

# ***DRAFT COPY***

## **COMMISSION ON MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATIONS MEETING MINUTES**

11/14/25

The meeting of the Commission on Medicolegal Investigations was held at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) in Farmington, CT on Friday, November 14, 2025.

**Present:** Todd D. Fernow, J.D., Chairman (Remotely)  
John H. Sinard, M.D., Ph.D., Vice Chairman (Remotely)  
Sidney M. Hopfer, Ph.D., Secretary (Present)  
Michael Krinsky, M.D. (Remotely)  
Jennifer Bourn, Esq. (Present)  
Susan Keane Baker, MHA (Remotely)  
Celia F. Pinzi (Remotely)

**Also Present:** James R. Gill, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner  
Maura E. DeJoseph, D.O., Deputy Chief Medical Examiner  
Lincoln Dwayne Gordon, OCME Administrator  
Holly Cuomo, OCME Executive Secretary

**Not Present:** Elizabeth Frugale, DPH

### **Opening Remarks and Approval of the Minutes**

Chairman Fernow called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

The minutes from the September 26, 2025 meeting were adopted with corrections.

### **Medical Examiner Summary**

Dr. Gill provided the Chief Medical Examiner Report.

### **Autopsy Workload and Turnaround Times:**

The number of autopsies for 2025 is projected to be about 2,600, noting this is similar with the number of autopsies completed in 2024.

Case completion data for 2025 was reviewed. As of August, greater than 93% of cases were completed within 90 days and 88% were completed within 60 days.

Investigator scene attendance was 99% for September and October.

### **OCME Updates:**

The Office is sending decedent nasal testing to DPH at no cost which is reducing our microbiology costs.

The remaining OSHA citations are being addressed and will be resolved by the date OSHA has assigned. Fit Testing is being completed.

**Fellowship:**

Two previous Fellows have passed the Forensic Pathology Board exam this year.

**Fiscal Summary**

Lincoln Dwayne Gordon provided the fiscal update for OCME.

**Agency Staffing**

A copy of the OCME organizational chart was provided to all members.

**Old Business:**

- Legislative agenda items were due in October. No agenda items were identified.
- After a discussion with The Connecticut Network (CT-N), they have rescinded their request to televise a COMLI meeting.
- The Crime Lab DNA database request was discussed during the September meeting, and the Office is not in favor of proceeding. The Crime Lab was notified of the decision.

**New Business:**

- The 2026 meeting dates were identified.

**Executive Session:**

An Executive Session was not needed.

**Adjournment**

Followed by a motion to adjourn, the meeting adjourned at 2:56 pm.

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***Signed minutes will be published once approved at the November meeting.***

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Sidney M. Hopfer, Ph.D.  
Secretary