

FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is specialized professional medical work of a complex nature involving responsibility for the cause and manner of unnatural or unattended deaths (e.g., homicide, accidental deaths, natural causes of death, suicide, etc.). In addition, an incumbent of this position acts for and in place of the Medical Examiner in case he/she is absent or unable to act. The work is performed in accordance with standards set forth in the County Law and under the general supervision of the Medical Examiner. The work generally involves on-call duty as necessary. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Performs and/or supervises autopsies to determine the cause and manner of unnatural or unattended deaths, including but not limited to gross and histologic examinations and interpretations of specimens, diagnosis of pathological medical conditions, examinations of wounds and injuries, etc.; Responds to emergencies and may act for and in place of the Chief Medical Examiner when on-call by conducting investigations regarding the cause and manner of death;
Interprets histo-pathology slides;
Documents autopsy findings and prepares reports on findings including but not limited to diseases, injuries, pathological conditions, the manner of death, etc. in accordance with applicable regulations, laws, and policies;
Provides court testimony, as necessary;
May perform or direct photography of autopsy findings.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of modern theory and practice of general and forensic pathology; good knowledge of the special fields of chemistry and toxicology appropriate to the conduct of autopsies; good knowledge of the specific skills involved in autopsies and ability to perform autopsies; good knowledge of forensic medicine; good knowledge of laboratory equipment, procedures and techniques, especially as they pertain to autopsies; ability to give professional testimony in court and at inquests; ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A license to practice medicine in New York State and

- a. Certification in Anatomic Pathology by the American Board of Pathology or Board Eligibility as evidenced by an appropriate current letter from the Board; and
- b. Certification in Forensic Pathology by the American Board of Pathology or eligibility for certification in Forensic Pathology (i.e., An applicant is board eligible for examination only after an application has been received and approved by the Credentials Committee of the American Board of Pathology; an approved admission letter from the American Board of Pathology to take the examination in Forensic Pathology must be provided).

NOTE: If eligible for certification in Forensic Pathology at the time of appointment, must be board certified within two (2) years of appointment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: License to practice medicine in New York State must be maintained throughout the course of employment in this title.

R.C.D.P. (01.07.2016) 07.02.2019
PJC/Non-competitive