

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Forensic Pathologist

Department: Coroner

Reports To: Coroner

FLSA Status: Exempt

Employment Status: Non-Bargaining

Prepared Date: November 2025

SUMMARY

The Forensic Pathologist performs forensic autopsies, external examinations, and consultations to determine the cause of death in accordance with Illinois statutes, the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) standards, and Champaign County Coroner's Office policies. This position provides expert medical opinion, works collaboratively with law enforcement personnel and medical providers, and participates in courtroom testimony as needed. This is a full-time, on-site role.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

- Perform autopsies and postmortem examinations to determine cause of death.
- Collect evidence for law enforcement agencies.
- Interpret radiology, toxicology, histology, and related laboratory results.
- Document findings clearly through written reports, dictation, and photography.
- Provide consultative support to the Coroner and investigative staff.
- Review EMS, hospital, and law enforcement documentation.
- Provide expert testimony in court and depositions.
- Communicate professionally with families, funeral homes, agencies, and attorneys.
- Follow all OSHA, CDC, and NAME standards for safety, infection control, and evidence handling.
- Participate in continuing education and quality assurance activities.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

No formal supervisory or disciplinary responsibilities. Provides procedural oversight and guidance to the Autopsy Technician during autopsy activities.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Medical Degree (MD) or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) is required.
- Possession of a valid license to practice medicine in the State of Illinois.

- License must be in good standing with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.
- Must be Board eligible in Anatomic Pathology.
- Completion of Forensic Pathology fellowship.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

The employee must be able to perform duties in a variety of challenging and sometimes unpleasant environments. Work may involve exposure to outdoor weather conditions, toxic or caustic substances, biohazardous materials, and moving mechanical equipment. The role may also require entering potentially distressing or emotionally difficult scenes. Noise levels can vary from very quiet to loud, depending on the work setting. The employee is expected to maintain professionalism and adhere to all safety protocols at all times.

NOTICE

This job description contains working of a general class of positions within the Champaign County salary administration program. The description contains examples of duties and responsibilities which may or may not be considered “essential functions” to a particular job or position within the job class. “Essential functions” are to be determined at the position or job level within the department.