



## Forensic Specialist Support Services Policy

*Policy# 12-0821-3 Forensic Specialist Support Services Policy Total Pages=2*

**Purpose:** To establish guidelines for the use of forensic specialist support services.


**Justification:** In rare cases, there is a need to request the services of forensic specialists. It is important for the investigator to have readily available the guidelines on how and when these services may be requested.

**Policy:**

1. In certain, but not limited to, cases such as advanced decomposition with insect activity or cases of skeletonized bodies that time of death is critical, the investigator may need to request the services of a forensic specialists.
2. Forensic Specialists may be needed to assist with making positive identification as per Policy# 14-0627-3 Positive Identification.
3. Forensic Specialists may be needed to assist in determining the cause of death in cases where a normal forensic autopsy isn't helpful.
4. A complete and current list of forensic specialists and their contact information will be available in the Contact Folder in DropBox named Forensic Specialists. This information will also be loaded on the investigator's tablet for situations when internet access isn't available.
5. If the investigator feels the need for a forensic specialist is required, the coroner and/or chief investigator will be contacted.
6. The investigator will also need to contact the contracted NAME certified agency that will be receiving the body for the autopsy; consult with the forensic pathology on the situation.

7. If the support of the forensic specialist isn't required at the scene, the forensic pathologist at the NAME certified facility will have access to forensic specialists to assist with the body before or after the autopsy is completed.
8. All utilized forensic specialist will be certified by an accredited agency/association ( i.e, FSAB accredited).

*This policy has been approved and is effect until further notice:*

  
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John A. Gabis, M.D., Coroner

*Aug 21, 2014*  
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Date