

Assistant Medical Examiner

Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office



Annual Salary
\$180,003 - \$240,011



ABOUT THE ASSISTANT MEDICAL EXAMINER POSITION

The Assistant Medical Examiner (AME) acts under direction of the Chief Medical Examiner (CME) and must be a pathologist certified by the American Board of Pathology (ABP) in forensic pathology **or** must be Board eligible in forensic pathology. If board eligible, board certification must be obtained within 3 years of hire. The AME is responsible for conducting postmortem examinations and autopsies and determining and certifying cause and manner of death. In rare cases, this requires visiting the scene of death or the site of discovery of remains. The AME thoroughly documents his/her findings; provides court testimony and consultation regarding case findings; participates in quality assurance programs that satisfy NAME standards and ABP Continuous Certification requirements; and may act as an instructor in education programs offered by the WCRMEO. Other duties or interests may be part of professional development of the AME, at the discretion of the AME and CME, including participation in death review teams, hospital morbidity and mortality conferences, faculty appointment at local educational institutions, etc.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

A degree from an accredited school of medicine; possession of a current license to practice medicine in the State of Nevada **and** training in forensic pathology to include successful completion of an accredited fellowship in forensic pathology.

LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ A valid Nevada driver's license is required within 30 days of appointment.
- ❖ Licensed as a physician to practice medicine in the State of Nevada.
- ❖ Certified by the American Board of Pathology in forensic pathology, or Board eligible in forensic pathology.
- ❖ When Board eligible, certification by the American Board of Pathology in forensic pathology must be obtained within three years of hire.

IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate will have excellent, accredited fellowship training and background in Forensic Pathology. This background will include extensive knowledge of the criteria for accepting Medical Examiner/Coroner jurisdiction cases, and knowledge of NAME standards for forensic autopsy performance. Forensic pathologists in fellowship training will be considered and are encouraged to apply. The selected candidate should be an effective communicator with strong writing and interpersonal skills, who is able to effectively transmit his/her findings and opinions in a clear and thorough manner. Individuals with experience in court testimony and individuals with additional subspecialty training in relevant areas (such as neuropathology, cardiac pathology, or pediatric pathology), are preferred. The chosen candidate will be encouraged to establish an academic presence through affiliations with local educational institutions, though this is not required.

ABOUT THE WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

The Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office (WCRMEO), serves all of Northern Nevada (14 counties) and part of Northern California (5 counties). The staff relocated to a brand-new, state-of-the-art, modern medical examiner facility (pictured below) in January 2017, and continue to enjoy this highly functional and beautiful building. The office operates with a full time staff of 20 along with additional part-time investigative and clerical staff. All Medicolegal Death Investigators are cross trained in investigations and as autopsy assistants. Full-time employees are ABMDI certified Medicolegal Death Investigator/Technicians. During 2017 there were 4,684 deaths reported to the WCRMEO with just over 1,000 examinations performed. The staff enjoys high morale in the work place and functions with mutual respect and a good sense of humor. WCRMEO pathologists do not perform autopsies on Sundays, allowing for an improved lifestyle. The office is well supported by the County and many regional partners. The work product of the WCRMEO is highly valued by law enforcement, prosecuting attorneys, and the judiciary in the region. We anticipate applying for NAME accreditation this year.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The annual salary range for this position is up to \$240,011, depending on experience and certifications. Washoe County also offers an exceptional benefits package which includes:

- ❖ Nevada PERS Retirement - Washoe County pays 100% of the PERS contribution for each full-time employee
- ❖ Health, Dental, Life and Vision Insurance - Washoe County contributes 100% of the premium for each employee. Coverage includes medical, dental, vision, and life insurance. Washoe County also contributes 50% of the premium for dependent coverage. Note: New employees are automatically enrolled in the High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) with a Health Savings Account. Employees become eligible for health benefits after 90 days of employment. Washoe County contributes up to \$2,000 annually into the employee's Health Savings Account (HSA).
- ❖ Deferred Compensation plans available
- ❖ Vacation Accrual (96 hours per year, increasing with continued employment)
- ❖ Sick Leave (120 hours per year, increasing with continued employment)
- ❖ 11 Paid Holidays
- ❖ Longevity Pay
- ❖ Merit Increases - Full-time employees eligible to receive an annual merit increase of 5% until the position classification's maximum salary is reached.
- ❖ Cost-of living adjustments - historical COLA increases for FY2017-2019 have been from 2.5 - 3.5%
- ❖ There are no Social Security deductions (although a 1.45% deduction for Medicare is required)
- ❖ Nevada does not have state or local income tax

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The WCRMEO is a growing, progressive office. Our new facility will allow the office to pursue accreditation by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) in the very near future. Reno is home to the University of Nevada Reno School of Medicine, and WCRMEO pathologists enjoy paid faculty appointments with the university. Medical Students are frequently on rotation with the WCRMEO. This is fertile ground for teaching and academic research opportunities, if desired, and current ongoing research in the office includes collaborations with UNR Forensic Anthropology. We also enjoy good working relationships with organ/tissue donation agencies, regional law enforcement, prosecutors, and our regional medical/trauma center and its hospital autopsy service. Our recently launched in-house tissue donation program is another very successful collaboration.





ABOUT WASHOE COUNTY

Washoe County is located along the eastern slopes of the majestic Sierra Nevada Mountains in northwestern Nevada. Reno boasts a bustling downtown, diverse neighborhoods, proximity to beautiful Lake Tahoe and Nevada's flagship state university. Residents and visitors enjoy the pleasant climate, abundant recreational activities, arts, entertainment, professional sports, and cultural events. Diverse lifestyle choices are available in Washoe County. Urban and suburban living is available as are rural options in the vast unincorporated areas.

WASHOE COUNTY GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION

A five-member Board of County Commissioners (BCC), elected by district, governs Washoe County. The Board appoints a County Manager who is responsible for policy implementation and overall operations. The County fulfills major roles including providing services as an administrative arm of the state, and as a regional and community services provider. Washoe County has numerous state-of-the-art, award winning facilities and provides nationally recognized regional and urban services to a diverse population including public safety, criminal justice, public works, and health and human services. Washoe County employs over 2,600 full time employees in 35 departments led by both appointed and elected department heads. The County's annual budget is comprised of 19 governmental funds, and six proprietary and internal service funds, with expenditures of approximately \$435 million. Washoe County has a Standard & Poor's rating of AA, and a Moody's rating of Aa2 which indicate a very strong capacity to meet financial commitments. The WCRMEO functions as an independent department of Washoe County, with the Chief Medical Examiner as department head. This ensures Medical Examiner independence, as the office is not organized under another department such as District Attorney, Law Enforcement, or Health.

SELECTION PROCESS

In order to be considered for this excellent career opportunity, please submit an online application by visiting: www.washoecounty.us/humanresources

Applicants are encouraged to attach a resume of professional experience, qualifications, and competencies associated with the Experience and Training Requirements and Ideal Candidate Criteria. Candidates with professional background and experience most closely related to the Experience and Training Requirements and Ideal Candidate Criteria will be invited to participate in the assessment panels. This recruitment will remain open until filled.

If you have questions regarding this position, please contact Indu Moore, Recruiting Analyst, at 775-328-2095 or e-mail to imoore@washoecounty.us.

The mission of the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office is to investigate unexpected and unexplained deaths in order to identify and report on the cause and manner of death. We apply scientific investigative techniques and medical procedures, using integrity and compassion to serve families and public agencies impacted by sudden unexpected death.