan's career in tissue donation began in 2009 at Carolina Donor Services, now HonorBridge, where he held positions in surgical recovery, leadership, and as Medical Examiner Liaison. Jonathan joined the American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB) in 2017. He served as the Director of Education until he joined Lonza in 2023, where he currently serves as the Director of Tissue Acquisition.

At AATB, Jonathan oversaw the development of educational programming, including webinars and conferences. He co-authored several documents, including the Guide to Medical Examiner and Coroner Cases jointly published by AATB, AOPO, EBAA, and the International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME). Jonathan is an avid advocate for improving working relationships between donation and death investigation professionals and has volunteered in a variety of capacities at medicolegal societies, including The National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) and IACME.

Jonathan earned his undergraduate degree in communications and his master's degree in science in management. He is a Certified Tissue Bank Specialist and a certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt.



Brian Ehret, BS, F-ABMDI

Chief Forensic Investigator, Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, NY

Brian Ehret is the Chief Forensic Investigator at the Center for Forensic Sciences in Syracuse, New York and has over 34 years of experience in forensic science and medicolegal death investigation. As an adjunct professor at Syracuse University and a respected leader in the field, Brian is a past president of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI). He is involved in numerous prestigious organizations in the field of forensic science and medicolegal death investigation to include the ABMDI, the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME), the International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME), and the National Institute of Standards and Technology - Organization for Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC). Brian is a Special Director on the Board of Directors of the New York State Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Foundation (SUDC). Brian has been a leader in raising SUDC awareness with professionals during his lectures at the state, national, and international levels, where he emphasizes the importance of legally defensible death scene investigations with the need for standardized procedures.



Craig Nelson, MD

Associate Chief Medical Examiner, North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Craig Nelson, MD, is an Associate Chief Medical Examiner at the North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Raleigh. His undergraduate and medical degrees are from Wake Forest University, and he completed his anatomic and clinical pathology residency at the University of Arizona in Tucson. His forensic pathology fellowship was at the San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office, where he worked for an additional 5 ½ years until 2014 when he returned to his home state to take his current role. Since 2018, he has been the Program Director for the office's Forensic Pathology Fellowship. In both San Diego and Raleigh, he has served as the office liaison for the local OPOs, striving to find balance between needs for organ and tissue procurement and duties of the medical examiner systems.



Michelle Rippy, Ed.D

Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice, California State University

Dr. Michelle Rippy earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in forensic science, as well as a doctorate in organizational change and leadership from the University of Southern California. Michelle started as a medicolegal death investigator over twenty years ago in the San Francisco Bay Area, including roles as a supervisor and chief operating officer. Michelle trained medicolegal personnel, developed formal training programs for death investigators and forensic autopsy technicians, and wrote policies to remain current with best practices in the field. Michelle has also developed statewide training curricula for multiple states.

Currently, Michelle is an associate professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at California State University - East Bay, where she also serves as the department chair and director of the Forensic Science Research Center. Additionally, Michelle is a member of the Disaster Mortuary Operations Response Team - Region IX, the NIST Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science's Medicolegal Death Investigation subcommittee, and serves on the Academy Standards Board's Medicolegal Death Investigation Consensus Body, which develops national standards in forensic science.



Erin Worrell, BS, D-ABMDI

Deputy Chief of Investigations, Franklin County Forensic Science Center

Erin Worrell has over 18 years of experience as a Medicolegal Death Investigator and is currently the Deputy Chief of Investigations at the Franklin County Forensic Science Center in Columbus Ohio. She has had the luxury of working at the Denver Office of the Medical Examiner's (CO), Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office (OH), Erin is a Board-Certified Diplomate with the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigation and has been since 2013.

Erin has served as a Board Member and has run the Core Course with the International Association of Medical Examiners and Coroners (IACME) for several years. She is an Associate Member of Society of Forensic Toxicologist (SOFT), serving on the Postmortem Toxicology Committee, and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), serves Opioid and Emerging Drugs Committee as well as the General Section Secretary. She has presented within all these organizations multiple times on a variety of topics as well as all over the country for Attorney General's Office, Universities, State Coroner Systems, Medical Examiner Office's, Centers for Forensic Science Research & Drugs Country State Coroner Systems, Medical Examiner Office's, Centers for Forensic Science Research & Drugs Country States Coroner Systems, Medical Examiner Office's, Centers for Forensic Science Research & Drugs Country States Coroner Systems, Medical Examiner Office's, Centers for Forensic Science Research & Drugs Country States Coroner Systems, Medical Examiner Office's, Centers for Forensic Science Research & Drugs Country States Coroner Systems, Medical Examiner Office States Coroner Systems States States Coroner Systems States Coroner Systems States Coroner Systems States Coroner Systems States State



Catherine Miller, MD

District Medical Examiner, Palm Beach County, Florida

Dr. Miller is the District Medical Examiner for Palm Beach County, Florida. She completed her Doctor of Medicine degree at Meharry Medical College, completed her Anatomic and Clinical Pathology residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch, and completed her Forensic Pathology fellowship at the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner's Department. Dr. Miller is active in the National Association of Medical Examiners, and chairs their Ad-Hoc Organ and Tissue Donation Committee.



