37DART is the Activity Code

Saturday, November 2, 2024 | 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM IOSME Update

Sign-In to Get Attendance

Go to www.eeds.com > Click the 'Sign-In' Button > Enter the Code

Scan this QR Code



The Activity Code will Expire on Sunday, November 3, 2024 at 11:15 AM

lowa Office of the State Medical Examiner Update 2024

DENNIS KLEIN M.D.

Disclosure

▶ I have no financial relationships to disclose pertaining to the following presentation

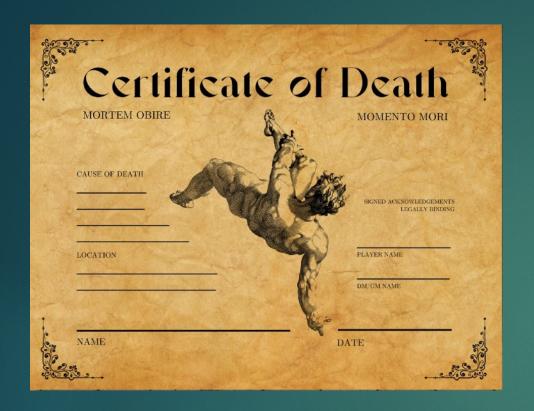
Mission Goals

- Conduct High Quality and Professional medical legal death investigations
- Provide and Protect credible and useful information
- Serve the public ethically and compassionately

Performance

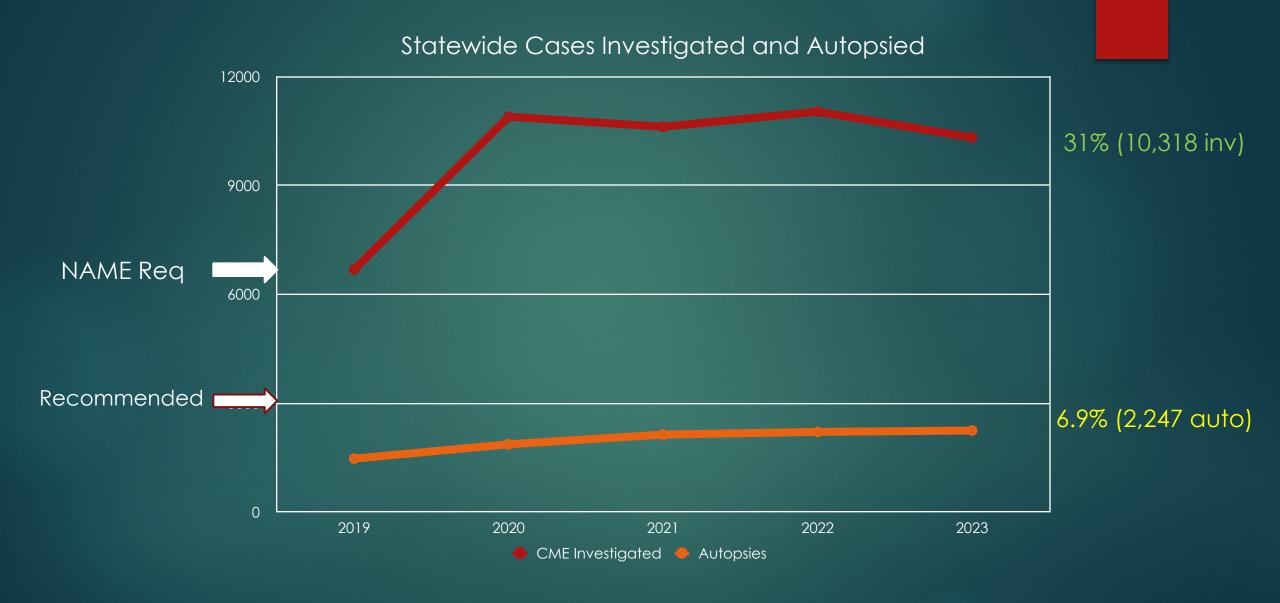




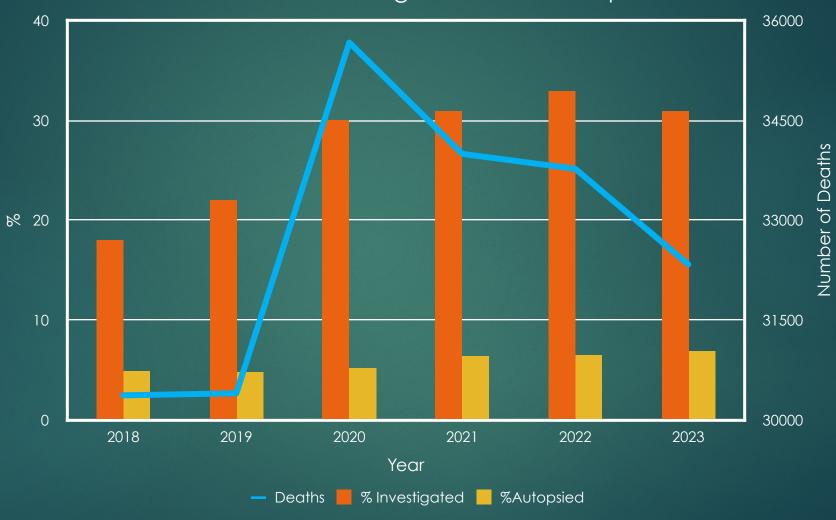




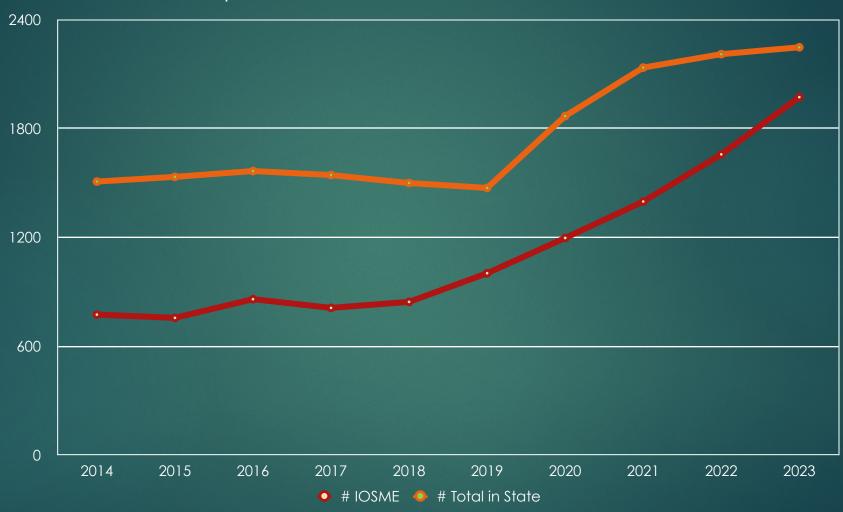
Population= 3.1 Million Deaths (2023)= 32,335 Required: 20% of deaths reported to ME Recommend: 8-10% of deaths autopsied



