

# DANE COUNTY invites applications for the position of:

# **Deputy Medical Examiner**

**SALARY:** \$67.31 Hourly

**OPENING DATE:** 12/31/19

**CLOSING DATE:** Continuous

#### **DESCRIPTION:**

Starting yearly salary is \$180,000 to \$225,000. Dane County offers a wide range of benefits including fully paid dental and HMO health insurance premiums for full time employees. The County will also provide contributions towards POS health insurance premiums and short/long term disability. Additional benefits available include long term care, vision coverage, flex spending account and deferred compensation programs paid in full by the employee and a wellness program (for further details visit <a href="https://www.countyofdane.com/emprel">www.countyofdane.com/emprel</a>). Employees hired after 7-1-11 must be expected to work a minimum of 1200 hours annually to be enrolled in the Wisconsin Retirement System when hired. Dane County also provides 6 weeks of paid parental leave for birth or adoption of a child. Proposed in the 2020 budget, are a 3% wage increase and a retirement enhancement program to help retirees with the cost of health insurance.

Under the oversight of the Chief Medical Examiner and the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, performs autopsies, reviews medical records, scene investigator reports, and other contributory information to determine jurisdiction, as well as cause and manner of death. Provides investigative support by responding to homicide scenes. Provides autopsy services to outside Counties that use the Dane County Medical Examiner's Office for autopsy and/or oversight services. With oversight of the Chief ME, the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner and in concert with the Director of Operations, may assist with development of policy and procedures, including disaster preparedness. Foster and maintain working relationships with all outside agencies that the Medical Examiner's Office interacts with.

The successful Deputy Medical Examiner candidate will join a staff of 3 full-time board certified forensic pathologists in a new state-of-the-art facility that opened in August of 2017. The office currently serves Dane County and four other Wisconsin counties through intergovernmental agreements (IGA). The office also completes autopsies for other counties on an as-requested basis.

The Dane County Medical Examiner's Office employs 20 fulltime staff including a Director of Operations, Deputy Director of Operations, Chief of Investigations, Lead Medicolegal Investigator, 8 Dane County Medicolegal Investigators, 2 Autopsy Technicians, other administrative personnel and several LTE support staff. Investigators in the IGA counties are employees of the individual counties overseen by Dane County Medical Examiner Administration.

In Dane County's IGA with Brown County it's anticipated that Brown County will open a new, state of the art Medical Examiner's Facility in 2021. Dane County will staff the new facility with a forensic pathologist either as a full-time physician (with relief coverage) or as part of a rotation.

#### WORKLOAD:

The Dane County Medical Examiner's Office conducted 822 complete forensic autopsies in 2016, 836 complete forensic autopsies in 2017 and 825 complete forensic autopsies in 2018. These numbers include all autopsies from IGA counties as well as outside counties.

# **EQUITY, DEFINITION AND EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:**

COMMITMENT TO EQUITY & INCLUSION

As an employer, we strive to provide a work environment where diversity and differing opinions are

valued, creativity is encouraged, continuous learning and improvement are fostered, teamwork and open/honest communication are encouraged, and meeting customer needs through quality service is a shared goal. All employees must be able to demonstrate multicultural competence – the awareness, knowledge, and skills needed to work with others who are culturally different from self in meaningful, relevant, and productive ways. Applicants from traditionally underrepresented populations including women, racial and ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities are especially encouraged to apply.

## Examples of Duties:

Perform forensic autopsies.

- Performs all duties associated with forensic autopsies in cases that fall under the jurisdiction of the Dane County Medical Examiner's Office including Counties that Contract with Dane County for oversight and autopsy services. Complete detailed, and accurate autopsy reports in a timely manner.
- Performs all duties associated with forensic autopsies for outside counties that bring their autopsy
  cases to Dane County. Provide detailed, accurate reports in a timely manner. Consults with
  outside County Coroner/Medical Examiners regarding the findings in those cases.
- Performs medical examinations (external) as required and appropriate.
- Reviews Medicolegal Investigators reports, toxicology findings, and other reports to accurately make a determination of the cause and manner of death.
- Provides expert testimony in civil and criminal court regarding cases that have been investigated by the Medical Examiner's Office. Also provides expert testimony, when required, in cases done for outside county departments.
- Responds to high profile deaths and homicides with the assigned MLI to view the body and scene. Assists in making decisions regarding removal of the body and processing of same.
- Works closely with law enforcement agencies and the District Attorney's Office in Dane County as well as outside counties as required.

#### **Administrative Duties**

- Assist with training of MLI staff, law enforcement, and district attorney staff, both in Dane County as well as other counties.
- Assist in the development of policy and procedures to guide the Medical Examiner's Office.
- Establish and maintain effective working and public relations with various local and state law enforcement agencies, federal officers, county departments and the public.
- Perform other duties as required.

#### **EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE & SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

The ideal candidate will be board certified in anatomical and forensic pathology by the American Board of Pathology. Minimally, the Deputy Medical Examiner will obtain board certification in anatomical pathology and forensic pathology within 2 years of employment. This position requires an unrestricted license to practice medicine in the state of Wisconsin.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Possession of or eligibility to obtain a valid Wisconsin driver's license; access to reliable personal motor vehicle transportation; and availability to work evenings, weekends and holidays. Residency requirements apply.

Candidates must be of sound moral character and must have a reputation for honesty and trustworthiness. Prior to appointment, candidates will be subject to a thorough background investigation, a physical examination, and may also be required to take a psychological examination. The recruitment process may also include interviews with partners in the criminal justice field as well as other experts in the area of forensic medicine.

Anticipated exam: Review of application materials to assess candidate's training and experience. Candidates invited to interview will be asked to present a PowerPoint case presentation from their work experience (approximately 15 – 20 minutes).

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES:**

- Considerable knowledge of Chapter 979 of the Wisconsin State Statutes concerning the investigation and certification of death
- Considerable knowledge of forensic and anatomic pathology (e.g., causes and manners of death and their manifestations with regard to the body, scene and history)
- Considerable knowledge of investigative techniques, principles and practices used in the research
  of cause and manner of death

- Ability to perform autopsy examinations as directed by the Chief Medical Examiner
- Proficiency with various practices in the medical investigation of death (e.g., histology, toxicology, obtaining cultures for infectious disease, etc.)
- Extensive knowledge of medical terminology and medicine as it pertains to hospital treatment, varying forms of illness/trauma, and death.
- Possession of effective oral and written communication skills
- Ability to show compassion and communicate with survivors of the decedent
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other public agencies and the general public
- · Ability to interpret a death scene, identify items of evidence and assess the condition of the body
- Ability to take proper photographs of scene, body and evidence for documentation
- Ability to physically remove a body from the scene of death and supervise the transport of the body to the morgue insuring the preservation of any trace evidence
- Familiarity with evidentiary chain of custody techniques and practices
- Ability to secure facts through investigation and inspections and to analyze and interpret these facts effectively
- Ability to prepare and present accurate, objective and thorough reports.
- Ability to provide accurate, objective, and effective court testimony.
- Experience with teaching forensic pathology to medical students, residents, law enforcement, district attorney staff, and others as needed.
- Working knowledge of Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and ability to maintain investigative confidentiality and patient privacy.

APPLICATIONS MAY BE FILED ONLINE AT: https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/countyofdane

Position #2018-00241
DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER

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