



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

Career Opportunity **Forensic Pathologist**

The Arapahoe County Coroner's Office is seeking to fill a newly-created full-time forensic pathologist position with a highly effective and results-oriented professional, to join our established team of forensic pathologists.

About Arapahoe County

Whether you've been here for a couple of months or your entire life, Arapahoe County residents realize that their community provides the best of everything Colorado has to offer. From babies to boomers and beyond, our residents put down roots, raise families, start and run businesses, and embrace the endless opportunities and amenities that make Colorado so unique.

Arapahoe County is one of Colorado's fastest growing counties, with more than 650,000 residents. By 2030, about 800,000 are projected to live here, which would make us the most populous county in the metro area, surpassing the City and County of Denver. The County spans approximately 805 square miles and its diversity is evident throughout, from vibrant urban, suburban, and rural communities; to an unparalleled open space and trail system; to major employment centers and a robust multimodal transportation network.

The County is home to 13 cities and towns, nine school districts and 450 local improvement and special service districts. It also has one of the lowest property tax mill levies in the state. Our County government only keeps 15 percent of the tax revenue it collects, to invest in County services and infrastructure; the rest goes to schools, cities and towns, and special districts like fire and water.

The Arapahoe County government serves its communities in ways both obvious and obscure. As the beating heart of local and regional government, we're here for our neighbors on their best days—and their worst. County officials and employees share our residents' goals of preserving our quality of life, whether urban, suburban or rural, on our roads or on our trails, at home or at work. By establishing practices that celebrate, protect and connect our many diverse assets, and by advocating fiscally responsible policies that are mindful of our history and anticipate our future, Arapahoe County strives to be the place we're proud to call home.



Welcome to Arapahoe County





The Arapahoe County Coroner's Office (ACCO) is a fully NAME-accredited office in Centennial, CO, within the Denver metropolitan area. By Colorado statute, the office jurisdiction encompasses Arapahoe County, serving an estimated population of approximately 660,854, and includes urban, suburban, and rural territories. During 2021, 5,049 deaths were reported to ACCO; jurisdiction was assumed in 891 deaths with 739 examinations performed (532 full autopsies, 207 external examinations). The office operates under the direction of the elected Coroner with a full time staff of seventeen, to include the Coroner/Forensic Pathologist, staff Forensic Pathologist, eleven ABMDI-certified Medicolegal Death Investigators, three autopsy assistants and one office administrator. The staff are dedicated to their profession, close-knit, and share a good level of camaraderie. The office is well supported by internal and external partners throughout the county, and our work is highly valued by local law enforcement agencies, the District Attorney's office, the public health department, and local organ/tissue donation agencies.

The Coroner's Office is tasked by statute with investigating all sudden and unexpected deaths occurring within the county to determine the cause and manner of death and to provide formal death certification. A complete investigation is essential for law enforcement, attorneys, public health, and medical professionals. In addition, the Coroner's staff is cognizant of the tragedy surrounding untimely deaths and values the role of providing information to grieving families.

About the Forensic Pathologist Position

The successful candidate must be a pathologist board-certified in forensic pathology by the American Board of Pathology (ABP) or must be board-eligible in forensic pathology at the time of appointment. The forensic pathologist is responsible for conducting forensic postmortem examinations, determining cause and manner of death, certifying death certificates, and documenting findings within written autopsy reports, with expectation of prompt completion of reports to meet NAME accreditation guidelines. Attention to detail in physical and written work is essential, with ability to perform efficiently and maintain high quality work product under pressure. Participation in regularly scheduled office meetings is expected, with responsibilities to include assistance in evaluation for all phases of forensic operations to assure quality and consistent work methods and reports. Additional essential job functions include ordering and interpreting appropriate ancillary diagnostic testing as necessary; determining identity of deceased as required; and ensuring the preservation of medicolegal evidence and chain of custody. The forensic pathologist provides expert legal testimony and consultation for criminal and civil court proceedings; consults with judicial, law enforcement, and medical personnel regarding autopsy findings and investigations; communicates with family members to discuss results of autopsy and/or particulars of the death investigation; and may attend death scenes as requested to assist with death investigations. The forensic pathologist assists in the education of undergraduate students, medical students, and pathology residents; prepares and delivers lectures to various audiences; and provides educational and statistical information to partner agencies and community groups. As designated by the Coroner, the forensic pathologist represents the office at public functions, county government meetings, review team conferences, emergency operations and planning sessions, professional association conferences, and community meetings. Representation on outside committees is strongly encouraged and expected. Other duties may be assigned as needed. Pathologists may engage in private autopsy and medicolegal consultation work, subject to memorandum of understanding approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

The ideal candidate will have excellent, accredited fellowship training and competency in forensic pathology, to include knowledge of the criteria for accepting Medical Examiner/Coroner jurisdiction cases, and a thorough understanding of the national (NAME) standards for forensic autopsy performance. Forensic pathologists in fellowship training will be considered and are strongly encouraged to apply. The selected candidate should display strong interpersonal and communication skills and be able to effectively convey findings and opinions in a clear and comprehensive manner. Individuals with additional sub-specialty training (neuropathology, cardiac pathology, or pediatric pathology) are desirable.



Requirements

- Graduation from an accredited school of medicine or osteopathy
- AP or AP/CP residency training and Board certification
- Forensic pathology fellowship training
- Board certification in forensic pathology by the American Board of Pathology, or Board-eligibility in forensic pathology (please note: if board-eligible, certification by the ABP in forensic pathology must be obtained within 2 years of hire)
- Active license to practice medicine in the State of Colorado at the time of appointment

Benefits & Compensation

The 2023 annual salary range for this position is \$198,553 to \$317,839, depending on experience and certifications. Arapahoe County offers a competitive benefits package to include medical, dental, vision, retirement, vacation, and sick.

Health Coverage

- Medical—Kaiser Permanente
- Dental—Delta Dental of Colorado
- Vision—VSP
- Well-being—CompPsych and Kaiser Permanente
- Accident, Hospital, Critical Illness

Retirement Plans

- 401(a) Pension Plan—Employees provide a pre-tax 9% mandatory contribution, and Arapahoe County matches 100% with an 8-year cliff vesting
- 457 Deferred Compensation—A voluntary and supplemental retirement program

Paid Time Off

- 15 days (120 hours) of paid vacation per year
- 12 paid holidays (96 hours) and 2 additional floating holidays (16 hours) per year
- 12 days (96 hours) of paid sick leave per year





Apply Now!

In order to be considered for this outstanding career opportunity, applications must be submitted online by visiting arapahoegov.com/jobs. Applicants are encouraged to attach a letter of interest and an updated curriculum vitae. This position is “open until filled” and we recommend submitting an application as soon as possible for the highest consideration.

Contact information:



Kelly Lear, M.D.
Coroner/Forensic Pathologist
klear@arapahoegov.com | 720-874-3625

