



NAME *International Newsletter*

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2, 2026

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Welcome to the latest issue of the NAME International Newsletter!

This newsletter is distributed globally to all individuals who are forensic pathologists, forensic scientists, forensic clinicians, medicolegal death investigators, trainees, and medical students. All are welcome! So, if you know of someone who is not receiving the NAME International Newsletter, tell them to jump on board the mailing list! Just shoot an email to me at Kimcollinsmd@gmail.com.



Kim A. Collins, MD
Forensic Pathologist

NAME International
Newsletter, Editor

NAME International Relations
Committee, Chair

2026 NAME

Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri



Kansas City, Missouri, USA

Start making plans to attend the 2026 NAME annual meeting! Education, networking, platforms and posters, cutting edge research presentations, updates on death investigation, and more! And do remember to join everyone at the 2026 NAME International Reception on Friday, October 16th.

Mark Your Calendars!

2026 OCTOBER						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
SEPTEMBER 28	SEPTEMBER 29	SEPTEMBER 30	OCTOBER 1	OCTOBER 2	OCTOBER 3	OCTOBER 4
OCTOBER 5	OCTOBER 6	OCTOBER 7	OCTOBER 8	OCTOBER 9	OCTOBER 10	OCTOBER 11
OCTOBER 12	OCTOBER 13	OCTOBER 14	OCTOBER 15	OCTOBER 16	OCTOBER 17	OCTOBER 18
OCTOBER 19	OCTOBER 20	OCTOBER 21	OCTOBER 22	OCTOBER 23	OCTOBER 24	OCTOBER 25
OCTOBER 26	OCTOBER 27	OCTOBER 28	OCTOBER 29	OCTOBER 30	OCTOBER 31	NOVEMBER 1



2026 Annual Meeting

Chair: Heather Jarrell, MD

October 16 - 20, 2026 (Fri-Tues)

Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center
Kansas City, Missouri



Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center

Registration is still open. Just go to:

<https://www.thename.org/name2026-registration>

NOTE: Early registration ends
8/31/2026 at 11:59 PM ET

Do you have
an idea,
comment or
Suggestion?

Please contact **Kim A. Collins**
kimcollinsmd@gmail.com

International Feature: Egypt



Ghadeer M. M. Abdelaal

Associate Professor of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, Faculty of Medicine, Zagazig University, Egypt

Associate Professor of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, (Part Time), Faculty of Medicine, Badr University in Cairo (BUC)

Fellow of the Egyptian Forensic Medicine Authority (EFMA) in Cairo

Associate Editor at Egyptian Journal of Forensic Sciences (EJFS)

Senior Consultant at the Forensic Medical Consultation Center at Zagazig University

A founding member of the Zagazig Forensic and Clinical Toxicology Research Laboratory (ZFCTRL) and the Safe Woman Clinic at Zagazig University Hospitals

Member of the International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT), the Arab Union of Forensic and Toxicology (AUFT), the Global Academy of Forensic and Investigative Medicine and Science (GLAFIMS), and the Egyptian Society of Clinical Toxicology (ESCT)

The Integrated Landscape of Forensic Medicine in Egypt

Historically, Egypt has longstanding medico-legal traditions, but the modern system is rooted in the institutionalization of forensic practice in the early twentieth century. The structure of forensic medicine in Egypt is a layered system that combines the state forensic authority, academic teaching, university-hospital service units, scientific research, and postgraduate specialty training. The system is divided among official medico-legal casework managed by the Egyptian Forensic Medicine Authority (EFMA) under the Ministry of Justice, Forensic Medicine departments in universities under the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, and fellowship training pathway linked to the Ministry of Health and Population.

Egyptian Forensic Medicine Authority (EFMA) | Ministry of Justice

The Egyptian forensic sector originated in 1890 with a three-doctor department established by the General Prosecutor in Cairo. Legal formalization followed in November 1920 with the Forensic Medicine Act, which regulated the department and established independent

chemical laboratories. On May 6, 1931, the Council of Ministers transitioned the department into the independent Forensic Medicine Authority. The Authority was officially incorporated into the Ministry of Justice in 1932. Since then, the central medico-legal authority in Egypt is the EFMA.



Egyptian Forensic Medicine Authority (EFMA) in Cairo

The EFMA is one of the oldest forensic medicine organizations in the region and has held international accreditation since 2019. It is organized into four main departments: clinical forensic medicine, forensic medical laboratories, the forgery and counterfeiting unit, and forensic chemical laboratories. Furthermore, a specialized digital forensic unit is currently under establishment to address modern investigative needs. This evolving structure reflects the breadth of official forensic work in Egypt, including the examination of living persons, postmortem investigations, laboratory analysis, and technical reporting for judicial authorities.

