

CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

Department: 81st/218th District Medical Examiner's Office

Location: 2134 Second St, Pleasanton, Texas (approximately 40 miles south of San Antonio).

Employment Type: Full-Time

Reports To: Operating Board

Salary: Up to \$425,000.00 Depending on Experience

Application Deadline: Open until filled

About the Position: The new Multi-County District 81st /218th District Medical Examiner's Office was created pursuant to Article 49.25, Sec. 1-a of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. The construction is set for completion in November 2026, with an anticipated facility opening date of January 1, 2027. The Chief Medical Examiner will be responsible for setting up the entire office with hiring of personnel (administrative staff, death investigators, and morgue techs) and providing training for the daily operations of the office. The 2025 population estimate for the district is approximately 136,000. Other surrounding counties are expected to request contractual forensic pathology services from the ME office. The budget will include funds for part-time forensic pathologists to provide weekly, weekend, and holiday coverage of the office as needed. Atascosa County serves as the administrative county of employment; however, all 5 participating counties serve on the Board of Directors. It is not a requirement to live in the district. Investigators will be in each of the five counties, Atascosa, Frio, Karnes, Lasalle and Wilson, and will work under the direction of the Chief Medical Examiner and the Chief Death Investigator.

Key Responsibilities: Develops operating procedures for the Medical Examiner's Office - ensuring compliance with state and federal laws; directing and coordinating Medical Examiner's Office operations and ensuring the quality of its work; perform death investigations, postmortem examinations and autopsies to determine manner and cause of death Ensures documentation, including photography, of pertinent findings and collection of physical evidence; analyzes and interprets data obtained from investigations to determine cause and manner of death; testifies in court proceedings as an expert medical witness; certifies official documents; Provides medical information to law enforcement agencies, attorneys, judges, other medical professionals, relatives of the deceased, news media, District officials, and the general public; prepares and oversees the budget; overseeing staff and training for law enforcement and justices of the peace; and supporting and developing mass casualty, emergency/disaster operations and plans.

Key Knowledge: Forensic examinations and autopsies; trauma, natural disease, toxicology, serology, DNA, and medical/dental identification; applicable autopsy and reporting laws; budget administration; personnel supervision; operation of autopsy equipment; effective courtroom presentation; and the ability to communicate and maintain professional relationships with staff, officials, media, law enforcement, and the public, including difficult individuals.

Required Qualifications: Be a licensed physician in Texas (or able to become licensed in Texas by employment start date); Board certification by the American Board of Pathology in Anatomic and Forensic Pathology with a minimum of 5 years of experience as a Forensic Pathologist in a Medical Examiner's Office with at least 2 years of supervisory and administrative responsibility; chief medical examiner experience is preferred.

How to Apply: Interested candidates should submit resumes to Audrey Gossett Louis, 81st Judicial District Attorney, at Audrey.Louis@81stda.texas.gov