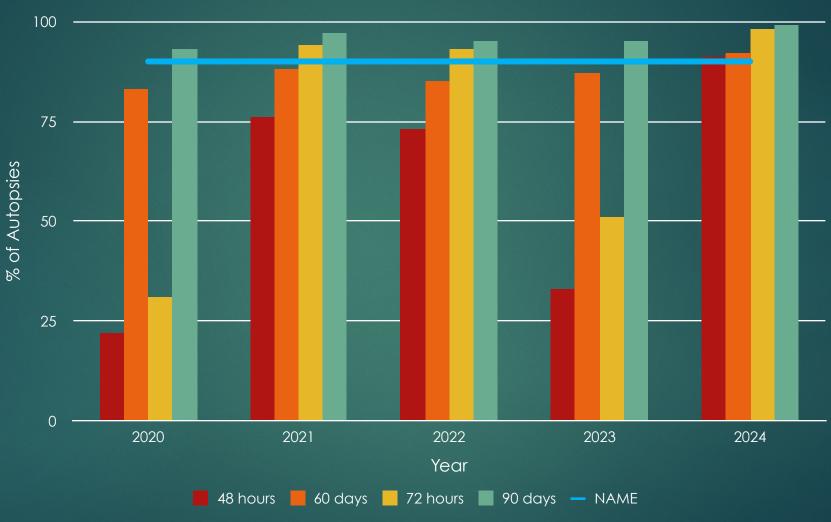
Total Deaths, % Investigated and % Autopsied



Autopsies Performed at IOSME and Total in State



IOSME Performance Measures



Phase 1 requirement Phase 2 requirement

Results



HOMICIDES

YEAR	Total cases	% Autopsied
2022	95	100
2023	100	99

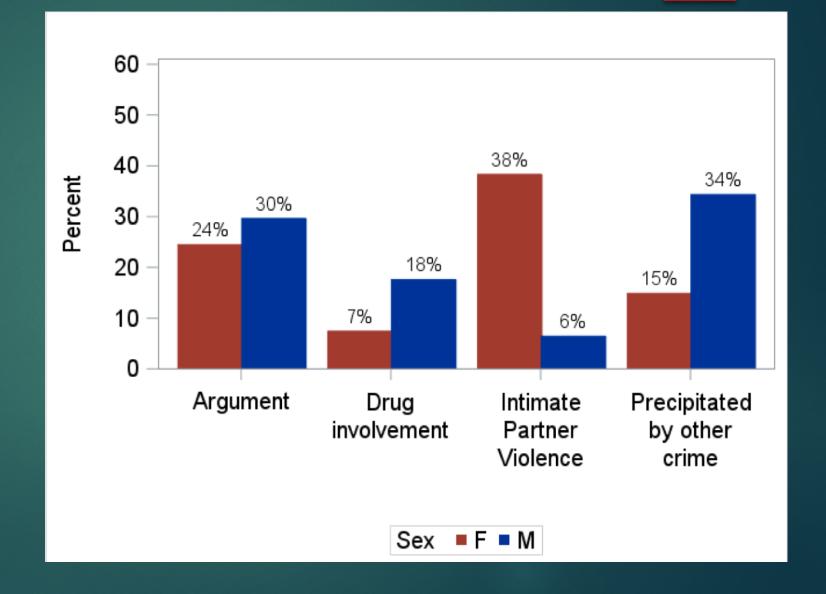
SUICIDES

Year	Total cases	% Autopsied
2022	591	69
2023	506	81

Homicides in Iowa

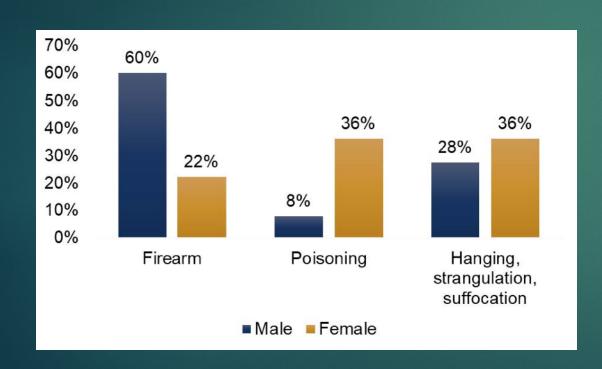
Causes:

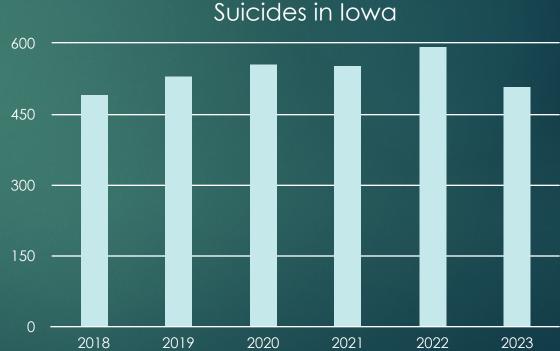
- ► <u>Firearm (73%)</u>
- ► Sharp force (12%)
- ► Suffocation (6%)
- ► Fire/Blunt force (2%)

