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COMMISSION ON MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATIONS MEETING MINUTES November 17, 2023

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 17, 2023

Present: Todd D. Fernow, J.D. Chairman (Present)
Sidney M. Hopfer, Ph.D., Secretary (Present)
Elizabeth Frugale, DPH (Present)
Jennifer Bourn, Esq (Present, 1st Commission meeting)
Susan Keane Baker, MHA (Remotely)
John H. Sinard, M.D., Ph.D., Vice Chairman (Remotely)
Celia F. Pinzi (Remotely)
Michael Krinsky, M.D. (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

Invited Guests: Dr. Manisha Juthani, Commissioner (Public Health), (Remotely)
Dr. Jody Terranova, Deputy Commissioner (Public Health), (Present)

Absent: Holly Cuomo, Executive Secretary

Chairman Fernow called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

Welcome to Jennifer Bourn, Professor of Law, Head of Appellate Unit of Public Defenders office. Attorney Bourn took the oath and was sworn in at 2:03 pm.

The September 15, 2023, minutes were adopted and signed.

Medical Examiner Summary:

Dr. Gill provided the Chief Medical Examiner report.

Autopsy Workload and Turnaround Times:

Dr. Gill provided information regarding the projected 2023 autopsy numbers.

Case completion data was reviewed. It is projected that all the Medical Examiners will be below the maximum of 325 autopsies for 2023.

Scene Investigations: Investigator presence for September and October were 100% and 99% respectively.

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.

Fiscal:

A summary of revenue streams was reviewed.

Other Conversations

EDRS updates were discussed, and highlights of the system was shared with new member and invited guests.

There were no requests to elect new Officers, so an election did not take place.

Recruitment of Commission Members: The Governor office Commission Liaison continues to recruit candidates for the Law Professor vacancy.

Executive Session:

1. Personnel Matters

Adjournment:

There were no other matters to address. Followed by a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:52 pm.

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Signed minutes will be published once approved.

Sidney M. Hopfer, Ph.D.
Secretary