



1986
ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE

MEDICAL EXAMINER

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FUNCTION

The Medical Examiner is the County official responsible for investigating and determining the cause and manner of death of persons who died suddenly, unexpected, accidentally, violently, or as the result of any suspicious circumstances, without medical attendance during the 48 hours preceding death, or abortion; or in the case of any prisoner in custody.

The results of these investigations provide evidence relating to injuries for prosecutions and settlement of estates. It also provides public health authorities with information relating to communicable disease and other causes of mortality, for program direction purposes.

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PROCEDURE

Act 181, P.A. 1953, as amended, provides for the Medical Examiner to investigate and determine "the cause and manner of death in all cases of persons who have come to their death" under any of the following circumstances:

VIOLENCE - Asphyxiation, shooting, stabbing, poisoning, etc.

ACCIDENT - Traffic, falls, drownings, industrial, drugs.

WHILE IN CUSTODY - Prisoners.

ABORTION - Under any circumstances.

SUDDEN AND UNEXPECTED - Where deceased was in apparent good health.

WITHOUT MEDICAL ATTENDANCE WITHIN 48 HOURS PRIOR THERETO - In cases of chronic illness the attending physician may sign the death certificate if he can be reasonably certain of the cause of death. However, he should examine the body to satisfactorily determine that no foul play is involved.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES - Including unidentified bodies.

ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS, THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES, ANESTHESIA, ETC.

All the above must be reported immediately to the Medical Examiner.

Evaluation and disposition will be made by the Medical Examiner. The need for autopsy examination in certain cases will be determined by the Medical Examiner.

Transfer, removal and release of the body will be made by the Medical Examiner.

It is a misdemeanor to remove a body without permission of the Medical Examiner.

A body may not be removed until permission for removal is received from the Medical Examiner.

Immediate reporting of any Medical Examiner case is required by the statute.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 1986

- Hired a full time Board Certified Forensic Pathologist, Lynda Biedrzycki, M.D.
- Lectured at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak and the Oakland Police Academy.
- Hired part-time Histologist, Rifat Husien.
- Dr. Biedrzycki applied for a grant from the Forensic Sciences Foundation for a study entitled "T Cell Subsets in Victims of Suicide".
- Dr. Biedrzycki was appointed as a member of the Medical Legal Committee, Oakland County Medical Society.
- Sponsored seminar entitled "Profile: Shaping your Investigation" featuring Richard Walter, Psychologist, Michigan Department of Corrections.
- Dr. Brooks lectured to funeral directors regarding problems dealing with AIDS patients.
- Dr. Brooks and Dr. Biedrzycki attended a meeting to organize a Michigan Association of Medical Examiners.
- Attendance at International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners.
- Continued training pathology residents from the University of Michigan.
- Dr. Biedrzycki presented a paper at the ASCP meeting in Orlando.
- Dr. Brooks lectured at the University of Michigan.
- Phil Predmore attended seminars at the Finnigan MAT Institute in Portland and the Abbott Diagnostics Training Center in Dallas.
- Dr. Biedrzycki attended the ASCP Forensic Pathology meeting in Boston.
- Attendance at American Academy of Forensic Science.
- Attendance at seminar "Forensic Pathology - Investigation of Violent Deaths" at the School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University, Lansing.
- Attendance at Medico-Legal Investigation course, Detroit.
- Trained a senior medical student from the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine.

STATISTICS

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>
<u>NATURAL CAUSES</u>						
Infective & Parasitic	1	1	1	1	2	1
Malignant Neoplasms	10	11	9	14	14	13
Benign Neoplasms	0	1	0	0	0	1
Endocrine, Nutri. & Metabolic	6	5	10	0	4	3
Blood & Blood Forming	0	0	1	1	1	0
Mental Disorders	0	2	1	4	7	7
Nervous System & Sense Organs	7	4	4	6	11	6
Circulatory System	438	383	347	354	336	346
Respiratory System	16	23	20	12	16	14
Digestive System	39	29	13	24	16	10
Genitourinary System	0	0	0	1	2	2
Compli. of Preg. & Childbirth	0	1	0	0	1	0
Muscle & Connective Tissue	0	0	0	0	0	1
Congenital Anomalies	4	0	0	4	1	1
Perinatal & Mortality	1	0	2	3	0	0
Symptoms and Ill-defined	1	1	0	0	3	0
Unknown Causes	19	18	21	23	20	16
Total	<u>542</u>	<u>479</u>	<u>429</u>	<u>447</u>	<u>434</u>	<u>421</u>
<u>ACCIDENTAL CAUSES</u>						
Railway	1	1	0	0	0	2
Motor Vehicle	158	167	131	147	170	149
Motor Vehicle, Non-Traffic	0	3	0	3	5	4
Other Road Vehicle	0	1	0	0	0	0
Water Transport	0	0	0	1	1	2
Air & Space Transport	4	5	3	3	1	3
Drugs & Medications	27	32	13	4	1	6
Solid & Liquid Substance	2	0	1	0	0	0
Gases & Vapors	6	10	8	2	9	11
Misadv. During Surg. & Med. Care	0	0	1	0	0	0
Falls	20	22	28	22	28	23
Fires & Flames	23	10	11	8	21	6
Natural & Environmental Factors	7	2	4	2	3	3
Drowning, Suff. & Foreign Bodies	32	21	23	20	19	9
Other	15	15	6	10	10	13
Adverse Eff. in Therapeutic Use	0	0	0	1	1	1
Total	<u>295</u>	<u>289</u>	<u>229</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>232</u>