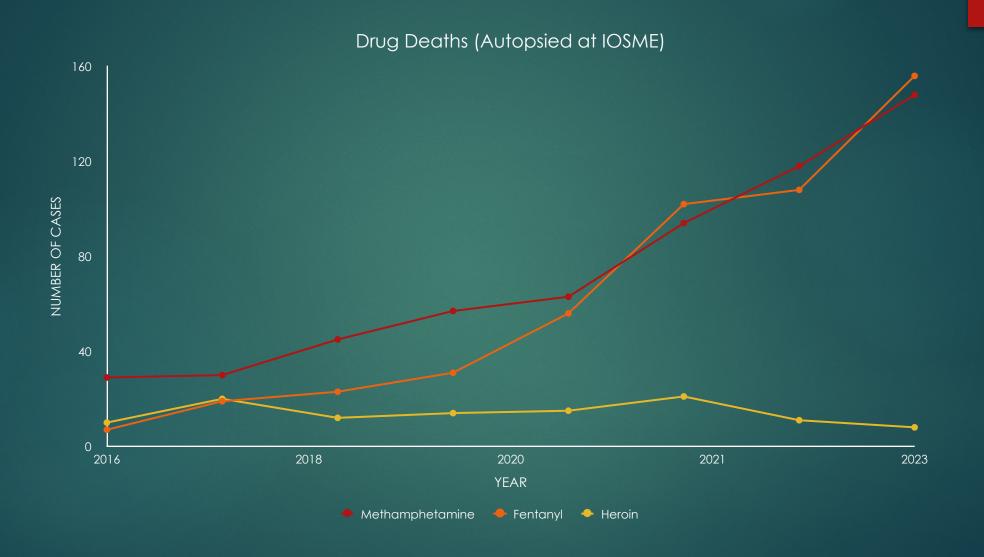


Suicides

- Suicides account for 78% of violent deaths in Iowa (IAVDRS)
- lowa has higher than national average rate (17 vs 14 per 100,000)

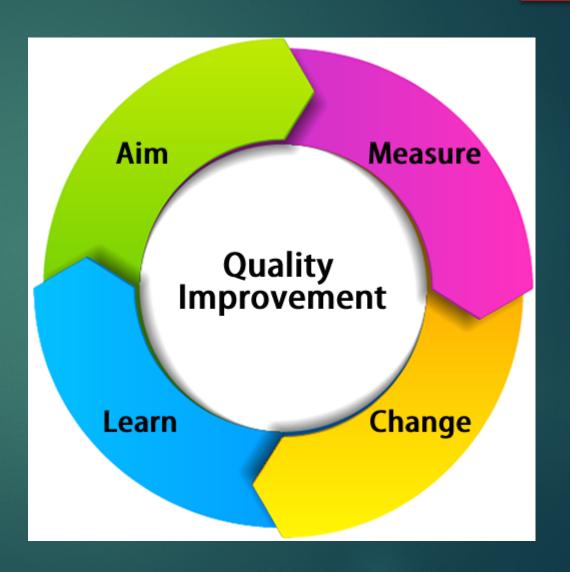






Provide and Protect credible and useful information





Improve Quality of Drug Death Investigations

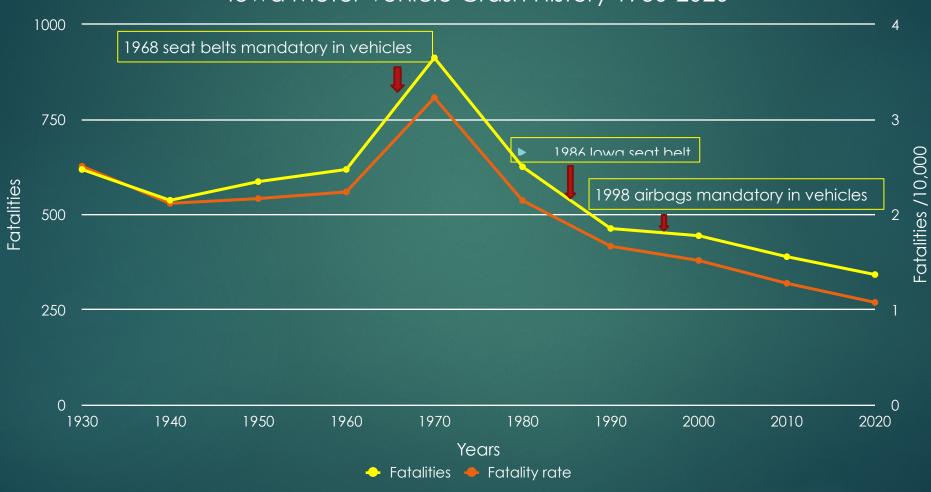
NAME Standards for Drug Deaths:

The forensic pathologist shall perform a forensic autopsy when:

- ▶ the death is by apparent intoxication by alcohol, drugs, or poison, unless a significant interval has passed, and the medical findings and absence of trauma are well documented.
- ► MHXṡ
- ►Interpretation
- **▶**Prosecution
- Sentinel novel drugs

Vehicle Fatalities



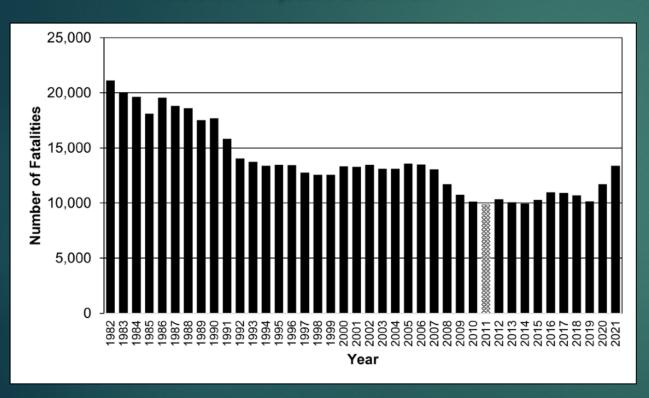


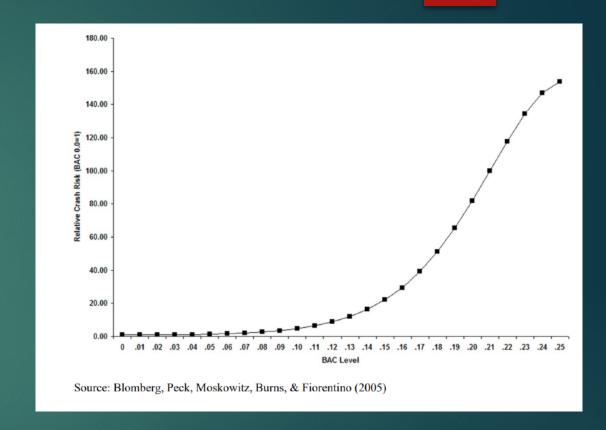
Understanding Cause of the Crash

- Crash factors (time of day, day of week, type of crash and relation to roadway)
- Vehicle factors (vehicle type, role in crash)
- Person factors (age, restraint, impairment, others in vehicle)

