

Medicolegal (Medical) Death Investigator I - Johnson County Government Johnson County, Kansas

A career with Johnson County Government is more than just a job, it is an opportunity to serve a diverse and expanding community in meaningful ways. We challenge ourselves to be a different kind of government because we care deeply about our community and each other. Committed to our shared values, we provide excellent public service, seeking always to improve ourselves and our organization. We offer wonderful benefits, retirement plans, wellness incentives, a great organizational culture, and much more! If you're searching for something more than just a job, something akin to a calling, then consider the challenge and opportunity of being a member of Johnson County Government!

Position Summary

Johnson County Health & Environment department is looking for a qualified candidate to fill the position of a **Medicolegal (Medical) Death Investigator I**. The position is located in Olathe, KS. Applications for this job will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on October 18, 2020.

The Death Investigator I will assist the Chief Medical Investigator with investigations of sudden and unexpected deaths. This position will provide written and oral reports regarding investigation findings and will primarily take reports of death from home, respond to death scenes as needed, and conduct the acceptance of the individual into the office from the transport company when applicable.

Other essential duties will include:

- Responds promptly to various death scenes and acts as primary official in charge of the body, personal effects and evidence; takes photographs and interviews witnesses to obtain a statement reflecting the circumstances of death; ensures the proper handling of the body in accordance with established policies and procedures; ensures proper receipt and disposition of all evidence and personal effects.
- Establishes jurisdiction and conducts an independent and thorough investigation of all deaths which are under the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner including: sudden, unexplained, unusual or suspicious deaths; work-related deaths; deaths of individuals less than 18 years of age; in-custody deaths; deaths with a cause noted to be of public interest; homicides, suicides, accidental, and undetermined manners of death, as well as deaths when a physician (or representative) has not been in attendance for thirty days, when a physician refuses to sign the death certificate or when certification cannot be obtained within seven (7) days of the expiration; ensures the accuracy, completeness and timeliness of investigations, as well as compliance with local, state and federal laws governing the same; may assist in the investigation of homicides, suicides and accidental

deaths with law enforcement agencies; obtains medical records in deaths being investigated; applies professional knowledge and accepted practices in performing the same.

- Prepares a comprehensive electronic report detailing the necessary case demographics and a summary of the scene and circumstances surrounding any death occurring under the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner, utilizing hospital records, interviews with relatives, friends and other contacts, and other information.
- Orders required identification records; facilitates transportation services for decedents where jurisdiction is assumed and examination is requested or required; provides information to the Medical Examiner or his/her designee to aid in the ruling of cause, manner, as well as information regarding contributing factors to the death; uses established policies and procedures to facilitate this responsibility; and communicates with the Chief Medical Investigator and the Medical Examiner regarding complicated death investigations.
- Presents case findings to allied authorities such as the police and the District Attorney; testifies in civil and criminal court including preparation and conferences; maintains the integrity and professionalism of the same; verifies, signs and forwards forms to the proper officials; maintains these records for all deaths; ensures the accuracy, completeness and timeliness of the same; ensures proper chain of evidence; and reviews incomplete and/or pending cases for accuracy and completeness.
- Coordinates dissemination of information to family, friends, law enforcement agencies and the public in accordance with Medical Examiner's Office policies; ensures that family members are aware of the support services available to them.

Job Requirements

An Associate's degree with major coursework in criminal justice, forensics, crime scene investigation, anthropology, medicolegal death investigation, law enforcement, biology, anatomy, pharmacology, nursing, funeral sciences or relevant studies and one (1) year of full-time experience as a medical investigator, deputy coroner, law enforcement officer, mortician, emergency medical technician, or related field. A valid driver's license with an acceptable driving record is also required.

A Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, Biological Science, Forensic Science, Natural science, Anthropology, Nursing, or any other medically relevant field and a certification with the American Board of Medicolegal Investigators (ABMDI) is preferred.

The ideal candidate must possess knowledge and skills in digital photography; dealing with distraught, upset and violent family members, friends and witnesses.

Physical, Environmental, and Special Working Conditions:

- Sensory abilities, including special vision and/or hearing requirements related to examinations of death scenes and decedents at those scenes.
- Excessive standing and/or walking: 25%
- Bending over and/or kneeling: 20%
- Exposures to extreme temperatures, and/or fumes, chemicals, and/ or heights.
- Lifting: up to 125lbs
- Pushing, pulling, or rolling: up to 150lbs
- On call/stand-by work required.
- Shift work.
- Safety-sensitive job.
- Weather Essential job: Department and County Essential
- Uniform required.
- Must provide TB status and current Hepatitis B vaccination records prior to employment or obtain within six months.
- All County employees may be called upon to assist other departments in a declared emergency situation.
- Johnson County Government requires reference/background screening for all positions. Specified criteria may vary by Department/Agency.

Application Instructions:

Apply directly for this career opportunity at:

<http://www.jocogov.org/dept/human-resources/career-opportunities/jobs-open-public>