

Iowa Association of County Medical Examiners

2017 Fall Meeting and Education Expo

Friday-Saturday, September 22-23

Coralville Marriott



Case Studies in Death Investigation

“The IACME Fall Meeting is an excellent educational opportunity for Iowa county medical examiners and investigators to receive up-to-date information and instruction that is directly applicable to death investigation. I strongly encourage MEs and MEIs to attend.”

Dennis Klein, MD, Iowa Chief State
Medical Examiner

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IACME

Quality education for county medical examiners and medical examiner investigators

Cyber and Social Media Forensic Investigations

Michele Stuart, Arizona Investigator and Instructor in internet profiling and intelligence gathering

In 2015, a Michigan family posted a photo on Craigslist of their daughter, missing for 34 years. At the same time, the Bossier Parish Sheriff's office created a Facebook page for an unidentified young woman found murdered 34 years earlier. Someone saw the two posts, made the connection and the case was solved.



Increasingly, death investigators are using social media to gather and disseminate information about decedents, and **Michele Stuart** is an expert on how to effectively use Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other social media tools in death investigations. She is a licensed private investigator, adjunct professor at the University of Virginia and an instructor at Quantico. She has provided specialized training for federal and state law enforcement, the Department of Homeland Security, the FBI, Border Patrol and law enforcement across the country. She writes a regular column entitled **Internet FYI** in *PI Magazine*.

Ms. Stuart will discuss research techniques used for public records, effective open-source searching techniques for all types of investigations, how to analyze photographs in order to identify location information and how to access information from cached or removed internet sites. She will also demonstrate the utilization of social networking sites, blogs and auction sites in an investigation, and how to determine the geographical location of Tweets, Instagrams, Flickr and YouTube videos for investigations.

BANQUET SPEAKER

Death Investigation in the National Spotlight – An officer-involved shooting in Ferguson, Missouri

Terrance Ledbetter, F-ABMDI, Board Certified Death Investigator, St. Louis County Medical Examiner's Office

On August 9, 2014, Michael Brown, an 18 year-old black man, was shot to death by a white police officer after allegedly robbing a convenience store in Ferguson, Missouri, a northern suburb of St. Louis. The circumstances of the shooting were initially disputed, and weeks of civil unrest ensued. Media from around the country and the world covered events in Ferguson, and the incident sparked a national debate about the relationship of local police and the communities they serve.

Mr. Ledbetter, a death investigator with the St. Louis County Medical Examiner, was closely involved in this extremely controversial case. His presentation will focus on lessons learned while investigating a high profile case in an atmosphere of civil unrest, with an international spotlight shining on every action by authorities. He will discuss scene safety awareness, the importance of meticulous evidence preservation and ethical treatment of deceased persons.

He has been chief investigator for the St. Louis County ME since 1991. He supervises the forensic investigation unit and is certified by the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators.



Accreditation, Certification and Funding of Medicolegal Death Investigation

Julie Howe, D-ABMDI, Board Certified Death Investigator, Saint Louis University

In 2009, the National Academy of Sciences released a report that found serious deficiencies in the nation's forensic science system. The report said America's forensic science system was badly fragmented, and in need of major reforms including mandatory certification programs for death



investigators, stronger standards and peer-reviewed protocols which establish the reliability of various forensic methods. The report also concluded that many forensic labs are underfunded, understaffed and have no effective oversight.

Julie Howe will discuss progress made on priorities identified in the report, the need to enhance the public credibility of forensic science and barriers to accreditation and certification. Her presentation will also focus on realistic future goals.

Julie Howe has been a medicolegal death investigator for three St. Louis metropolitan counties (Franklin, Jefferson and Saint Charles) since 2004. She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI). She is a member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) and the Society of Medicolegal Death Investigators. She serves on numerous national committees and has presented on a variety of death investigation topics across the United States.

Forensic Entomology

Timothy Huntington, PhD, D-ABFE, Associate Professor of Biology and Criminal Justice, Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska

Bugs of Death — the insects attracted by a decomposing body — can help investigators establish a crime's timeline, and have been the source of key evidence in many high-profile cases.



Professor Tim Huntington (a.k.a. Dr. Maggot) is one of 15 board-certified forensic entomologists, and has consulted on more than 100 death investigations in 13 states and four countries. These cases include the high-profile Florida trial of Casey Anthony, charged with murdering her 2 year-old daughter Caylee and found not guilty in July of 2011.