Toxicology impact on Crashes

Alcohol Impaired Drivers





- 32% of traffic fatalities involve BAC > .08
- BAC of .08 4X more likely to crash than BAC of 0

Toxicology and Vehicle Crashes

Table 1. The Relative Risk Level of Serious Injury or Death for Various Substance Groups in the DRUID Project

Risk Level	Risk	Substance Group	
Slightly increased risk	1–3	.01 g/dL < alcohol in blood < .05 g/dL Cannabis	
Medium increased risk	edium increased risk 2–10 2–10 .05 g/dL ≤ alcohol in blood < .0 Benzoylecgonine Cocaine Illicit opiates Benzodiazepines and Z-drugs Medicinal opioids		
Highly increased risk 5–30		.08 g/dL ≤ alcohol in blood < .12 g/dL Amphetamines Multiple drugs	
Extremely increased risk	20–200	Alcohol in blood ≥ .12 g/dL Alcohol in combination with drugs	

Vehicle Fatality Review

Quarterly MVC review team

- Multidisciplinary
- ► Identify Environmental, Roadway Engineering, Vehicle Safety Engineering and HUMAN Factors
- Support data and information for policy and legislative initiatives
 - ► (e.g. Teenager rear seat restraints)

Improve Quality of Motor Vehicle Crash Data

- Accurate Cause and Manner of Death
- Asking and answering questions about the cause of the accident
 - Identify human factors and drug impairment for Policy changes
 - Rule out human factors for Engineering improvements
- Autopsy all drivers
 - Recommend passengers particularly if unrestrained
- Scene photography

Upcoming Opportunities for Death Investigators

Jonathan Thompson, M.D.

Disclosure

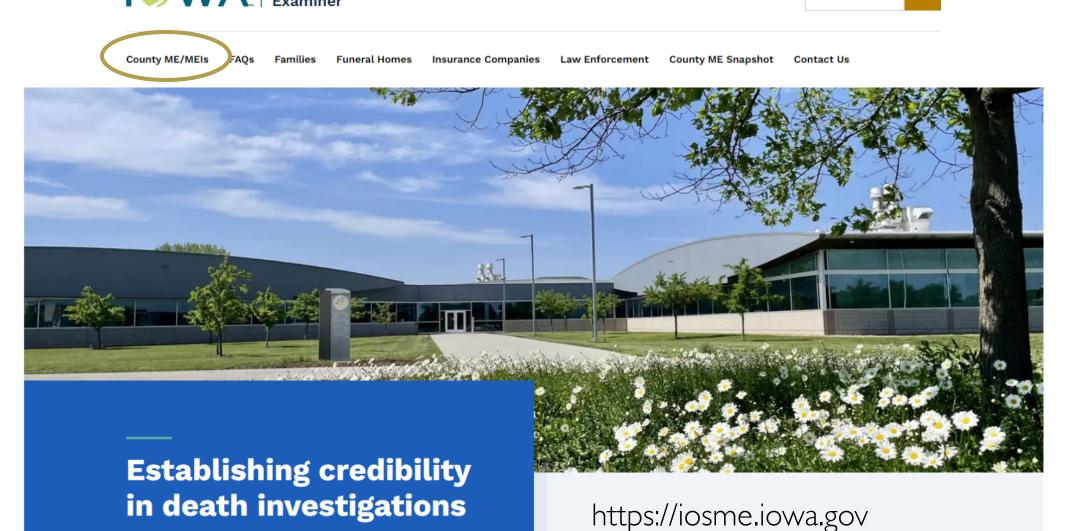
• I have no financial relationships to disclose for this presentation.

IAC — 691.6 Duties of State Medical
Examiner

The duties of the state medical examiner shall be:

 To provide assistance, consultation, and training to county medical examiners and law enforcement officials.





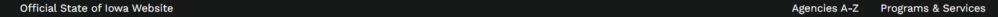


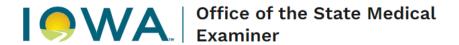














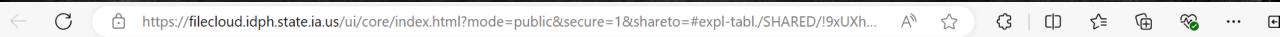
County ME/MEIS FAQs Families Funeral Homes Insurance Companies Law Enforcement County ME Snapshot Contact Us

County Medical Examiners and Investigators

Please follow the password enabled link below to view resources.

