

ASSOCIATE MEDICAL EXAMINER - CONNECTICUT



The Connecticut Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) is seeking an Associate Medical Examiner (AME) to join our ten-member Medical Examiner staff and fellowship training program.

The Connecticut OCME is a National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) Accredited, free-standing, modern facility that is located in historic Farmington Connecticut on the Campus of the University of Connecticut Health Center and Medical School. The OCME is the single centralized, state-wide medical examiner system with an autopsy load of approximately 3,000 per year which includes approximately 150 homicides and a broad spectrum of other deaths due to varied injuries and diseases. We have academic relationships with the medical schools at Yale, UCONN, and Quinnipiac University and all of the state pathology residency programs. We also have an accredited forensic pathology fellowship program.

Experienced full-time medicolegal death investigators work 24/7 to investigate reported deaths and attend scenes. Support staff include excellent mortuary technicians, laboratory assistants, and photographers. There is a board-certified forensic anthropologist on staff and the medical examiners have access to consultants in pediatric pathology (board certified), neuropathology (board certified), cardiac pathology, radiology, and odontology. NMS Laboratories performs our toxicology testing with an average turn-around-time of 12 days. The Connecticut Division of Scientific Services performs our DNA analysis. Digital radiology and histology (submitted at the discretion of the medical examiner) are done in-house. Reports are transcribed by a contracted service with a turnaround time of 24 hours. An electronic case management system contains all case related information, including all images, radiology, and reports, and has search and management functions for a complete archive of cases. Medical Examiners have access to electronic medical records systems for the major hospital systems in the state.

Duties of the AME include:

- Perform autopsies when indicated.
- Testify in legal proceedings as needed.
- Teach forensic pathology fellows, pathology residents, medical students, and pathologists' assistant students and handles administrative duties as assigned.
- Perform autopsies on weekends (2 to 3 weekend days per month) with additional compensation.
- Perform on-call duties (overnight, approximately 1 night per week) with additional compensation. Overnight call duties for the AME are handled from home and include telephone correspondence with an investigator as it pertains to organ and tissue donor requests and case disposition questions. Full time OCME investigators do all the scene investigative work, however, AMEs may respond to scenes as needed and at their discretion.

Caseload:

Many offices around the country are experiencing the strain of the opioid crisis combined with a staffing shortage. Connecticut has been no exception. Fortunately, we have been able to double the number of medical examiners over the past five years and hire per diem staff as well. This current new position will keep our caseloads at the NAME recommended levels. Our administration strives to do everything possible to let the AMEs focus on the medicine and not “busy” work. This is evident by consistently meeting NAME’s requirements of over 90% of reports finalized within 60 days.

Compensation:

The hiring salary can range from \$230,000 to \$266,633, based on cumulative years of work experience in Forensic Pathology at the time of hire. There is also approximately \$60,000 annual aggregate earnings for weekend coverage and night call from home and an \$8,000 annual bonus for possessing and maintaining board certification in forensic pathology (see below).

The AMEs are members of District 1199 bargaining unit. There are step salary increments annually and new contracts typically include cost of living adjustments.

Benefits / Conferences:

Comprehensive health and retirement benefits are provided by the State of Connecticut. Life and disability insurance, and other tax deferred programs are also available to State Employees. Additionally, CT OCME will cover the expense for each AME to attend one scientific meeting annually. Medical licensure and board re-certification examinations are reimbursed.

Who should apply?

The Connecticut OCME is seeking enthusiastic pathologists who desire to work and teach in a well-supported, statewide system with a diverse caseload. By the time of *hire*, the selected individual must possess board certification in Anatomic Pathology or AP/CP and be board-eligible in forensic pathology. Pathologists currently in fellowship training are eligible to apply. Forensic Pathology board certification by American Board of Pathology is required within two (2) years of employment. Those hired will be required to obtain and retain a license to practice medicine in Connecticut. Forensic pathologists with experience teaching forensic pathology fellows as part of a training program are strongly encouraged to apply, as are those with additional subspecialty training.

Location:

Connecticut has charm, beauty, and a great quality of life. It is a place with mountains, forests, ocean front, rivers, and wonderful green countryside right at your doorstep. Connecticut is well above the US average in Education (ranked #14 in U.S.), Health (#4 in U.S.) and Public Safety (#6 in U.S.). If you want to enjoy your quality of life, it is the right time for a move to Connecticut.

Connecticut is family friendly and has some of the country’s best schools and educational systems. In Connecticut, you may enjoy the relaxed “country-life” or choose to live in a city. Hartford is home of the state government and New Haven is home to Yale University. Connecticut experiences all four seasons: summers are warm with plenty of sunshine for the beaches, rivers or hiking / biking trails; spring rapidly warms up with plenty of rain to feed the green countryside; autumn has spectacular gold, red, and brown foliage, and winter has plenty of snow for outdoor activities. It is a small state with access to Boston Massachusetts or New York City within a couple of hours by car or train. Vermont and New Hampshire are equally close, with easy access to hiking, skiing and snowboarding. Getting around Connecticut is very easy (even in the winter). Bradley International Airport, located 20 minutes from

Hartford, has many direct domestic and a few international flights including destinations such as California, Florida, Puerto Rico, Texas, Chicago, Atlanta, Mexico, Montreal, Ireland and many more.

Deadlines:

The office will receive applications through the weblink below. Please do not contact the OCME to apply; the Application of Employment will be found at:

<https://www.jobapscloud.com/CT/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=221108&R2=4661RQ&R3=001>

OCME Contact:

Mr. Jaime Sanz, Director of Human Resources, Recruiter

jsanz@ocme.org

860-679-3982

Additional Information:

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

11 Shuttle Rd

Farmington, CT 06032

OCME Website: <http://www.ct.gov/ocme/site/default.asp>