The EFMA is headquartered in Cairo (specifically in the El Sayeda Zeinab district), but its operations extend across all Egyptian governorates to support the judicial system locally through a network of more than 25 regional offices and specialized departments. Most major governorates have a dedicated forensic medicine office responsible for performing autopsies, clinical examinations of victims, and other medical-legal tasks for that specific jurisdiction. While many specialized units (such as DNA, forensic chemistry, and histopathology) are concentrated in major hubs like Cairo, they serve as central references for cases

referred from all over Egypt.

Therefore, EFMA performs the main body of state forensic casework, particularly medico-legal examinations, autopsies, toxicology-related analyses, and expert reports used in legal proceedings. It handles a large number of cases annually and has various laboratories such as forensic histopathology, microbiology, serology, DNA, forensic chemistry, and the counterfeiting and forgery unit. This multidisciplinary structure is central to the Egyptian forensic system because it links clinical assessment, laboratory science, and judicial reporting within a single administrative framework.

Egyptian Universities | Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

The academic component of forensic medicine in Egypt is mainly located in faculties of medicine, where departments of forensic medicine and clinical toxicology teach undergraduate medical students and supervise postgraduate training and research. Forensic medicine in Egyptian universities is integrated with clinical toxicology and linked to academic publication and training activities. These departments provide both postgraduate education and community service, illustrating the dual educational and service-oriented role of university departments.

University departments also function as consultative and service-based units, especially through university hospitals and public service centers. Toxicology units at university hospitals and public service centers for forensic medical consultations and toxicological analysis, showing that forensic medicine in universities extends beyond classroom instruction into report-related work, toxicology support, and consultation services. This arrangement helps bridge the gap between academic instruction and real-world medico-legal practice, while also supporting the training of students and residents in documentation, interpretation, and expert reporting.

An increasingly important development in Egypt is the expansion of Safe Woman Units within university hospitals and collaborative health programs. Reflecting a unified commitment by the *National Council for Women (NCW)* and the *United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)*, this partnership has established standardized

procedural guidelines for medical response clinics nationwide. These units provide comprehensive care by integrating medical treatment, psychosocial support, and evidence documentation with referral pathways. From a forensic perspective, they represent a formalized interface between clinical medicine, legal documentation, and access to justice for survivors of gender-based violence.



Safe Woman Clinic at Zagazig University Hospitals



Under the auspices of UNFPA and the National Council for Women, a training workshop for healthcare providers at the Safe Woman Clinic, delivered by Assoc. Prof. Ghadeer Abdelaal, focused on forensic medical examination and evidence collection for victims of sexual violence

Reflecting this robust academic growth, several university departments and scientific associations have established their own forensic scientific journals. A notable pioneer is the internationally indexed *Egyptian Journal of Forensic Sciences (EJFS)*, the official publication of the *International Association of Law and Forensic Sciences (IALFS)*. Established in March 2011, the journal has

secured a global reputation by providing immediate open access to researchers worldwide entirely free of charge. This scholarly endeavor is further bolstered by the *Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT)*, which is affiliated with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. Moreover, this mission is extended through a vital collaboration between the Medical Syndicate and academia, utilizing specialized clinical workshops to enhance the clinical expertise of university academic staff and researchers. Such collaboration reinforces the Egyptian school of forensic medicine, ensuring that academic growth is always matched by practical excellence.



Egyptian Journal of Forensic Sciences

Egyptian Board/Fellowship | Ministry of Health and Population

A third major pillar of the Egyptian system is postgraduate specialty training through the Ministry of Health and Population. The current Egyptian Board is administered by the Egyptian Health Council, which provides structured specialty training and certification for physicians across medical disciplines, including forensic medicine. Formerly known as the fellowship, it is now the Egyptian Board in Forensic Medicine and Toxicology.

While university departments provide the academic foundation, this route serves as the structured clinical and professional training track. This is exemplified by the Board's Scientific Council, which is composed of leading forensic professors from various Egyptian universities alongside the Head of the EFMA, and senior forensic medical examiners. By uniting these leaders, the program seamlessly blends a rigorous academic curriculum with the practical expertise of the EFMA. In this context, Egypt maintains a dual educational model where universities award academic degrees (Master's and Doctorate), while the Ministry of Health provides formal specialty certification and structured professional training.

In forensic medicine, this training is mainly carried out within the forensic and pathology departments of the EFMA in Cairo, which provide the principal national setting for supervised medico-legal practice, autopsies, clinical examination, and technical report work. This arrangement ensures that trainees acquire not only theoretical knowledge but also hands-on competence in clinical forensic work, documentation, and expert reporting.