Secure Link https://filecloud.idph.state.ia.us/url/wtnzsnyqap5keeew 🗗

♠ Home
County ME/MEIs
FAQs



Iowa Health Boards









Password Protected Share

Access password-protected share

Login











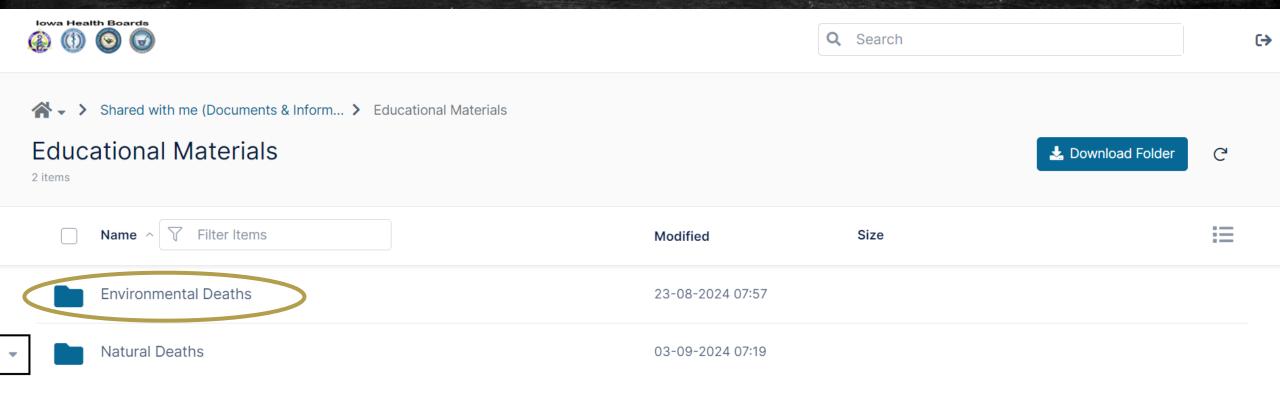


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Shared with me

6 items

		Name ^ Filter Items	Modified	Size
		Appointments	10-10-2023 10:43	
		DC Amendment Forms	10-10-2023 11:00	
		EMER-IVES Manual and Updates	19-09-2023 17:35	
-	Educational Materials		23-08-2024 07:56	
		Investigative Materials	10-10-2023 10:47	
	人	CME Handbook 2024.pdf	14-08-2024 18:15	925 KB











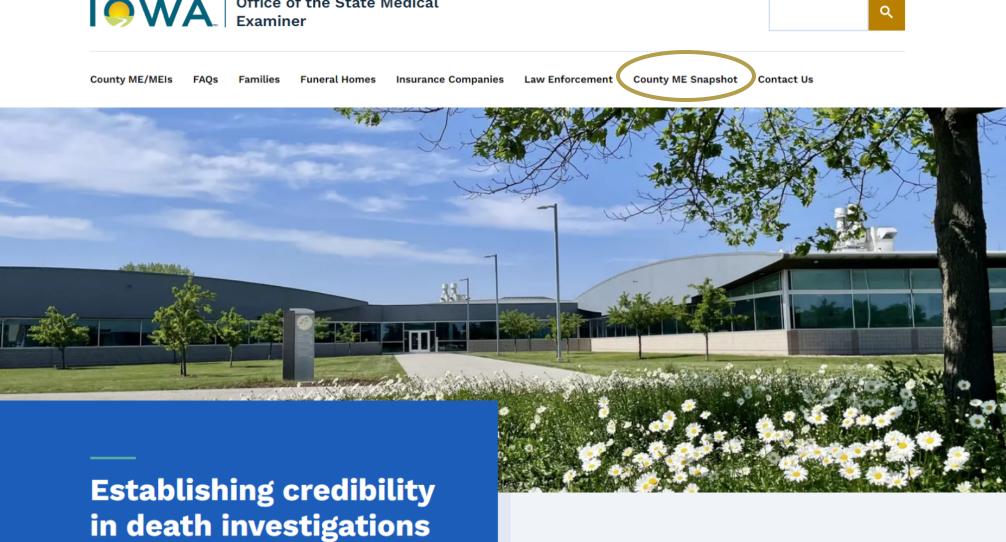
★ > Shared with me (Documents & Inform... > Educational Materials > Environmental Deaths

Environmental Deaths

3 items

□ Name ^ ▼ Filter Items	Modified
Bodies Recovered from Water.mp4	09-10-2024 06:08
Hyperthermia Deaths.mp4	23-08-2024 07:58
Hypothermia Deaths.mp4	05-09-2024 03:54





County Medical Examiner Snapshot

County-specific death investigation data is available for the following years:



- **2022** .pdf
- 2021 .pdf
- **2020** .pd

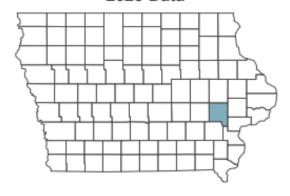


County ME/MEIs

FAQs

Families

County Medical Examiner Snapshot 2023 Data

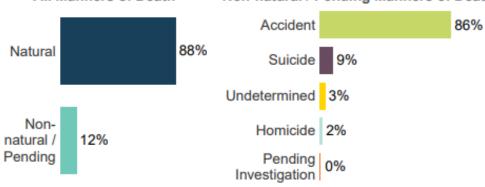


Johnson County

	1
Population	157,528
Deaths	2,134
Deaths Investigated	919 (43%)
Autopsies	254 (12%)
Target Investigations *	20%
Target Autopsies	8%

^{*} Per NAME requirements

All Manners of Death Non-natural / Pending Manners of Death

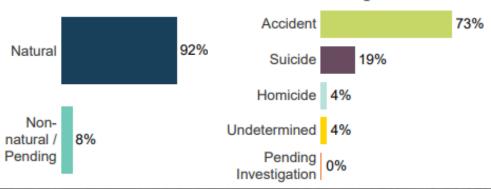


State of Iowa

Population		3,20)7	7,004
Deaths		;	32	2,328
Deaths Investigated	1(),295	(32%)
Autopsies		2,47	1	(8%)
Target Investigations	*			20%
Target Autopsies				8%
* Dec NAME requirements				

Per NAME requirements

All Manners of Death Non-natural / Pending Manners of Death



Mortality Statistics

		Predicted	Actual
Mortality Rate	1%	32,070	32,328
ME Notified (EMER + JD)	33%	10,776	10,295
% Autopsied	8%	2,574	2,471

Iowa Population – 3,207,004

Mental Wellness

- Free service
- Peer to peer support group
- SAC Kristin Kotrous and
 SAC Matt Pickles
- Phone # 402-289-7895
- Email kkotrous@dps.state.ia.us

TheEnd

Special thanks to Josh Jungling and Dr Kelly Kruse.

Changes



IOSME Governance Changes

- Merged into Public Health Division in newly aligned Department of Health and Human Services
- Boards and Commissions legislation eliminated State Medical Examiner Interagency Coordinating Council
- E-mail and Calendar functions migrated from Google to MS

IOSME Staffing Additions

- New IOSME Forensic Pathologists
 - ► Dr. Rory Deol (January 2024)
 - Dr. Allison Hade (August 2024)
- New Autopsy Technician
 - Alex Gindt

New Position- Mark Bethel

Chief of Field Operations & Investigations

- ▶ Trainings: IACME, MDIC, monthly in house full day, travel
- Support and guidance in ME recruitment and on-boarding
- Strategy and support in communications with BOS
- Assistance with transportation contracts, difficult dispositions...