Dr. Huntington's presentation will focus on recognizing entomological information and learning about the types of insects that infest dead bodies. He will also discuss how entomological evidence can help answer questions about the circumstances of death, and proper collection of entomological evidence.

Dr. Huntington joined the faculty of the Concordia University Natural Sciences Department in 2008. In 2013, he received a dual appointment with Concordia's Social Sciences Department and heads the criminal justice program. He also serves as a sworn law enforcement officer for the Seward County (Nebraska) Sheriff's Office. In 2007, he was awarded the Young Alumnus of the Year Award by Concordia. He is a member of the American Board of Forensic Entomology and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

DUAL TRACK SESSIONS

Medical Examiner Session

Death Certification with and without Medical Examiner Consent Autopsy

Marcus Nashelsky, MD, Johnson County Medical Examiner

There are varying practices regarding obtaining autopsies in cases where the decedent almost certainly died of a natural manner, but pre-existing medical diagnostic information is lacking. This presentation will provide perspectives on the decision to autopsy (or not) and review basic concepts of completing death certificates without information from an autopsy examination.



Dr. Nashelsky is a Clinical Professor of Pathology with University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Johnson County Medical Examiner and Assistant State Medical Examiner with the Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner.

Medical Examiner Investigator Session

Scene Investigation of Drug-Related Deaths

Julie Howe, D-ABMDI, St. Louis University

Drug-related overdose deaths are on the increase in Iowa and elsewhere, and are an increasing public health concern. This presentation will establish the importance of scene investigation and autopsy with toxicology screening in order to certify death. It will also cover the relevance of accurate death certification to monitor public health and allocate resources to combat increasing problems caused by drug abuse.



Julie Howe, D-ABMDI is an instructor of health sciences and informatics at Saint Louis University. She is also a medicolegal death investigator for Franklin, Jefferson and Saint Charles County Medical Examiner Offices in St. Louis, Missouri.

Forensic Photography

Jennifer Basher, Forensic Science Technician, Iowa DCI Crime Laboratory, Iowa Department of Public Safety

It's said that a picture is worth a thousand words, and this is especially true of forensic photographs. Images that provide a true and accurate record of a death scene and any physical evidence are an invaluable tool in death investigation.



Jennifer Basher is a Forensic Science Technician with the Iowa DCI Crime Lab, Iowa Department of Public Safety (IDPS). Her duties include processing digital images into photographic prints using forensic photographic techniques and utilizing specialty imaging software. She also serves on the laboratory's crime scene response team and teaches basic camera techniques and advanced camera techniques to law enforcement and fire investigators. Her photographic responsibilities include evidence photography, latent print photography, general photography and maintenance of equipment and printers. She has a bachelor's degree in forensics with a concentration in crime scenes. Before joining the IDPS, she was a latent print photographer for Ron Smith and Associates.

Her presentation will cover how to work with the camera equipment, effective lighting for forensic photos and important photographs to take at a crime scene.

Expert Testimony in the Federal Court System

Dan Chatham, Assistant US Attorney, Northern District

Knowing your topic isn't the only key to being an effective expert witness in federal court. You must also be prepared to communicate effectively with jurors. Any medical examiner or medical examiner investigator who has testified in court knows that being an expert witness isn't as easy as it may appear.



Dan Chatham's presentation will cover in-depth aspects of court testimony, including preparation for testimony and some practical tips on testifying, both on direct and cross-examination. Since Mr. Chatham's primary area of expertise has been drug overdoses, he will also be discussing how overdoses are treated under federal law, and the role medical examiners and medical examiner investigators play in those cases.

Dan Chatham is an Assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of Iowa, Cedar Rapids office. He is a 2003 graduate of the University of South Dakota, and a 2007 graduate of the University of Iowa College of Law. Following his graduation from law school, he completed a clerkship with the Honorable Daryl L. Hecht of the Iowa Supreme Court. In 2008, Dan joined the United States Attorney's Office in Cedar Rapids as a prosecutor. During his time in the United States Attorney's Office, he has primarily prosecuted drug crimes, focusing on high level drug trafficking organizations, synthetic drug traffickers, and drug overdose cases.

ME-101 Death Investigation Basics

Dennis Klein, MD, Iowa Chief State Medical Examiner

John Kraemer, F-ABMDI, Director of Forensic Operations

What will you learn?