The Egyptian Board/fellowship pathway should be understood as the professional certification arm of forensic medicine in Egypt. It operates alongside university teaching and state forensic casework, ensuring that physicians entering the specialty are trained in both the scientific and practical aspects of the discipline. Within the national structure, this pathway strengthens workforce development, standardizes competence, and supports the delivery of forensic services to the health and justice sectors.



The final examination for the first graduating class of the Egyptian Fellowship in Forensic Medicine and Toxicology (December 2022)

Conclusion

The overall Egyptian model can therefore be understood as a three-tier structure with an added gender-based violence response layer. The Ministry of Justice, through EFMA, performs the principal official forensic workload, University departments under the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research provide teaching, research, and consultation; and the Ministry of Health and Population contributes specialist training through the fellowship/Egyptian Board pathway. Safe Woman Clinics and university hospital consultation units strengthen this model by extending forensic medicine into clinical service, report writing, and toxicology support for general population. This integration makes Egyptian forensic medicine a hybrid legal-academic-service system rather than a single centralized discipline.

NAME Committee Feature

The Opportunity and Access Committee (OAC)

Remembering the Past, Creating Paths for the Future



Juniper Fedor, MS, PA(ASCP)CM
OAC Committee Chair



Jan Gorniak, DO
OAC Immediate Past Chair

The Opportunity and Access Committee (OAC), though newly established in official title, has a long history in the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME). NAME previously established an Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity in 2020 to focus on inclusion and equity within the forensic pathology and medicolegal death investigation workforce. In 2021, Jan M. Gorniak, DO was named the Chair. With the mission to inform

and educate NAME members and policy regarding issues involving race, age, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, socioeconomic disparities, and religious beliefs, the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity was permanently instituted in the NAME bylaws, and was renamed the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity Action (IDEA) Committee. In 2025, the IDEA Committee was again renamed to the Opportunity and Access Committee (OAC). The change reflects a strategic focus on strengthening the forensic pathology and medicolegal death investigation workforce by expanding access to mentorship, education, leadership development, and professional engagement. The OAC remains committed to fostering a welcoming professional environment while concentrating on creating opportunities that support recruitment, retention, and advancement across the profession.

The Femme Fatale Luncheon, hosted at the Annual NAME Meetings, started in 1988. The luncheon not only celebrated awareness and acceptance of women forensic pathologists but also provided community and comradery amongst them. The IDEA Committee transitioned the Femme Fatale Luncheon to a more inclusionary event. VOICES: Amplify, Elevate, Celebrate Luncheon at the NAME Annual Meeting focuses on highlighting the voices of ALL forensic professionals from ALL backgrounds and experiences.

The first VOICES Luncheon in 2023 featured James T. McKim, Founder and Managing Partner of Organizational Ignition and the author of “The Diversity Factor: Igniting Superior Organizational Performance”. The following year in 2024, Barbara Butcher, MPH, former Chief of Staff and Director of the Forensic Sciences Training Program at the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and author of “What the Dead Know”, spoke on mental health awareness of forensic professionals.

Last year, 2025, the VOICES Luncheon highlighted a panel of diverse, active NAME members, discussing issues and topics from their varying perspectives. The discussion was moderated by an international NAME member, Dr. Gert Saayman from South Africa. Many US and international attendees were present, and the input and exchange of ideas were terrific!



From left to right: 2025 VOICES Luncheon Panelists: Dr. Batoul Aoun, Dr. Julian Samuel, Dr. Lo Tamburro, Dr. Susan J. Roe, and Moderator: Dr. Gert Saayman



From left to right: 2025 VOICES Luncheon Panelists: Dr. Batoul Aoun, Dr. Julian Samuel, Dr. Lo Tamburro, Dr. Susan J. Roe, and Moderator: Dr. Gert Saayman

The OAC looks forward to continuing these valuable panels, providing perspective, awareness, and a safe space for all. The VOICES Luncheon is open to all annual meeting attendees. The 2026 luncheon will be Monday, October 19th.

The OAC works towards its mission by advocating for policies and statements supporting and uplifting the NAME membership, including an update to the NAME

mission, vision, and core values. The OAC also facilitates an editorial publication in NAME's official journal, The American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology (AJFMP), highlighting the steadfast commitment of NAME to belonging, acceptance, and intersectionality in forensic pathology, forensic sciences, and medicolegal death investigation.