YTD 2024

New ME/DME/MEIs: 115

Staff trained at ME-101: 110

Staff trained at EMER Training: 38

New Handout Cards to Families



Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner

515-725-1400 iosme.iowa.gov

An IOSME investigator will be in touch with your family in the coming days to gather information, including your preferred funeral home, and discuss the autopsy process. Please do not hesitate to reach out to talk to an investigator if you have any immediate questions.

Chain of Custody

- Def: A record of how evidence is handled from the time it is collected until it is presented in court
- ► Body is evidence
 - Body bag seal for every case
 - ► Take a picture of the body bag seal and record in EMER
 - Remind driver that body bag can NOT be opened
 - Remind driver that body should be delivered directly to IOSME
- Antemortem specimens
 - Chain of custody documentation

Identification: high risk for error and legal exposure

- Every case sent for autopsy
 - Tag attached to body ("toe tag")
 - Placed in body bag
 - Bag sealed with tag (critical for chain of custody)
 - Tag with decedent's name on outside of body bag





Common Law Spouse

- lowa recognizes Common Law Marriage
- Affidavit of Common Law Marriage
 - "I declare that during the period noted above the Decedent and I publicly held ourselves out to be each other's spouse and in so doing it was our intention to be married..."
 - Notarized



Kim Reynolds, Governor

Adam Gregg, Lt. Governor

Kelly Garcia, Director

AFFIDAVIT OF COMMON LAW MARRIAGE

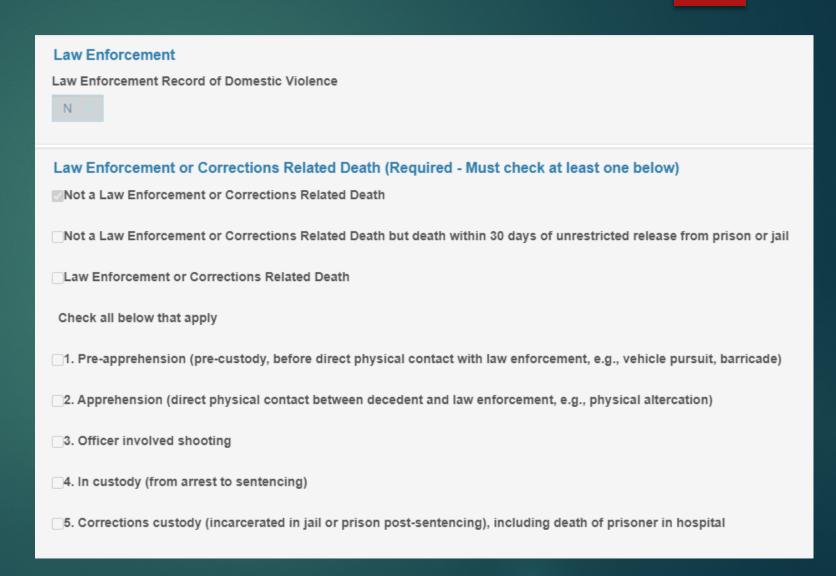
Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner

I,	, being duly sworn under oath, declare that I am
(Print Name of Affiant)	
the common law spouse of the decedent,	("Decedent"). On
	, the Decedent and I agreed to live as spouses
and we so lived and cohabitated from that	time until the time of the Decedent's death on
be each other's spouse and in so doing it vocument law marriage is legally recognized	re the Decedent and I publicly held ourselves out to was our intention to be married. I understand that d in lowa and must be terminated through a legal married, or, if either of us had been previously death, annulment, or divorce.
I grant the State of lowa or its representati interviewing people I know or people who I	ve permission to investigate my marital status by knew the Decedent.
I understand that that further documentation the records that I have requested.	on may be required by the State in order to produce
(Signature of Affiant)	_
Subscribed to and sworn to before me this	day of, 20

IVES Law Enforcement Tab

- ▶ ME Decedent Info
- Mandatory field
 - Must check at least 1

Legal intervention accounts for 1% of violent deaths in Iowa



Veterans and Death Certificates

- ▶ VA Service-connected disability: Injury or disease incurred or aggravated during active military service, physical and mental health conditions.
- Families have VA Disability Rating letter documenting disability
- VA service-connected disability must be on Death Certificate for family to be eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation
 - Example: PTSD in other conditions in cases of Suicide

Promises to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act: Presumptive Diagnoses from Toxic burn pit and other toxic exposure

- Cancers
 - Brain
 - ▶ GI
 - Glioblastoma
 - ▶ Head
 - Kidney
 - Lymphoma
 - Melanoma
 - ▶ Neck
 - Pancreatic
 - Reproductive
 - Respiratory

Illnesses

- Asthma (dx after service)
- ▶ COPD
- Chronic Rhinitis/sinusitis
- ▶ BOOP
- Granulomatous dis
- ► Interstitial Lung dis
- Pleuritis
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Sarcoidosis

Agent Orange Exposures

- Cancers
 - Bladder
 - ► Chronic B-cell leukemia
 - ► MM
 - ▶ Non-Hodgkins
 - Prostate
 - Lung
 - Soft tissue sarcomas

- Illnesses
 - Amyloidosis
 - ▶ DM type 2
 - Hypertension
 - Hypothyroidism
 - ► Ischemic Heart dis
 - ▶ MGUS
 - Parkinson's
 - Peripheral neuropathy
 - Porphyria cutnea tarda

Change in Law in Amending Death Certificates

- ► SF 2430 amended lowa Code 144.26 3A
 - "The Department shall provide for correction to the medical certification of cause of death and substitution of is presented to the state registrar with TWELVE MONTHS"
 - ► After 12 months amendments only through court order