- Common methods of forensic death investigation.
- Death scene procedure, inter-agency etiquette at the scene and the basic principles of documentation.
- Limitations and difficulties of estimating time of death.
- The role of the medical examiner in death certification and basic principles in death certification.
- The importance of maintaining confidentiality.
- The special role of the expert witness.



Dennis Klein, MD

Designed for new MEs and MEIs or anyone who wants a refresher course in death investigation, ME-101 is taught by Dennis Klein, MD and John Kraemer, F-ABMDI, Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner. You must be registered for the IACME Fall Meeting to attend this free course. To register, check the ME-101 box on the interactive registration form in the Fall Meeting section of the IACME web site, www.iacountyme.org.



John Kraemer, F-ABMDI

Highly Recommended for New Medical Examiners and Medical Examiner Investigators

Decomposition: A review of conditions relevant to death investigation

Michele Catellier, MD, Associate Medical Examiner, State of Iowa

For the lay public, the site of a decomposing corpse is the stuff of nightmares. For death investigators, it is a cadaveric eco-system that can provide important clues about how and when a person died. When a body is discovered, the first task



for medical examiners and investigators is to establish when death occurred. However, many factors influencing the decomposition process can make it extremely difficult to estimate.

Dr. Catellier's presentation will focus on how to recognize the types of decomposition, understanding the common timeframes for decomposition to occur, recognizing the limitations of using decomposition as a tool for estimating time of death and recognizing the limitations of postmortem assessment due to decomposition.

Michele Catellier, MD began her duties as Associate State Medical Examiner for the State of Iowa in 2006. Prior to arriving in Iowa, she worked as a forensic pathologist in Indianapolis, Indiana. Dr. Catellier is certified by the American Board of Pathology in Forensic, Anatomic and Clinical Pathology.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- **7:00 a.m.** **Exhibitor, Sponsor set-up**
- **9:00 a.m.** **ME-101 Death Investigation Basics** *Dennis Klein, MD and John Kraemer, PA, F-ABMDI, Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner*
- **12:00 p.m.** **Registration, complimentary luncheon, Exhibit Hall**
- **12:55 p.m.** **Welcome** *Thomas Carroll, MD, PhD, IACME President*
- **1:00 p.m.** **Expert Testimony in the Federal Court System**
Dan Chatham, JD, US Attorney, Northern District
- **2:00 p.m.** **Cyber and Social Media Forensic Investigations**
Michele Stuart, Arizona Investigator and Instructor
- **4:15 p.m.** **Break, Exhibit Hall**
- **4:30 p.m.** **Accreditation, Certification and Funding of Medical Legal Death Investigation**
Julie Howe, D-ABMDI, Board Certified Death Investigator, St. Louis University
- **5:30 p.m.** **Dual Track Sessions**
For Physicians — Death Certification with and without ME Certified Consent Autopsy, Marcus Nashelsky, MD, Johnson County Medical Examiner
For MEIs — Scene Investigation of Drug-related Deaths, Julie Howe, D-ABMDI, Board Certified Investigator, St. Louis University
- **6:30 p.m.** **Reception, Exhibit Hall**
- **7:00 p.m.** **Annual Banquet, Elections**
- **7:30 p.m.** **Death Investigation in the National Spotlight—An Officer-involved Shooting in Ferguson, Missouri**
Terrance Ledbetter, F-ABMDI, Board Certified Death Investigator with the St. Louis County Medical Examiner's Office

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- **7:00 a.m.** **Complimentary breakfast service begins, Exhibit Hall**
- **7:55 a.m.** **Welcome** *Thomas Carroll, MD, PhD, IACME President*
- **8:00 a.m.** **Forensic Photography**
Jennifer Basher, Forensic Science Technician, Iowa DCI
- **9:00 a.m.** **Decomposition—A Review of Conditions Relevant to Death Investigation**
Michele Catellier, MD, Associate Medical Examiner, Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner
- **10:00 a.m.** **Break, Exhibit Hall**
- **10:15 a.m.** **Forensic Entomology**
Dr. Timothy Huntington, PhD, D-ABFE, Associate Professor of Biology and Criminal Justice
- **11:15 a.m.** **Iowa's State Medical Examiner System—Annual Update and Future Outlook**
Dennis Klein, MD, Iowa Chief State Medical Examiner, Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner
- **12:15 p.m.** **Prize Drawing, Adjournment**
Thomas Carroll, MD, PhD, IACME President

