



National Association of Medical Examiners

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Greetings from the NAME Foundation. This final Newsletter comes at the end of a strange and interesting year. From all of us at the NAME Foundation, wishing everyone a successful, healthy, blessed, and more normal 2021!



2020 NAME Annual Meeting – Virtually Perfect!

A huge shout-out to the NAME Leadership and all of those responsible for putting-on a very successful, educational, and smooth-running virtual meeting this past October. Special thanks to Dee McNally, Tara Snethen, Program Chair Laura Knight, and IT-guru Louis Jares, for all of their behind-the-scenes efforts which made the meeting a huge success.

The totally virtual meeting took place over a two-day period, Friday October 16 and Saturday October 17, and featured 50 oral presentations and 60 poster presentations. An incredible 885 people registered for the meeting! Vendors also had virtual space. The Board of Directors and Business Meetings took place at different times prior to the meeting (see below).

Please note that online access to view the meeting is currently still available, until December 31, 2020. Available at: <https://www.thename.org/2020-meeting-instructions>

Also note that CME applications are due by December 31 as well.

Winners of the various Best Paper/Presentation Awards at the 2020 Annual Meeting were as follows:

John Smialek, MD Best Resident Platform Presentation:

Lorenzo Gitto, MD. Determination of Force Required to Produce Stab Wounds in Cadaveric Chest Tissue. State University of New York, Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, New York.



Lorenzo Gitto, MD.

John Smialek, MD Best Resident Poster Presentation:

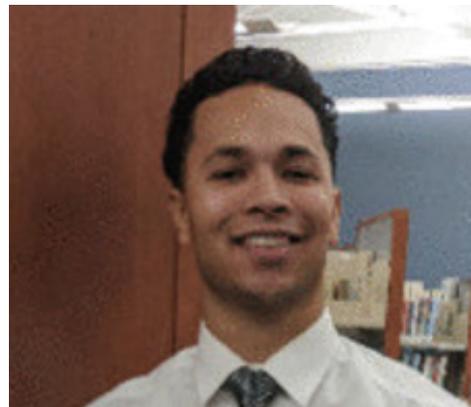
Batoul Aoun, DO. SARS-CoV-2 in the Kidneys: Postmortem Renal Histopathologic Findings in Three patients with COVID19. Michigan Medicine, Ann Arbor, Michigan.



Batoul Aoun, DO

John Pless, MD Best Student Platform Presentation:

Ernest Allen Morton, MBA, MS. Novel Evaluation of Submandibular Salivary Gland Tissue for use as an Alternative Postmortem Toxicology Specimen. Western Michigan University Homer Stryker MD School of Medicine, Kalamazoo, Michigan.



Ernest Morton, MBA, MS

John Pless, MD Best Student Poster Presentation:

McKenzie Jackson, BS. Postmortem Diagnosis of Clostridium Without Culture Confirmation. University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Grand Forks, North Dakota.



McKenzie Jackson, BS

Susan P. Baker Public Health Impact Award:
(sponsored by Maryland Medical Legal Society)

Joyce L. deJong, DO. Positional Asphyxia In Opioid-Related Deaths: Is It Being Overlooked? Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine, Kalamazoo, Michigan.



Joyce deJong, DO

Mary Fran Ernst Best Affiliate Presentation:

No eligible submissions.

Congratulations to all the winners and participants, and a special thank you to all to Dr. Robert Stoppacher and his committee “Scientific Presentation Awards” for judging the presentations. All awards other than the Susan P. Baker Award are sponsored by the NAME Foundation.

NAME Annual Business Meeting

The NAME Business Meeting was held digitally on Monday, October 12, from 9-11 CST, but election of officers and voting on the Autopsy Standards was conducted via a separate email process. Action Items from the meeting/process included the following:

- The Forensic Autopsy Performance Standards were approved online (9/25/20) for an additional 5 years, scheduling to sunset at the 2025 Annual Business Meeting.