Child Death Review Team

- Legislation removed CDRT and incorporated into new Death Review Committee
 - ► Full time CDRT coordinator with full time abstractor
 - Division of Community Access and Eligibility
 - Assistance with Statistics
 - Reports more robust with specific recommendations for partners
- Infant Deaths Investigations will be moving to CDC <u>SUID form</u>

10SME ME Building Expansion

- Legislature approved RIIF for SME building expansion
- ► Increase # of tables
- Increase cooler capacity
- Loading dock for Mass Fatality
- CT scanner

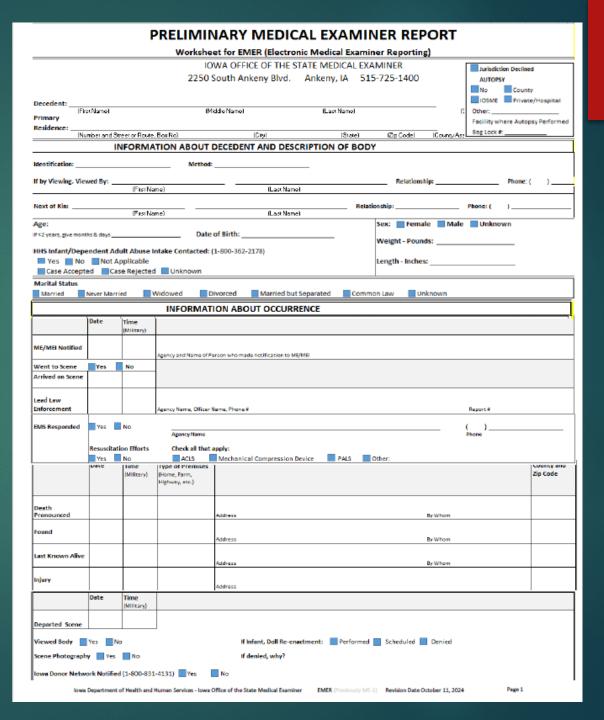




EMER Overhaul

- ► Improved security-
 - ▶ 3 factor authentication
- 25 c'iaracter password reset even 30 days
 5 ninute time out
 - Improved training
 - ▶ 2.5 hour video
 - Annual in person all day cyber security training
 - Improved content
 - Expanded drop downs, fill ins and mandatory fields in all tab sections
 - List of uncompleted fields before sign out.

EMER Overhaul



NARRATIVE SUMMARY	
Premise, Location of Body within Premise, Position of Body, Additional Pertinent Scene Findings:	
Body Temperature: Cold Cool Warm Not Applicable Foam Cone: Yes No Not Applicable	
Rigor: Full None Partical Not Applicable	
Decomposition: Advanced Early Moderate None Not Applicable	
Livor: Fixed Not Present Unflixed Not Applicable # Fixed: Anterior Posterior Right Side Left Side	
Position of Body: Supine Prone Lying on right side Lying on left side Seated Other:	
Circumstances Leading up to Death:	
MEDICAL HISTORY	
Recent Health Complaints:	
Past Medical History:	
SOCIAL HISTORY	
Tobacco Use: Yes No Unknown Describe:	
ETOH: Yes No Unknown Describe:	
Vaping: Yes No Unknown Describe:	
Other Drug History: Yes No Unknown Describe:	
lows Department of Health and Human Services - lows Office of the State Medical Examiner EMER (Previously ME-1) Revision Date October 11, 2024	Page 2

PHYSICIAN	PHYSICIAN	DENTIST			
Doctor:	Doctor:	Doctor:			
- 10:	- 10	- 10			
Facility:	Facility:	Facility:			
City:	City:	City:			
!					
Law Enforcement Related Deaths:					
Not a Law Enforcement Death	Not a Law Enforcement Death - but within 30 days	Law Enforcement Death:			
		Pre-Apprehension Appre	shansian		
			stody (from arrest to sentencing)		
		Corrections custody (Post sentencing)			
Transporting Agency for Autopsy:					
Yes No Unknown			()		
	Agency Name		Phone		
Non-Autopsy - Direct transfer to Funeral	Home:				
			()		
Yes No Other Facility:					
	Agency Name		Phone		
Funeral Mome Chosen by Family:					
Yes No Unknown			()		
les in continuen					
	Funeral Home Name		Phone		
	APPARENT TYP	E OF DEATH			
Asphyxiation	Fall Hanging	Suicide Other:			
Carbon Monoxide-Dwelling		Suspected Abuse/Neglect			
Drowning	Firearm Pedestrian	Vehicle			
	MANNER O	F DEATH			
Natural Homicide		determined Pending Investigation			
Natural Homicide	Accident Suicide Un	determined Pending Investigation			
Probable Cause of Death:					
Oue to:					
Due to:					
Contributing Factor(s)					
How Injury Occurred (required for death certificate):					
ME/MEI Conducting Investigation:					
miching community and sugarion:					
			()		
Name	Agency Name		Contact Number		
ME/MEI EMER Approver:					
ME/MEI EMER Approver:					
IME/ MISI EMER Approver:					
me, me emer. Approver:					
			ME/MEI Facty Complete Date		
Name	County of Appointment Human Services - Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner	EMER Productiv ME-11 Revision Date October 11, 2024	ME/MEI Entry Complete Date Page 3		