AJFMP link: https://journals.lww.com/amjforensicmedicine/citation/2025/12000/the_steadfast_importance_of_belonging_acceptance.1.aspx

Even outside of NAME, the OAC works with partners to instill the importance of educating about implicit biases in medicolegal death investigation and public health. In collaboration with MDILog, the OAC recommendations regarding the respectful and accurate collection and documentation of certain person characteristics were developed as a baseline for all digital case management systems.

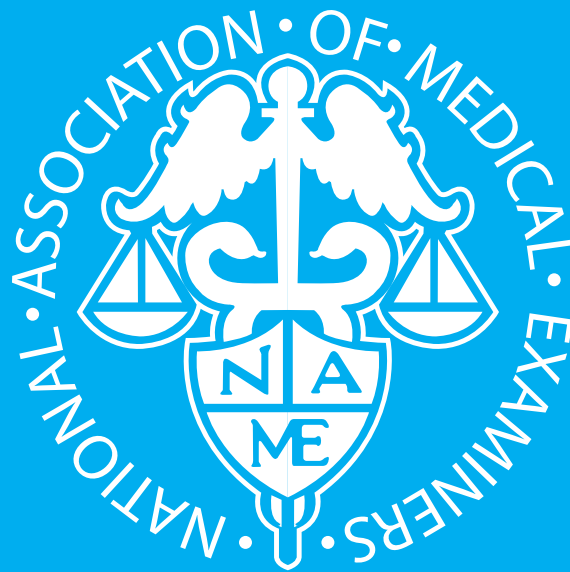
Dr. Jan Gorniak's devoted years as Chair of the IDEA Committee and the OAC saw incredible growth and participation by committee members, establishing a much-needed foundation of community, opportunity, and accessibility resources within NAME. As the new Chair, Juniper Fedor, MS, PA(ASCP)CM hopes to continue the mission of the OAC. The important mission of establishing initiatives in outreach at the local and national levels; and assessing and increasing access and opportunities to all who wish to join the forensic pathology, forensic sciences, and the medicolegal death investigation professions.

As the OAC continues to strive towards its goals, please consider signing up as a committee member, with a commitment to attend and collaborate during voluntary, quarterly meetings held virtually throughout the year. All NAME members and International Corresponding Members are welcome to participate in the activities of the OAC. Support can also be shown through attending the VOICES Luncheon which is held annually at the NAME Meetings, continuing to celebrate all forensic and medicolegal death investigation professionals. So, if you are attending the annual meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, please join us at the VOICES Luncheon on Monday, October 19th.

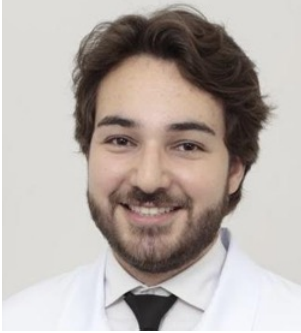


From left to right: 2025 VOICES Luncheon Panelists and Organizers:

Dr. Batoul Aoun, Dr. Julian Samuel, Dr. Nicole Jackson,
Dr. Susan J. Roe, Dr. Gert Saayman, 2025 OAC
Committee Chair: Dr. Jan Gorniak, Dr. Lo Tamburro,
2025 NAME President: Dr. Quinton Reade, 2026 OAC
Committee Chair: Juniper Fedor, PA



Meet a Member Feature



Dr. Daniel Cancado

from Brazil

Why Forensic Medicine?

For me, the appeal of this work comes down to a single idea: the chance to give society honest answers as an impartial auxiliary of justice. A forensic report takes no side. It speaks for the evidence and, through it, for people who can no longer speak for themselves.

I have come to think of the autopsy as the patient's "last visit to the doctor." It is a quiet encounter in which we can still leave something behind: a measure of peace, or the answers a grieving family is looking for. That responsibility is what drew me to forensic medicine, and it is what keeps me here.

My path to it was not a straight line. Before becoming a medical examiner I spent years in emergency care and clinical audit. Moving from that work to investigating death felt less like a change of direction than a continuation of the same duty toward people, only from the other side of the outcome.

Forensic Medicine in Brazil

The Brazilian system surprises many of my international colleagues, so it is worth explaining. Medico-legal work here is carried out within the technical-scientific branch of national and state police forces. We enter the career through public examination, and we are, formally, police officers. This single fact has two important consequences.

First, the scope is broader than in many countries. A Brazilian medical examiner does not work only with the deceased. We also perform forensic examinations on the living, documenting injuries in victims of assault, traffic crashes, domestic and sexual violence, and other offenses, alongside autopsies in violent or suspicious deaths.



