

## Forensic Consulting

Created 11/20/2013  
Revised 09/22/2023

### **Purpose**

To delineate the ability of office personnel to participate in forensic consulting activities outside of the prevue of the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

### **Policy**

With the relative paucity of forensic services in the private sector, specialty trained forensic experts are often needed for non-county autopsy and consultative services. [REDACTED] personnel may be in a position to provide these services and as a benefit to the community, the forensic pathologist and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Government have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding detailing the participation in consultative professional services in addition to employment responsibilities. The forensic pathologist will prioritize county related work and ensure that county services will not suffer.

## Procedures

### Facilities

Outside county coroner's offices, hospitals, and private parties will occasionally request autopsy services from the forensic pathologist at [REDACTED]. When these autopsies are performed using [REDACTED] facilities, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] will charge a facility usage fee for each autopsy to be paid by the requesting party or the forensic pathologist.

Use of the county facilities for medicolegal consultations on non-county cases will incur a fee, reimbursable by the forensic pathologist to the county for 5% of invoices billed for such time.

### County Staff:

County staff assisting in the provision of such services (autopsy assistants, histologist) will "clock out" as the county will not compensate them for the time used to perform such services. The forensic pathologist will act as an independent contractor when providing consultative services and as such, all additional personnel assisting the pathologist will

[REDACTED]

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be considered employees or contractors of the pathologist for all purposes, including payment of federal and state income tax, and as contractors will not be entitled to county provided workers compensation benefits.

Expert Witness in Civil Cases:

When non-criminal litigation arises from cases falling under the original jurisdiction of the [REDACTED] the attorneys will be billed for professional expert witness fees (to include case-related meetings and court preparation), record retrieval and copying, microscopic slide recuts, photograph duplication, and other services, including services stemming from estate or civil proceedings. All requests for copies and documents will be charged in accordance with the county fee schedule. A Professional Physician Fee schedule has been established and is payable to [REDACTED] Government. Criminal processes investigated by the District Attorney's Office and the Office of the Public Defender (or designee) and cases under investigation by the [REDACTED] Attorney's Office are exempt from fees with the exception of microscopic slide recuts/histology fees.

**Policy/Procedure Violations**

Violations of this policy are grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

- Revised Effective: 10/28/2015
- Revised Effective: 10/24/2017
- Revised Effective: 09/28/2019
- Revised Effective: 10/12/2021
- Revised Effective: 09/22/2023

Approved by:

[REDACTED]