ASPHYXIATION				
Asphyxiation By: Bedding Compression Confinement Crushing Food/Drink Manual Strangulation Positional Unknown				
Possible Autoerotic: Yes No Unknown				
CARBON MONOXIDE - DWELLING				
Dwelling Type: Apartment House Mobile Home Other				
Source of Carbon Monoxide: Fireplace Furnace Generator Grill Fireplace Vehicle Unknown				
Additional Details: Animals were harmed Natural Disaster Others were harmed				
Heating System Type: Central Heating System Gas Furnace Oll Furnace Space Heater Wood Stove Other Unknown				
Additional Details: Heating System On Recent Heating Problems				
Working Carbon Monoxide Detector: Ves No Unknown				
DROWNING				
Location: Bathtub Creek Ditch Hot Tub Lake Pond Pool River Well Other				
Flotation Device/Life Jacket: Available, in Use Available, Not in Use Not Available Unknown Not Applicable				
Swimming Skill: Able Not Able Unknown Not Applicable				
If child, supervised: Yes No Unknown				
FALL				
Fall Height - Feet:				
Fall Reason: Jumped Medical Condition Pushed Slipped Structure Failure Tripped Unknown				
Fell From: Ladder Roof Sitting Stairs Standing Window Unknown				
FIRE/THERMAL				
Cause: Appliance Candies Cigarettes Explosive/Explosion Faulty Wiring/Electrical Grease intentional Ulghter Matches Unknown Other				
Thermal injuries Cause: Chemical Fire Scalding Liquid Steam Unknown Other				
Burning Object Type: Clothing Home Vehicle Other				
Working Smoke Alarm: ■Yes ■No ■Unknown				
FIREARM				
Firearm Type: Handgun Muzzleloader Pistol Revolver Rifle Shotgun Unknown				
Firearm Make: Barrott Firearms Battaglia Benelli Beretta Bernardelli Bersa Blaser Browning Bryco Bushmaster Canik Colt Glock Handmade Heckler & Koch Hi-Point Firearms Jennings Jimenez Arms Kaht Arms Kol-Toc Keystone Sporting Arms Lorcin Molot Mossberg Norinco Panther Arms Para USA Patriot Ordinance Factory Raven Arms Reminigton Rizzini Ruger Savage Arms SCCY Seraphim Armoury (SA) Slaver Shaver Saver Smith and Wesson Springfield Armory Stag Arms Steyr Taurus TOZ TskiB SOO (Russian) Tule Arms Plant Walther Arms Weatherby Winchester Unknown				
Decedent is Firearm Owner: Yes No Unknown				
Familiar with Operation: Yes No Unknown Not Applicable				
Was Firearm Stored in Secure Location: Yes to Unknown				
Was Firearm Moved: Yes No Unknown				
Activity: Hunting Playing Recreation Not Applicable Other Unknown				
Circumstances: Legal Intervention Domestic Violence Solf Defense Unknown				
Serial Number, if available:				
HANGING				
Suspension: Partial Full				
Possible Autoerotic Asphyxiation: Yes No				
Platform Present: Yes No Unknown low Department of Health and Human Services - lows Office of the State Medical Examiner EMER (Presidually MS-1) Revision Date October 11, 2024 Page 4				

	PEDES	TRIAN				
Pedestrian Circumstances: Hit and Run Hit and	Stop Intentional Ur	nknown				
Pedestrian Activity/Location: Child Run Over Crossing Intersection Crossing Non-Intersection Cycling Entering Vehicle Exiting Vehicle In Course of Employment On Sidewalk Playing Running Standing/Otherwise Immobile Walking Working on Vehicle Unknown Other						
	SUIC	CIDE				
History of: Check all that apply						
Mental Disorder Past Suicide Attempts Po	Agricultural Being Bullied Being Victim of Domestic Violence Drug or Alcohol Addiction Financial Stress Health Housing Mental Disorder Past Suicide Attempts Poor Grades Questioning Sexuality and/or Gender Identity Recent Break Up or Divorce Recent Loss of Employment Suicide Ideations					
If Dependent Minor (17 and under):						
Caregiver:		Ham Hamal	(Core of District			
(First Name) (M Residence:	iddle Name)	(Last Name)	(Date of Birth)			
(Number and Street or Route, Box No)	(City)	(State)	(Zip Code) (Phone)			
Relationship to Decedent:		How Long Cared for Child:				
SU	ISPECTED AB	USE/NEGLECT				
Is this Death Suspicious for: Financial Abuse In	appropriate Care Insu	rance Collection Neglect	Physical Abuse Sexual Abuse			
	VEH	ICLE				
Construction Zone: Yes No Unknown						
At Intersection: Yes No Unknown						
Railroad: Yes No						
Crash Type: Head On Angle Driver Side Imp	act Passenger 5 ide imp	eact Rollover RearEnd	Left Roadway Other			
Vehicle Type: Aircraft ATV Boot/Watercraft Bus Car Farm Equipment Minivan Motorcycle Pickup RX/Motor Home Semitrusk (18-wheet) Snowmobile Sport Utility Vehicle Train TV Van Not Applicable Other						
Other Involved Vehicle Type(s): Aircraft ATV Boat/Wetercraft Bus Car Farm Equipment Minivan Motorcycle Pickup RV/Motor Home Semitruck (18-wheel) Snowmobile Sport Utility Vehicle Train UTV Van Not Applicable Other						
If Driver is Under 18, was number of vehicle occupants more than 2? Yes No						
Restraint used in Vehicle: Restrained in Vehicle Unrestrained in Vehicle Unknown if Restraint Used Ejected from Vehicle Not Applicable						
Airbags: Air Bags in Vehicle Air Bags Deployed Not Applicable						
Child Seat: Booster Seat Forward Facing Car Seat Rear Facing Car Seat Not Applicable						
Helmet Worn: Yes No Not Applicable						
INFANT (0-12 Months)						
REQUIRED M - SUIDI (Sudden Infant Death Investiga	tion) i m Complete:	Yes No Send complet	ted form to iosme.me1@hhs.iowa.gov			
Infant Doll Rs Schedul	ord Denied If Denie	ed, why?				
Caregiver at Time of Incident:						
(First Name) (Middle	Name)	(Last Name)	(Date of Birth)			

(Zip Code)

How Long Cared for Child:

lows Department of Health and Human Services - lows Office of the State Medical Examiner EMER (Previously ME-1) Revision Date October 11, 2024

(Phone)

Page 5

(Number and Street or Route, Box No)

Relationship to Decedent:

SUIDI form

Midwest Death Investigation Course



- 4th MDIC course with Practicums
- When: June
- Where: DMACC Ankeny
- Cost: Tuition \$499
- Funding available: Tuition and lodging
- Meets MEI training requirements (Admin code 127.7)





Mark Your Calendars

- ▶ 4th MDIC course with Practicums
- ▶ When: June
- ► Where: DMACC Ankeny
- ► Cost: Tuition \$499
- Funding available: Tuition and lodging
- ▶ Meets MEI training requirements (Admin code 127.7)

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Saturday, November 2, 2024 | 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM IOSME Update

Sign-In to Get Attendance

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Scan this QR Code



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