



Classification Title	Associate Medical Examiner – Forensic Pathologist	Code	167900
Department	Medical Examiner	FLSA	Exempt
Pay Range	Executive 37	Represented	No

GENERAL SUMMARY

This position performs highly responsible forensic pathologist medical examiner work performed for Pierce County under the direction of the Chief Medical Examiner.

SERIES CONCEPT

None

ESSENTIAL DUTIES & PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

Essential functions are the basic job duties that an employee must be able to perform, with or without reasonable accommodation. This list of essential functions is intended to be representative of the duties performed within this classification. The omission of a function does not preclude management from assigning essential duties not listed if such duties relate to the position.

- Participate in daily review of cases accepted by the medicolegal death investigators, including decisions about jurisdiction and type of exam.
- Perform external and autopsy examinations, determines cause and manner of death and provides appropriate documentation within designated timeframes and other professional and office accreditation standards.
- Confer with attorneys and provide accurate testimony in court.
- Provide technical support and training for forensic autopsy technicians, medicolegal death investigators and pathology residents
- Participate in emergency management planning and public health response and assessment
- Participate in office accreditation and quality assurance, performance improvement, and workflow improvement efforts
- Participate in mortality review committees
- Maintain regular, predictable and punctual attendance during regularly scheduled work hours at assigned worksite.
- Participate in the training and education of pathology residents and medical students who rotate through the office.
- Other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience

Certified as a forensic pathologist by the American Board of Pathology; or
A qualified physician eligible to take the American Board of Pathology (ABP) exam in forensic pathology within one year of appointment. A physician specializing in pathology who is appointed to the position of Associate Medical Examiner - Forensic Pathologist and who is not certified as a forensic pathologist must pass the pathology exam within two years of the appointment.



Licenses or Certifications

Licensed as a Physician and Surgeon by the State of Washington. If not currently licensed by the State of Washington, Licensure must be obtained prior to the start of employment

If ABP certification is time-limited, must participate in American Board of Pathology Continuing Certification in Forensic Pathology.

OTHER JOB REQUIREMENTS

Must meet travel requirements, which may include out of state travel or other off-site locations for meetings. Authorize and complete a background check prior to employment. This position is required to take calls from home after regular office hours. This position is required to serve “on call” on a rotational basis outside regular office hours and on weekends and, when on call, must be able to report for duty to the Medical Examiner’s office within 30 minutes of the call.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Experience as an ABP Board Certified forensic pathologist preferred but not required.

SUPERVISION

This position reports to the Chief Medical Examiner. The Associate Medical Examiner – Forensic Pathologist does not supervise employees but does provide direct and indirect supervision to resident physicians and medical students.

COMPETENCIES

Knowledge of:

- Forensic medicine and pathology.
- The operation of a forensic pathologist-led medical examiner’s office.
- General Accreditation standards of the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME)
- Medicolegal death investigation procedures
- Identification, preservation, collection, and storage of physical and biological evidence using chain of custody
- The laws affecting certification of death, release of bodies, custody of the property of the deceased persons and related matters.
- The rules of evidence.

Skill in:

- Autopsy techniques.
- Verbal and written communication with families.
- Working with a variety of individuals from diverse backgrounds.
- Completing multiple duties, with shifting priorities, concurrently in a timely manner.
- Meeting deadlines.



Ability to:

- Testify in court.
- Execute the policy directives of the governing authority in an effective and timely manner.
- Understand complexities and nuances surrounding the notification of the next of kin and application of methods of assistance.
- Teach and share their knowledge in didactic or informal settings.
- Communicate effectively verbally and in writing to audiences of various social, cultural, ethnic, educational and economic backgrounds.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT/CONDITIONS

The work environment and exposures described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Exposures	Frequency Working in Designated Environment
Individuals who are hostile or irate	Sometimes
Extreme cold (<i>below 32 degrees</i>)	Seldom or Never
Extreme heat (<i>above 100 degrees</i>)	Seldom or Never
Communicable diseases	Frequently or Often
Moving mechanical parts	Seldom or Never
Fumes or airborne/blood borne	Frequently of Often
Toxic or caustic chemicals or substances	Sometimes
Loud noises (<i>85+ decibels such as heavy trucks, construction</i>)	Seldom or Never

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

This position involves medium physical demands, such as exerting up to 50 lbs of force occasionally, and/or up to 20 lbs of force frequently, and/or up to 10 lbs of force to constantly move objects, dexterity to operate equipment used in the position, talking, seeing, and hearing. There is some walking, prolonged standing, sitting, bending/stooping, pushing/pulling. Works in office and field environments in all types of environmental and physical conditions including indoor and outdoor crime scenes, public residences, and commercial properties. Periods of concentration are required. Work is subject to frequent interruptions, dangerous situations, hazardous materials and chemicals, power tools and equipment.