Yolanda T. Becker, MD, FACS, FAST, CTBS

Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, LifeGift

Dr. Becker has served in many roles throughout her career as a Transplant Surgeon. She is a Past President of the OPTN/UNOS (Organ Procurement and Transplant Network/United Network for Organ Sharing) board of directors and served during tumultuous times. While OPTN President, lung allocation and liver allocation were both amended to decrease geographic disparities. Dr. Becker participated in the writing of the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine Consensus study report, "Realizing the Promise of Equity in the Organ Transplantation system". She served on the Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) steering committee as the Co-Chair of a workgroup assessing patient factors contributing to kidney graft loss.

Dr. Becker previously served as an elected member of the American Society of Transplantation (AST) board of directors, co-chairing its winter symposium, chairing its education committee and serving on the minority affairs committee. She has served on the American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS) scientific studies committee and on the AST/ASTS American Transplant Congress program planning committee. She also has served on the board of directors of the National Kidney Registry. Dr Becker earned her medical degree at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore and completed her general surgery training at Vanderbilt University. She finished her multiorgan transplant fellowship at the University of Wisconsin and is proud of training many of the current Surgical Directors of Transplant Programs around the country. She then went on to lead the Adult and Pediatric Kidney and Pancreas programs at the University of Chicago before arriving in Texas. Dr. Becker currently serves as Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of LifeGift Organ Transplant Center. Dr. Becker is the proud mom of 2 recent college graduates. In addition to her newly found love for running, she enjoys cheering on her favorite soccer teams, reading and taking care of her many pets.

Faculty



Gregory Schmunk, MD Urbandale Forensics, Owner

Gregory Schmunk, MD graduated from USC School of Medicine, completed pathology residency at the University of Washington and did his fellowship in Forensic Pathology at the King County Medical Examiner's Office. He previously was a Forensic Pathology in Sacramento, CA, and held positions as the Chief Medical Examiner in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and San Jose, California, and was the Chief Medical Examiner in Des Moines, IA from 2004 until 2020. He now serves as a locum tenens with Forensic Pathology Services and travels to Indianapolis to perform autopsies. He also is the owner of Urbandale Forensics, PC and consults with attorneys and the military on forensic cases. He is Board Certified in Anatomic and Forensic Pathology by the American Board of Pathology, is a Past President of the National Association of Medical Examiners, serves on the Board of Directors of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators and is Board Certified by that organization, and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.



Anna G. McDonald, MD Medical Director, Birth Tissue Recovery, LLC.

Anna McDonald, M.D. - Medical Director Birth Tissue Recovery, LLC Winston-Salem, North Carolina Dr. McDonald completed her medical degree at Duke University Medical School prior to her training at Harvard-affiliated Massachusetts General Hospital (Anatomic and Clinical Pathology residency), Harvard-affiliated Boston Children's Hospital (Pediatric Pathology fellowship), and the Boston Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (Forensic Pathology fellowship). She served as a staff Pediatric Pathologist at Boston Children's Hospital and a Medical Examiner for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In 2014, she joined the Wake Forest Department of Pathology as an Assistant Professor of Pathology with specialty interests in forensic/autopsy pathology and perinatal/placental pathology. She was appointed as Medical Examiner for the State of North Carolina since 2014. She joined Birth Tissue Recovery, LLC as Medical Director in 2016, allowing her to integrate her expertise in placental/perinatal pathology and tissue and organ donor service experience. She is certified by the American Board of Pathology in Forensic Pathology, Pediatric Pathology, and Anatomic and Clinical Pathology.



Paul S. Uribe, MDDeputy Chief Medical Examiner, Fort Bend County, Texas

Dr. Paul Uribe attended Claremont McKenna College of Health, followed by receiving a direct commission in the Army to attend the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences for medical school. His postgraduate training includes residency at Walter Reed and a fellowship at the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System. He is board-certified in Anatomic, Clinical, and Forensic Pathology and carries medical licenses in nine states. He currently works as the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner at the Fort Bend County Medical Examiner Office, as a locums forensic pathologist in several jurisdictions, and runs a forensic consulting company dedicated to seeking truth through forensics.



