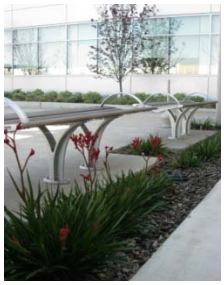
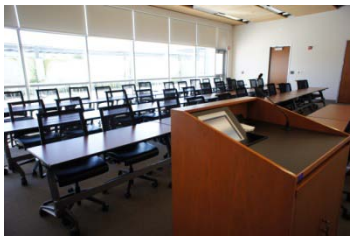
NEW BUILDING

In December of 2009, we moved into our new, state-of-the-art facility at 5570 Overland Avenue, Suite 101 in Kearny Mesa. It is the third building which has housed all the operations of the Medical Examiner's Office since 1957.

Our newest building represents the first completed structure of the larger project of redesigning and updating the entire County Operations Center. It is a two-story building encompassing 83,000 square feet, tripling our office space and storage capacity, and giving us the capability to handle certain types of mass casualty incidents on site. Although we are the single largest tenant of the building, we share the building with Environmental Health Vector Control, the Hazardous Incident Response Team (HIRT) and the County Veterinarian.



We proudly achieved a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification. This is a rating based on an evaluation of the environmental performance of the whole building over its life cycle and emphasizes the commitment the County has to the environment. Among the improvements is the use of natural light throughout the building, most notably in the examination areas where a bright, natural lit area is essential to detailed forensic procedures.

In addition to an upgraded work environment, we now have several shared conference rooms equipped with the latest audio-visual technology, advanced instrumentation in the toxicology laboratory allowing for additional methodologies, and a combination fluoroscope and digital X-ray system with 3-dimensional reconstruction and vascular imaging capability. These advances, among others, are part of the overall strategy to develop a viable regional forensic science complex that will have the capabilities to address the anticipated county needs for the next several decades.