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Statistics continued

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
<u>SUICIDE</u>						
Solid or Liquid Substances	20	21	19	19	14	20
Other Gases	29	28	20	20	13	28
Hanging, Strangulation	16	18	17	18	25	20
Drowning	0	1	3	1	0	1
Firearms	51	57	62	64	69	64
Cutting & Piercing	3	3	2	0	2	4
Jumping from High Place	1	3	1	0	2	1
Other & Unspecified	3	4	1	3	3	3
Total	<u>123</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>141</u>
<u>HOMICIDE</u>						
Fight, Brawl	0	3	0	0	0	2
Drowning	0	0	0	0	1	0
Hanging, Strangulation	2	1	3	0	5	2
Firearms	14	25	19	28	30	27
Cutting & Piercing	6	12	13	11	10	2
Other & Unspecified	7	2	3	7	6	3
Total	<u>29</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>UNDETERMINED</u>						
	<u>0</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>33</u>
<u>TOTAL DEATHS REPORTED</u>	2899	2786	2887	3072	2377	2468
<u>TOTAL MED. EXAMINER CASES</u>	1797	1718	1719	1843	2114	1880
<u>TOTAL AUTOPSIES</u>	645	599	528	545	617	579
<u>TOTAL POSTMORTEM EXAMS</u>	60	78	82	116	132	95
<u>TOTAL CREMATIONS</u>	969	942	1048	1130	1312	1165
<u>TOTAL COUNTY DEATHS</u>	7876	8095	8080	8818	8593	8525

PERSONNEL

LOCEY, Robert P., M.D.	Director, Institutional and Human Services Department
BROOKS, Bill G., M.D.	Medical Examiner
BIEDRZYCKI, Lynda, M.D.	Chief Deputy Medical Examiner
BAYNES, Goebel	Administrator
PREDMORE, Philip D.	Toxicologist
HUSIEN, Rifat	Histologist
BARANSKI, Irvin	Investigator
BISHOP, Bill	Investigator
HILL, Harry F.	Investigator
LAZUR, Robert	Investigator
MacDONALD, William	Investigator
OSGOOD, Mary Sue	Investigator
ROSSI, Robert	Investigator
SMITH, Charles	Supv. Autopsy Attendant
KILLIANE, Curtis	Autopsy Attendant
O'SHAUGHNESSY, Roxanne	Autopsy Attendant
HOYES, Thomas	Morgue Attendant
HILL, Pamela	Secretary
STINSON, Mary Lou	Account Clerk
CONRAD, Michele	Typist

DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

ARANOSIAN, Robert D.O..	*HERSCHMAN, Barry, M.D.	*REY, Jaime L., M.D.
*BERNSTEIN, Jay, M.D.	HUDDLE, Luther, Sr., D.O.	RIGGS, Harry L., M.D.
BERRY, Andrew H., D.O.	INWALD, Samson, D.O.	ROSELLA, John A., D.O.
BIEDRZYCKI, Lynda, M.D.	ISAAC, Herbert, M.D.	*SAR, Alan M., D.O.
*BORIS, Henry, D.O.	*LAGERVELD, Ronald, D.O.	*SAUDER, Marilyn A.J., M.D.
BOXMAN, Donald, D.O.	LASSER, Howard S., M.D.	SCHER, Alan D., M.D.
BRATTON, Richard, D.O.	LePERE, Ronald R., D.O.	SCHILLINGER, E.A., D.O.
*BUCHANAN, G.S., M.D.	LOPEZ, Gerald L., M.D.	SCHOEN, Paul F., D.O.
*CROMMETT, William, D.O.	*MAINSTER, Harris, D.O.	*SHEKERJIAN, Armen, M.D.
*DENTON, Allen, D.O.	MALICKE, David, D.O.	*SHUMAKER, Bryan, M.D.
DOYLE, Michael Q., D.O.	MASTERNICK, Joseph, D.O.	*SIKORSKI, Eugene L., D.O.
*ENGELMANN, Theodore, D.O.	McINERNEY, Thomas, M.D.	SPOHN, E.W., M.D.
*FRANCKOWIAK, Charles, D.O.	*McNEIL, Harold G., D.O.	STOLTE, Jon L., M.D.
*FRIEDMAN, Stephen, D.O.	*OSTER, Claude, D.O.	WEINER, Seymour, D.O.
GABA, Leonard, D.O.	PEARL, Conrad, D.O.	WILLYERD, Gary L., D.O.
GRADOLPH, Paul L., M.D.	PENN, William, D.O.	*WORSTER, Merton, D.O.
*HAMILTON, Alfred S., D.O.	PETINGA, Thomas J., M.D.	WYLIN, Robert, M.D.
HAYDEN, John C., D.O.	*PURSLEY, C. Scott, D.O.	ZALEZNAK, Howard, M.D.

DENTAL CONSULTANTS

FOX, Richard P, D.D.S.
HENDERSON, Richard M., D.D.S.

*Inactive