The following represents a synopsis of the elections:

2021 NAME Officers:

President: James Gill MD (Connecticut)

Vice President: Kathryn Pinneri MD (Texas)

Secretary-Treasurer: J. Scott Denton MD (Illinois)

Chair of the Board: Sally Aiken, MD (Washington)



James Gill, MD, NAME President for 2021



Kathryn Pinneri, MD, NAME Vice President for 2021



J. Scott Denton, MD, NAME Secretary-Treasurer for 2021

Board of Directors (starting 1st term):

Francisco Diaz MD (Washington DC)

Mark Fajardo MD (California)

Amy Gruszecki DO (Texas)

Wieslawa Tlomak MD (Wisconsin)

Board of Directors (returning for second term):

Tracey S. Corey MD (Florida)

Daniel Dye MD (Alabama)

Laura Knight MD (Nevada)

Maneesha Pandey MD (Ohio)

AMA Delegate: Michelle Jordan MD (California)

AMA Alternate: J Scott Denton MD (Illinois)

The NAME Board of Directors' election for the NAME 2021 Executive Committee was also completed via online ballots. The following directors have been elected by the Board to the 2021 Executive Committee, joining the officers (Chair of the Board, President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer):

Joyce deJong DO

Kent Harshbarger MD

Keith Pinckard MD

Congratulations to everyone.

The Board of Directors meeting was held virtually on Thursday, October 8th, 9-12 CST. Certain official actions of the BOD also involved online participation. Action items include the following:

- Disaster Victim Identification in Mass Fatality Incidents Position Statement was approved.

NAME Foundation Events at the 2020 Annual Meeting

The ever-popular NAME Foundation Silent Auction was also held virtually this year. Special thanks to Dee, Tara, and Amy Martin for all of their hard work in making it a resounding success. A total of \$3,925 was raised at this year's silent auction. Thanks to everyone who donated items. Thanks also to all who bid on items.

The NAME Foundation "special event" took place on Sunday, October 18 (the day after the Annual Scientific program ended), and featured a presentation sponsored by the Fredric Rieders Family Foundation. The program, entitled "Drug Delivery Homicide: the Straw that Breaks the Camel's Back," included presentations by MJ Menendez, Gregory G. Davis, and Barry Logan. CME was available for those who participated in CME for the NAME Annual Meeting. The excellent program was very well-received. Thanks to the presenters and all who attended. The event raised \$6,470 for the Foundation.

Proceeds from the auction and special event help support NAME Foundation activities such as providing monetary awards for the various best presentations at meetings, as well as stipends to medical students and residents who present at non-virtual annual meetings.

NAME Foundation Update

As you already know, the NAME Foundation exists to promote the profession by advocating for research, education, and history preservation. The Foundation continues to grow in its impact within the forensic pathology/death investigation community. The Foundation has been especially active in recent years, through its sponsoring of

the annual awards for best papers for affiliates, students, and residents. The Foundation has also provided thousands of dollars in travel stipends for students and residents to attend the NAME Annual Meetings. Although travel was not a part of this year's meeting, the Foundation will continue to support research and education by funding the various "best paper/poster" awards.

Did you know that the NAME Foundation also offers membership to organizations? As such, corporations and educational institutions may join to show their support for forensic pathology/death investigation research, education, and history preservation. If you know of any corporation or educational institute whose leaders may be interested in joining the Foundation, please pass our information along to them, and let the Foundation know of their interest. Corporate/Institution membership categories are available at the following annual donation levels: \$250, \$500, and \$1000.

The standing committees (and Chairs) of the NAME Foundation include the following: Membership/Nominations (John Butts), Bylaws/Policies (Greg Schmunk), Finance/Investment (Mike Graham), Fundraising (Chris Milroy), Advocacy (Michael Rieders), Newsletter (Joe Prahlow), Silent Auction/Meeting (vacant), Education (Frank Miller), Research (Joe Felo), History (Greg Schmunk), and Long-Range Planning (Tom Noguchi).

