



*State of West Virginia
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Charleston, West Virginia*

Deputy Chief Medical Examiner (Forensic Pathologist)

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR), Bureau for Public Health (BPH), Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) is currently recruiting Board-eligible/-certified forensic pathologists to fill a Physician Specialist position carrying the appointment as a Deputy Chief Medical Examiner (DCME) for the State of West Virginia. The position is offered at the Charleston central office.

\$255,000 is the currently offered annual salary for this position.

The DCME oversees the death investigation and prepares a medico-legal investigative report in preparation for potential expert testimony in Court systems statewide. Expectations are typical and include statewide case triage with the assistance of field-based County Medical Examiners (CoME) and office based forensic investigators (FIU); performance of external and internal examinations, interpretation of ancillary studies, completion of death certificates, formation of an expert opinion, and coordination of studies with approved third parties.

Relevant Features:

- Code-mandated single-mission office= determine cause and manner of death
- Statewide Medical Examiner system with independence protected by code
- Investigative reports are not public documents in West Virginia
- Death scene attendance at the physician's discretion
- Shared on-call duties rotated equitably
- No cases generally scheduled on Sundays or Holidays
- Postmortem organ recovery only with pathologist approval
- Opportunity to train CoME and rotating Medical Students
- Secure facility with highly restricted access to autopsy suites
- Liability protection provided by the State
- Reasonable relocation expenses reimbursed

Minimum Qualifications / Training:

Successful completion of an American Board of Pathology (ABP) approved forensic pathology fellowship and ABP Certification or eligibility in Anatomic Pathology (AP) or Anatomic and Clinical Pathology (AP/CP) and Forensic Pathology (FP). Board eligible applicants will be expected to obtain AP or AP/CP Board Certification within one year of hire and FP Subspecialty Certification within one year of obtaining AP certification. Candidates should have knowledge of principles, practices, techniques and advances in the area of forensic pathology and medicolegal death certification.

Other requirements:

The applicant must be able to obtain both a license to practice medicine/surgery in the State of West Virginia and a valid West Virginia driver's license. Additionally, the successful completion of a background investigation is required prior to start of employment.

Abilities:

Possess a sufficient knowledge base, judgment and sufficient interpersonal skills to direct the work of ancillary professional and support staff in order to competently conduct effective death investigation into a wide variety of death circumstances; recognize and assign forensic import of a variety of potential natural, injury-related and toxicology-related causes of death; recognize death circumstances that compel notification to other public health or safety agencies; follow the departmental or institutional policies concerning all facets of the OCME workplace; and clearly communicate with a wide variety of people, both orally and in writing.

Benefits Include:

- Paid vacation, paid holidays and paid sick/family sick leave
- Health, dental, vision, retiree health, basic life, and supplemental life insurance
- Flex benefits
- Deferred compensation and retirement

The State of West Virginia DHHR is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer

Submit curriculum vitae to:

Matt Izzo

Chief Administrator

State of West Virginia

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

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West Virginia is an ideal place if you are looking for a lower cost of living (about 5.6% below the national average in general). An average home here is more than 30% below the national average. The state is not only famous for its breathtaking outdoor activities, such as mountaineering, water rafting, and more, but it also has an undeniably rich history.

The West Virginia Office of the Chief Medical Examiner has established a workplace that maintains focus upon achieving the mission, vision, and goals associated with professional medicolegal death investigations. Our physicians and staff maintain the ability to independently practice their professions in a culture of teamwork with a structure designed to maximize the support received in every case.

The West Virginia Office of the Chief Medical Examiner is an outstanding place to practice forensic pathology with the added benefit of being located in a place where both the natural beauty of our surroundings and the neighborly goodness of our people are accurately portrayed as almost heaven.