Our Medical Examiner's Office

Second (and this is the part I find most interesting to discuss with colleagues abroad), being part of the police has real advantages and real trade-offs. On the positive side, it gives us direct integration with the investigation: we can be present at scenes and at operations, coordinate quickly with investigators, and act with the full context of a case in front of us. The trade-off is the one that systems built around examiner independence are designed to avoid: when the examiner sits inside a police institution, impartiality cannot be assumed - it has to be actively protected. Our loyalty as experts is to the technical truth, not to any party, and holding that line within a police structure is both a daily discipline and, I think, an honest (and difficult) topic for our profession to keep debating.

The Work and the Kinds of Cases

I work in Piracicaba, in the State of São Paulo. We currently serve a region of about 1.1 million people and our team consists of 6 medical examiners, 3 autopsy assistants and 5 clerks.



Our city - Piracicaba, São Paulo

The caseload is as varied as the violence and misfortune of a region this size: homicides and suspicious deaths, fatal traffic crashes, and examinations of living victims of assault and abuse.

The police-integrated nature of our work also takes me places a forensic pathologist abroad might not expect to be.

Recently, I took part as a field expert in an operation targeting clandestine aesthetic clinics, performing part of the on-site forensic examination of materials, substances, and medical and non-medical records to establish the technical proof of the criminal activity. Sometimes the job means working a live operation, and not only the examination table.



On scene during a police operation against a clandestine aesthetic clinic (2025)

Our Challenges

- Heavy caseloads and the resource limits familiar to any public service
- Long timelines between the examination and the courtroom
- The constant work of safeguarding technical impartiality from within a police institution.

None of these are reasons to be discouraged: they are simply the terrain, and naming them clearly is the first step to improving it.

NAME's International Community

Being part of NAME has connected me to colleagues across the world and shown me how much we have to learn from one another's systems.

Every forensic medicine system around the globe has its own history, its own strengths, and its own struggles. I am glad to help put Brazil's system on the map within this community. If sharing how we work here sparks even one conversation across borders, that is precisely what this community is for!

Looking forward to meeting many of you in person at the 2026 NAME Annual Meeting in Kansas City, October 16-20 AND the International Reception Friday, October 16th.

J IN US!

The National Association of Medical Examiners

**The Organization for Forensic Pathologists
and Medicolegal Death Investigators**
www.thename.org

Why become an International Corresponding Member of NAME?

NAME international member benefits:

- ✓ International Corresponding Membership is \$90 (US\$)/year
- ✓ Free AJFMP journal, the peer-reviewed and indexed journal of NAME
- ✓ Discount registration at annual meetings, both in-person and virtual
- ✓ Attend lectures, academic sessions, workshops, and webinars
- ✓ An opportunity to build lasting professional relationships and collaborations at the meetings, receptions, and events
- ✓ Opportunities to participate in and contribute to educational activities
- ✓ Opportunity to serve on NAME committees
- ✓ Office inspection and accreditation opportunities
- ✓ Access to NAME consensus position papers and autopsy standards
- ✓ Network with US and global experts in forensic pathology and medicolegal death investigation
- ✓ Be on the cutting edge of forensic pathology and medicolegal death investigation
- ✓ Influence global forensic practices through international collaborations
- ✓ Access to the International Relations Committee, a committee focused on YOU: your profession, participation, education, involvement, and collaborations
- ✓ Receive guidance from the NAME Visa Applicant Advisory Committee on navigating the US visa process for future training and practice
- ✓ NAME is the premier forum for the exchange of information, ideas, and experiences between forensic pathologists and medicolegal death investigators

NAME is here for you!

When you contact NAME or attend the NAME meetings, we want you to feel comfortable!

www.thename.org



Future NAME Annual Meeting

2027 Annual Meeting

Chair: Nicole Jackson, MD

October 15-19, 2027 (Fri-Tues)

Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront

Portland, Oregon

Languages other than English Spoken By NAME Members 2026

American Sign Language	Korean
Afrikaans	Lithuanian
Amharic	Macedonian
Antillean Creole	Malayalam
Arabic	Maltese
Armenian	Mandarin Chinese
Bemba	Marathi
Bengali	Montenegrin
Bosnian	Nyanja
Bulgarian	Oriya
Chinese	Persian
Croatian	Polish
Czech	Portuguese
Danish	Punjabi
Dutch	Romanian. Arterial language.
Filipino	Russian
French	Sanskrit
German	Serbian
Greek	Sinhala
Gujarati	Slovenian
Hebrew	Spanish
Hindi	Tamil
Irish Gaelic	Turkish
Italian	Ukrainian
Japanese	Urdu
Kannada	Yoruba

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