As was reported in the last newsletter, the NAME Foundation Board of Trustees (as well as the NAME Board of Directors) continue to investigate the pros and cons of possibly merging the Foundation back "under the umbrella" of NAME. Currently, both organizations exist as separate entities but share many common goals. The Foundation initially began as a committee within NAME, but then incorporated as a 501c3 organization, while NAME remained a 501c6. Several years ago, for tax-savings purposes, NAME also became a 501c3 organization. Both organizations are working on this issue; however,

as this topic is of great importance, and there is no need to rush to make a decision, President Aiken has determined that nothing should move forward regarding this issue until leadership from NAME and the NF can meet in-person. All NAME members and NAME Foundation members are invited to provide input to this ongoing discussion. Please direct any comments/questions to NF Chair Joe Prahlow at joseph.prahlow@med.wmich.edu
Thank you.

NAME Foundation Board of Trustees

The NAME Foundation BoT also met digitally for their “face-to-face” meeting this year. The current officers were re-elected to serve for another year. As the NAME interim meeting will be virtual this year, the BoT will also be meeting virtually, on a day prior to the February 10 NAME BOD meeting.

NAME Foundation Annual Business Meeting

The NF Business Meeting took place digitally, following the conclusion of the NAME Annual

Business Meeting on October 12. The only major item of business was the election of Kim Collins to the Board of Trustees. Special thanks was also given to outgoing BoT member Amy Martin, who served the NF well as Chair of the Silent Auction/ Meeting Committee.

The NAME Foundation and Academic Forensic Pathology Journal

If you are currently a NAME Foundation member, you have free access to AFP. Moving forward beyond 2020, discussions have been ongoing with SAGE Publishing regarding possible reduced subscription pricing for active NAME Foundation members. The scope and the focus of AFPj fits in nicely with that of the NAME Foundation, and the Foundation is optimistic that its relationship with AFPj is successful for both the Foundation and AFP. After a relatively rough “first year,” AFPj appears to be getting back on-track in 2020. Check-out the NAME Foundation website (see below) for details regarding how to access the AFPj online. Thank you for your patience. See below for details about how to sign-up for electronic access to the journal via the NAME Foundation website.



New NAME Foundation Website!

<https://namefoundation.wildapricot.org/>

(see below for details)

Journal Access

To access the AFPj (if you are already a Foundation member), simply to the website at <https://namefoundation.wildapricot.org/>. After you log in, go to the “AFP JOURNAL” tab at the top of the page to find further instructions.

To Join the Foundation or to Renew Your Membership

You can join (or renew your Foundation membership) via the new NAME Foundation web site.

If you are a NAME Foundation member but have never been to the site, here is how to get on:

- Go to <https://namefoundation.wildapricot.org/>
- Click “Log in” at the top right.
- Enter your e-mail address and password. If you forgot or don’t know your password, click on “Forgot password”.
- If you are in the system, you will receive a link to enter a new password.

If you are not yet a Foundation member (you will get an “Email not found” message when you enter your e-mail on the “Forgot password” page):

- Go to <https://namefoundation.wildapricot.org/>
- Navigate to the “Donate” tab.
- Enter the requested information and choose a donation amount (minimum of \$50 for individuals, \$250 for institutions to obtain benefits of membership, such as the journal).
- If you wish to designate your donation to a specific category, please do so. If you want to donate to multiple categories, you will need to make multiple separate donations.
- Once your donation is processed you will have access to the site and the journal.

Any Foundation member who donates the required minimum donation will have their membership expiration date extended by one year from the date of the donation. Alternatively, any member may go to their profile (click on your name in the upper right corner) and then click on the “Renew to mm/dd/yyyy” button in the center of the form. If you are making an institutional donation, please check the box at the bottom of the donation form.

If you have any problems with the above, or if you feel that you are a Foundation member and the system does not recognize you, please send an inquiry to the Secretary: gschmunk@mediacombb.net

Please also check the Foundation Website for information regarding the AFP journal and any special events which are planned.

