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| B2g, | **Title**: | SUPPORT SERVICES | | **Policy #** | | SS.1.01 |
| **Division:** | Forensic, Pathology | | **Page:** | | Page 1 of 2 |
| **Coroner Signature:** | |  | **NAME Reference:** | | D2a,E1e,E2a,E3a,E3b,E3c, H1a,H2b,H3b,H4b, H5a,H5b,H6c | |
| **Approved/Revised Date:** | | **02-20-2024** | **IACME Reference:** | | B2g,D2a,D3b,D3c,E1h, E2g,E2h, E2i,E2j,E2k,E2l | |



**POLICY**:

To ensure that qualified, expert assistance is employed, as necessary, to support Ada County Coroner’s Office (ACCO) case investigation and forensic services; through access to nationally certified, accredited, and recognized agencies and resources. National certification and accreditation ensure ongoing compliance to industry standards and the highest level of quality and reliability.

**PROCEDURE**:

1. **General**
   1. Forensic services shall be consulted when necessary, and at the discretion of the forensic pathologist and/or Coroner.
   2. Services must be complete, reliable, reputable, and credible in court.
   3. Specialists must be formally trained in their respective specialties.
   4. Specialists shall be required to submit a final report.
2. **Forensic Science & Criminalistics**
   1. Laboratory services shall be provided by an accredited laboratory; by the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) or an accreditation body signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA).
   2. Roles and responsibilities:
      1. Latent fingerprint examination, trace evidence examination, forensic molecular biology (DNA), firearms and toolmarks examination, fire and explosives examination, or any other available and appropriate service offered by the laboratory.
3. **Histology**
   1. Histology services shall be provided by a laboratory certified as having met accrediting standards established by the College of American Pathology (CAP).
4. **Toxicology**
   1. Toxicology services shall be provided by a laboratory accredited by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT), or an accreditation body signatory to the ILAC MRA and offers forensic laboratory accreditation services.
   2. The toxicology laboratory shall be in compliance with the guidelines presented by the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) or accredited by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT), the CAP, or an Idaho reference laboratory.
      1. The Chief Toxicologist shall be certified by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT) or certified in toxicological chemistry by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry (ABCC) or an international equivalent, shall hold a relevant doctoral degree from an accredited institution, and shall have formal training and experience in forensic toxicology.
5. **Microbiology**
   1. Microbiology services shall be provided by a laboratory accredited by the CAP or equivalent.
6. **Clinical Chemistry**
   1. Clinical testing shall be provided by a laboratory accredited by the CAP or equivalent.
7. **Consultants**
   1. Forensic odontologists shall be board certified by the American Board of Forensic Odontology (ABFO).
   2. Forensic anthropologists shall be board certified by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology (ABFA).
   3. Forensic entomologists shall be board certified by the American Board of Forensic Entomology (ABFE).
8. **Forensic Pathology**
   1. Additional assistance required of a forensic pathologist shall be requested of those that are board certified by the American Board of Pathology (ABP).