Wayne Daniels, DO, MS, CTBS Medical Director, Artivion, Inc.

Dr. Wayne Daniels is the Medical Director and Manager of the Pathology Laboratory at Artivion, Inc., where he has led critical operations since 2005. With extensive expertise in cardiac pathology, tissue banking, and regulatory compliance, he has overseen more than 30,000 donor eligibility reviews and contributed to post-market surveillance of Class III medical devices and biologics. A licensed physician in Georgia, Dr. Daniels completed his pathology residency at Creighton University and holds advanced degrees in medicine and molecular biology. He is a Certified Tissue Banking Specialist and an active member of industry organizations, including the American Association of Tissue Banks, where he has served in multiple leadership and committee roles.



Ryan Nelson, BS, CTBSManager of Tissue Recovery Optimization and Medical Examiner Liaison, Donor Network of Arizona

With more than 17 years of experience in the field of organ and tissue donation, Ryan is a dedicated leader committed to improving the availability and quality of transplantable organs and tissues. He currently serves on the Association for Advancing Tissue and Biologics (AATB) Foundation Board and as the Manager of Tissue Recovery Optimization and Medical Examiner Liaison at Donor Network of Arizona.

Since joining Donor Network of Arizona in 2008, Ryan has held leadership roles focused on enhancing tissue recovery processes and fostering strong partnerships with county medical examiners across Arizona. His work is driven by a deep commitment to advancing the mission of both Donor Network of Arizona and the AATB Foundation. Ryan holds a Bachelor's degree in Human Biology from Grand Canyon University.



Melinda Collison, BS, CTBS, CFSP Lead Partner - Medical Examiner and Funeral Homes, LifeSource

Prior to joining LifeSource, Melinda earned her degree in Mortuary Science from the University of Minnesota. Upon graduation, she gained experience working as a licensed mortician in the state of Minnesota. She is an active member of the Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota Funeral Directors Associations, and has earned certifications as a Certified Tissue Bank Specialist and Certified Funeral Service Provider. Demonstrating her commitment to both education and advocacy in donation, Melinda is the current chair of the Donate Life America Funeral Services Committee and serves on the University of MN Mortuary Science Program Advisory Board.

As a licensed mortician, Melinda brings knowledge and experience to her position at LifeSource. She has presented at NFDA, State Conventions and Mortuary Colleges. She plays a vital role in supporting funeral service providers, particularly in the preparation room and through donation education.

Sponsor Prospectus

SPONSORSHIP

Reserved Registrations. Sponsors receive reserved registrations that may be used by individuals authorized by the sponsor, such as employees or representatives of partner organizations. For example, a tissue processor might allocate registrations for partner tissue recovery programs.

Social Media Kit. All sponsors will receive social media graphics, copy, and branding materials.

Attendee List. All sponsors will receive the attendee list, including names, titles, affiliations, and email addresses.

Event Materials & Recognition. All sponsors will be recognized in the workshop opening, in break slides, reminder emails, and other marketing materials. Sponsors are invited to provide branded and promotional items, such as pens, lanyards, and notepads, for inclusion in event bags provided to all attendees. Items must be provided in advance.

PREMIER LEVEL

The Premier Level Sponsor receives 12 complementary registrations and will open the workshop on the first day for all attendees and may moderate up to two presentations. The Premier Level Sponsor may provide signage for display in the workshop space.

PLATINUM LEVEL

The Platinum Level Sponsor receives 10 complementary registrations and will open the second day of the workshop to all attendees and may moderate one presentation. The Platinum Level Sponsor may provide signage for display in the workshop space.

GOLD LEVEL

Gold Level Sponsors are each invited to moderate a presentation and receive **6** complementary registrations. Gold Level Sponsors may provide signage for display in the workshop space.

Sponsorship Rate. \$5,000.00

RECEPTION

Reception Sponsors' branding will be displayed on table tents will be displayed during the networking reception and receive **6** complementary registrations. Reception Sponsors will have the option to moderate one presentation.

Sponsorship Rate. \$5,000.00

LUNCH & BREAKS

Lunch and Breaks Sponsors, branding will be displayed on table tents will be displayed during meals breaks and receive 6 complementary registrations. Lunch and Breaks Sponsors will have the option to moderate one presentation.

SILVER LEVEL

Silver Level Sponsor receive 2 complementary registrations.

Sponsorship Rate. \$2,000.00





Thank You to Our Sponsors!

PREMIER LEVEL



PLATINUM LEVEL







RECEPTION

LUNCH & BREAKS



SILVER LEVEL







