The County of San Diego is seeking a highly qualified forensic pathologist to coordinate the activities of the Pathology Division of the Medical Examiner’s Office.

This is a temporary position with a base rate of $156.00/Hour. Additional compensation up to 15% may be offered for possession of board and subspecialty certifications.
THE POSITION

The Chief Deputy Medical Examiner is a temporary expert professional position responsible for coordinating the activities of the Pathology Division of the Medical Examiner’s Office. The position investigates and determines the manner and cause of death of all sudden, violent, or unusual deaths due to apparent natural causes in cases where the decedent has not been seen by a physician within 20 days prior to death, or where the attending physician is unable to determine the cause of death.

Key responsibilities of this position include:
• Overseeing the activities of the Pathology, Histology, and Examination Room divisions
• Reviewing and evaluating toxicology reports for compliance with established procedures
• Coordinating pre- and post-trial evaluations of medical/legal cases
• Overseeing the Forensic Pathology Fellow training program
• Coordinating resident pathologist and medical student rotations
• Communicating with the medical community in areas of mutual concern, such as potential health hazards
• Conducting autopsies and medical investigations, as required

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER

The Office of the Medical Examiner provides medicolegal forensic death investigation services for the citizens of San Diego County, as mandated by State law.

The staff of 60 full time employees includes 21 medicolegal death investigators, 8 staff pathologists (including the Chief), 2 Fellows, 7 toxicologists, and 8 autopsy assistants, as well as administrative and support staff. Of the over 25,000 deaths that occurred in the county in 2020, the department took jurisdiction to investigate 3,845 – performing 1,928 autopsies and 1,917 external examinations or medical case reviews.

San Diego County’s Office of the Medical Examiner (ME) is one of eight California counties accredited by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME), which sets national standards in forensic medicine. It is one of three accredited in California by the American College of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) to educate future forensic pathologists. The ME’s Office provides a modern infrastructure, with innovative technology and appropriate resources. Our forensic toxicology laboratory is accredited by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT), performing all its investigations, toxicology, and forensic pathology in-house.

Our ACGME-accredited Fellowship program trains 1-2 Fellows each year and the department regularly hosts resident pathologists and medical students for monthly rotations.

The data compiled as a result of our investigations is provided to the public, researchers, medical facilities, and other government agencies, aiding community understanding of health and safety risks and trends. Our staff is active in state-mandated death review teams and regularly contributes to hospital quality assurance conferences.
THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate will:

• Demonstrate a proven and successful track record assisting with the administration of a Medical Examiner’s/Coroner’s department
• Have increasingly responsible experience as a forensic pathologist
• Demonstrate leadership qualities that reflect the ability to work effectively with a diverse workforce, with the inherent ability to assist with implementing the Medical Examiner’s mission and vision
• Be able to work collaboratively with law enforcement, the Office of the District Attorney, and the defense bar on investigations.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Possession of a valid State of California license to practice medicine, (State of California Business and Professions Code Section 2135),
2. Forensic Pathologist Board Certification, AND,
3. Must have at least two (2) years of experience in the field of medical legal death investigations.

MISSION

Promote safe communities by certifying the cause and manner of death for all homicides, suicides, accidents and sudden/unexpected natural deaths in San Diego County. In addition, provide related forensic services, assistance and education to families of the deceased, as well as to public and private agencies, in a professional and timely manner.

VISION

We are committed to working as a team to meet the needs and expectations of our customers by fulfilling our mandated mission in a professional, compassionate, ethical and timely manner.
APPLICATION PROCESS AND RECRUITMENT SCHEDULE

1. Complete the online application at www.sandiegocounty.gov/hr/jobs, select Current Job Postings, Job Number 22091901UTEP.

2. Attach your résumé, CA license to practice medicine, and board certifications.

This recruitment will remain open until the position is filled and may close once a sufficient number of applications have been received. Interested candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible for consideration.

COMPENSATION

This is a temporary hourly position with a base compensation rate of $156.00/Hour. Additional compensation up to 15% may be offered for possession of board and subspecialty certifications.

SPECIAL NOTES

Persons serving in positions in the Unclassified Service do not accrue tenure and serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. The provisions of this job announcement may be modified or revoked and do not constitute an expressed or implied contract. Qualified women, veterans, minorities, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of a job, on a case-by-case basis.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions about the application and selection process may be directed to Bryan Faircloth, Executive Recruiter, Department of Human Resources, at Bryan.Faircloth@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Questions about the position or department may be directed to Billie Jean Tamayo, Group Human Resources Director for the Public Safety Group, at BillieJean.Tamayo@sdcounty.ca.gov.

The County of San Diego and its employees embrace the vision of: a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all. Our values include: integrity, equity, access, belonging, excellence, and sustainability. Each of which are infused throughout our operations. While also embracing a mission of strengthening our communities with innovative, inclusive, and data driven services through a skilled and supported workforce. Click here for more information on our Strategic Plan (sandiegocounty.gov) as well as our commitment to serve everyone, to build a Framework for the Future that will create a County that works for all.