**MEDICAL EXAMINER POSITION IN CONNECTICUT**

  

The Connecticut Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) is seeking an Associate Medical Examiner (AME) to refill a recent vacancy and join the 8 member staff starting after July 1, 2019.

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 a centralized, state-wide medical examiner system with an autopsy load of approximately 2,400 per year which includes approximately 120 homicides.  We have academic relationships with the medical schools at Yale, UCONN, and Quinnipiac University and all of the state pathology residency programs. We also were recently approved for a forensic pathology fellowship training program.

Full-time 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), molecular pathology (board certified), cardiac pathology, radiology, and odontology.  NMS Laboratories performs the majority of our toxicology testing with an average turn-around-time of 12 days. The Connecticut Division of Scientific Services performs our DNA analysis and toxicology testing on motor vehicle, traumatic suicides, and homicides. 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.

**Duties of the AME include:**

* Perform autopsies when indicated (fewer than 300 per year per doctor with current staffing).
* Testify in legal proceedings as needed.
* Teach pathology residents, medical students and pathologists’ assistant students and handles administrative duties as assigned.
* Perform autopsies on weekends (typically one weekend per month) which includes additional compensation.
* Perform on-call duties (overnight, approximately 1 night per week) which includes 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 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 open position, our ninth, will comfortably bring our caseloads to 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 estimated annualized starting compensation as of July 2019 is $264,040. The current entry-level base salary (starting after July 2019) is $196,040 PLUS approximately $60,000 annual aggregate for weekend coverage and night call from home and an $8,000 bonus for possessing board certification in forensic pathology (see below).

There is potential for income growth as the *current* maximum base salary (starting after July 2019) for an AME is $236,319 (plus the on-call pay and board certification bonus which brings the total compensation to approximately $304,000).

The AME are members of District 1199 bargaining unit. A new contract was ratified, effective July 2018 under which the following raises were negotiated: 3.5% on July 1, 2020. In addition, there is an annual step increment of approximately 2.6% in January 2021. There are planned contractual increases in compensation for weekend and overnight call, beginning in July 2020 (increase 18%).

**Benefits:**

Comprehensive health and retirement benefits are provided by the State of Connecticut.  Additionally, CT OCME will pay 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 in a well-supported, statewide system. We encourage current forensic pathology fellows as well as experienced forensic pathologists to apply. By the time of hiring, the selected individual must possess board certification in Anatomic Pathology or AP/CP and be board-eligible in forensic pathology. 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. Full-time, practicing forensic pathologists are preferred. Forensic pathologists with experience teaching forensic pathology fellows as part of a training program also are encouraged to apply.

**Location:**

Connecticut has charm, beauty, and a high standard of living. 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 Income (highest average per capita in the US), 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 but sophisticated “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; 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 adventures. It is a small state with access to Boston Massachusetts or New York City within a couple of hours by car or train. Getting around Connecticut is very easy (even in the winter). Bradley International Airport, located 20 minutes from Hartford, has direct flights to California, Florida, Puerto Rico, Texas, Chicago, Atlanta, Mexico, Montreal, Ireland and many more.

**Deadlines:**

The office will receive applications through the closing date of May 31, 2019. Please do not contact the OCME. The Application of Employment will be found at: <https://www.jobapscloud.com/ct>

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

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Farmington, CT 06032

OCME Website: [http://www.ct.gov/ocme/site/default.asp](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.ct.gov_ocme_site_default.asp&d=DwMGaQ&c=EZxp_D7cDnouwj5YEFHgXuSKoUq2zVQZ_7Fw9yfotck&r=MhEAn71jbv7Y0yYjPSfdjQ&m=Q1gxTB9GrqV4li6fIUBjYeRiG7p5yp_-T0_OZqNVP1g&s=X_1qeEn-kVso21DrC0GOsDVba1sOnGCyN0Tuo2ybDTg&e=)