Message from the 2020 NAME President



President Letter, NAME Foundation

December 2, 2020

Dear NAME Members:

I practice as a Medical Examiner in Spokane, Washington, and as in your spheres of practice, Coronavirus 2019 has altered our Medical Examiner work. We are a small jurisdiction and see only handfuls of COVID-19 death certificates daily, plus scattered home-deaths requiring us to test for the virus. Fortunately, we have a new facility with expanded body storage, and now accept bodies for storage from funeral homes and area hospitals that have exhausted storage capacity. Inexplicably homicides, traffic accidents, farm accidents, recreational accidents, and “hobby” accidents are up, like trends seen in other offices. The adaptations in my office are small in comparison to many other offices. Our vital role during the pandemic is not always appreciated, or even understood. The autopsy is not a “work from home” procedure, and is essential to public health during COVID-19.

In my previous NAME Foundation letter, I stated that the theme for NAME in 2020 is “adaptation”. Upon reflection, I believe a more descriptive theme is “Making the Best of It”. The challenges of 2020 have created some opportunities for needed change.

Recent NAME Projects/Accomplishments:

1. A successful virtual meeting with 885 registrants. The Business Meeting, Board of Directors and all voting were virtual with no major hiccups.
2. NAME now has experience with virtual meetings, and given the trajectory of the pandemic, the February 2021 NAME interim meeting will be a virtual meeting. Dr. Laura Labay is chair of “The Effects of Acute and Chronic Disease on Organ Systems, Metabolism and Elimination, Blood Concentrations and Drug Tolerance”
3. NAME was disappointed that the American Board of Pathology reduced the required number of autopsies for pathology residents, but NAME applied and was chosen as a Cooperating Society to the ABP—better to be sitting at the table than be on the menu.
4. NAME will receive a portion of grant money for development of a position paper to focus on investigation and certification of deaths in mass fatalities. Dr. Suzanne Utley is chair.
5. With kick-off meetings in November and December, no more just talking, we are actively working on solutions to our workforce shortage.
6. NAME pays dues to the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations. CFSO is working at the federal level towards stable funding for NamUs.
7. Considering options for a NAME internet place to securely store teaching photographs, and presentations.

As my term as NAME President comes to an end, I am grateful for the support and help provided by so many of you. I am especially indebted to Dee McNally, Tara Snethen, Scott Denton, Kathy Pinneri, Joyce Dejong, Laura Knight, Jim Gill, Jonathan Arden, Mary Ann Sens, and all committee chairs and Board of Directors.

Sincerely, **Sally S. Aiken, MD**

2020 NAME President

Future NAME Meeting Locations

2021 Interim

- Scientific Meeting - Virtual
February 9, 2021
- Board of Directors -Virtual
February 10, 2021

2021 Annual - West Palm Beach, FL
October 15-19, 2021



**National Association
of Medical Examiners**

2020



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

NAME Foundation Board of Trustees (2019)

Chair – Joseph A. Prahlow

Vice Chair – Chris Milroy

Secretary – Gregory A. Schmunk

Treasurer – Michael Graham

Founding Director – Thomas Noguchi

Trustees: John Butts, Kim Collins, Joe Felo, Jan Gorniak, Peggy Greenwald, Jim Luke, Yvonne Milewski, Frank Miller, Keith Pinckard, Michael F. Rieders, Joel Sexton, Samantha Wetzler; Ex-Officio (non-voting): Jonathan Arden, Sally Aiken, Jim Luke

NAME Foundation Membership Criteria

The NAME Foundation is proud to offer membership to any member of the National Association of Medical Examiners who makes an annual contribution to the NAME Foundation. The following minimal annual contribution qualifies membership in the NAME Foundation:

NAME Members:	\$50.00
NAME Affiliates:	\$50.00
Non-NAME Individual:	\$50.00
Corporate/Institution:	\$250, 500, 1000

