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COMMISSION ON MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATIONS MEETING MINUTES

September 13, 2024

The meeting of the Commission on Medicolegal Investigations was held at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) in Farmington, CT on Friday, September 13, 2024

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

Not Present: Sidney M. Hopfer, Ph.D., Secretary
Holly Cuomo, OCME Executive Secretary

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

Opening Remarks and Approval of the Minutes

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

The minutes from the June 14, 2024 meeting were adopted without corrections.

Medical Examiner Summary

Dr. Gill provided the Chief Medical Examiner Report.

Autopsy Workload and Turnaround Times:

Dr. Gill provided information regarding the projected 2024 autopsy numbers. Preliminary information suggests that the number will be similar to calendar year 2023.

Case completion data was reviewed. >90% of cases are complete within 90 days. Nearly 90% are complete within 60 days. The 60-day turnaround time should improve given that the Associate Medical Examiner vacancies have been filled.

OCME Updates:

Three full-time Associate Medical Examiners (AME's) have started, with all Medical Examiners vacancies now filled. Per Diem support will significantly decrease. The

Fellowship Program has one current fellow, and the program was re-accredited by ACGME 8 months ago.

Fiscal Summary

Lincoln Dwayne Gordon provide the fiscal update for OCME.

Agency Staffing

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

Old Business:

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

New Business:

Discussed current staff training on ethics, and consideration of expanded education on medical ethics.

Executive Session:

An Executive Session was not needed.

Adjournment

There were no additional matters to address. Followed by a motion to adjourn, the meeting adjourned at 3:02 pm.

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Signed minutes will be published once approved at the September meeting.

Sidney M. Hopfer, Ph.D.
Secretary