

Forensic Pathologist/Deputy Medical Examiner

University of Michigan Health-Sparrow, Lansing, Michigan

Office of the Medical Examiner for Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Ionia, Isabella, Livingston, and Shiawassee Counties

Accredited by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) since 2009

Description:

Hospital based forensic pathology service providing comprehensive medical examiner services to several counties in Mid-Michigan and serving as a consultant forensic pathology service to other Michigan counties. Department also responsible for the hospital's Office of Decedent Affairs and hospital autopsy service (~20 autopsies/year).

Duties include performance of postmortem examinations/autopsies (~250/yr in accordance with NAME accreditation guidelines), shared call with other department forensic pathologists, completion of death certificates on assigned cases, review and approval of cremation permits, attendance at county child death review team meetings, educating students, testifying in court, and other forensic pathology/medical examiner duties as assigned.

Personnel:

- Three full time board certified forensic pathologists (one medical examiner and two deputy medical examiners)
 - Current posted position is to fill an upcoming vacancy in one deputy medical examiner position
- One office administrative assistant
- One forensic pathology supervisor
- One autopsy assistant (morgue team leader)
- Three hybrid autopsy assistant/investigators
- Two full time and two part time office of decedent affairs investigators
- Medicolegal death investigators transitioning from part-time county based to full-time office/department based

Office/Department:

- Population served ~850,000; See most recent annual report at link below
https://www.uofmhealthsparrow.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/2023-ome-annual-report_1.pdf
- Hospital based morgue in main hospital building
 - Three fully equipped autopsy stations (two in main suite and one separate negative pressure room)
- Administrative office in separate building on hospital campus
 - Forensic pathologists, administrative assistant, forensic supervisor, and investigative staff offices

Resources:

- In morgue radiology via portable digital X-ray unit with support from hospital radiology department
- Histology provided by hospital histology section with rapid turnaround (days)
- In house neuropathology services (one forensic pathologist is board certified neuropathologist)
- Forensic odontology provided by local board certified forensic odontologist and colleagues

- Forensic anthropology provided by Michigan State University forensic anthropologist
- Toxicology provided by commercial toxicology laboratory (currently AXIS Forensic Toxicology)
- Laboratory testing (microbiology, other) provided by hospital laboratory
- Fingerprint identification services provided by Michigan State Police
- DNA services provided by outside laboratories
- Office utilizes MDILog, a web-based case management system integrated with Michigan's state death registry

Compensation and Benefits:

- Approximate Annual Compensation
 - \$260,000 base
 - \$25,000 On call pay
- Comprehensive benefits including health, disability, dental, vision, and life insurance
- Retirement plan – 401(K) with employer contribution
- Funds for educational meetings, continuing medical education, and professional organization dues (up to \$5,500/yr)
- Six weeks (240 hours) of annual time off (ATO) and six employer recognized paid holidays
- Relocation assistance
- Organization status qualifies physician for federal public service student loan forgiveness