Mark your calendars for 2018!
2018 IACME Fall Meeting and Education Expo
Friday-Saturday, November 2-3, 2018
West Des Moines Marriott

How to Register

There are two ways to register for the IACME Fall Meeting and Education Expo:

1. Go to the Fall Meeting section of the IACME web site, www.iacountyme.org. Fill out the interactive registration form and pay online with a credit card or PayPal. **If you need a payment receipt or assistance with online registration, contact Chris Sutton at 515.212.9685.**

2. Complete the printable registration form (page 7 of this brochure) and mail it, with your check, to IACME, PO Box 554, Altoona, IA 50009.

A \$25 late fee will be charged for registrations received after September 14, 2017.

Hotel rooms

Coralville Marriott, 300 E. 9th St., Coralville, has reserved a block of rooms at the special rate of \$128 per night.

To make your reservation, call the Marriott at 800.228.9290 or 319.688.4000. The deadline to reserve a room at the special rate is August 31.

Cancellation policy

The IACME registration cancellation policy was approved by the IACME Board of Directors on November 20, 2015.

1. Fall Meeting registrants will receive a full refund if a cancellation is received before August 1, 2017.

2. Fall Meeting registrants will receive a 50 percent refund if a cancellation is received by August 22, 2017.

3. No refunds will be issued for cancellations received after August 22, 2017.

Banquet

The Friday evening IACME reception and banquet are free for meeting registrants. The charge for a guest is \$65.

The interactive online registration form and the printable registration form ask if you will attend the reception and banquet and if you plan to bring a guest.

Registration rates

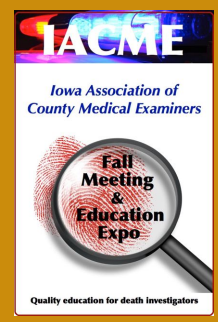
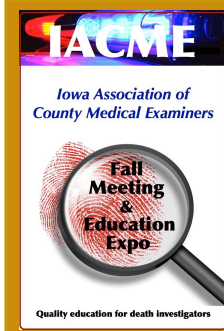
Physician member
\$250

Physician non-member
\$375

MEI/Associate member
\$175

MEI/Associate non-member
\$300

Students
\$100



Meeting Materials

Speaker presentation materials will be posted online one week prior to the conference for those registered to access and print. Registrants will be given a password with their registration confirmation. Speakers whose materials are not made available online will provide copies at the meeting.

Wi-Fi Available

Wi-Fi wireless Internet will be available in the meeting rooms at the IACME Fall Meeting and Education Expo. Attendees with laptops will be able to access the online presentation materials by using their passwords.

Special Needs

If you need auxiliary aids or services identified with the Americans with Disabilities Act, let us know. Layered clothing is recommended for temperature variations in the meeting rooms.

Vendors

We appreciate the support of our sponsors. Please visit our Exhibit Hall during breaks and meals.

The presence of any vendor at the IACME Fall Meeting and Education Expo does not imply IACME endorsement.

Target Audience

This meeting is the premier education event for Iowa's death investigation professionals. Attendees include medical examiners, medical examiner investigators, law enforcement, nurses, EMTs, attorneys, social workers, funeral directors, physicians, public officials and others involved in death investigation.

Use this mail-in form if you prefer to pay by check

IACME Fall Meeting registration form

Name _____

Professional title as you wish it to appear on your name badge _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Office/clinic _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Date _____

Registration Fees (Choose one)

Physician member \$250 _____

Physician non-member \$375 _____

MEI or Associate member \$175 _____

MEI or Associate non-member \$300 _____

Student/Resident \$100 _____

Total (Registration fee + \$65 for each banquet guest) _____

**Please make your check payable to the Iowa Association of County Medical Examiners.
Mail your check and this registration form to: IACME, PO Box 554, Altoona, IA 50009**

ME-101

ME-101 is an optional Friday morning course taught by staff of the Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner. It is free for Fall Meeting registrants.

Do you plan to attend ME-101?

Yes _____ No _____

Friday evening Reception and Banquet

The Friday evening IACME reception and banquet are free for registrants. The cost for a guest is \$65.

Will you attend the reception and banquet?

Yes _____ No _____

Number of banquet guests _____

Number of vegetarian meals for you and/or guests _____