



### **National Association of Medical Examiners**

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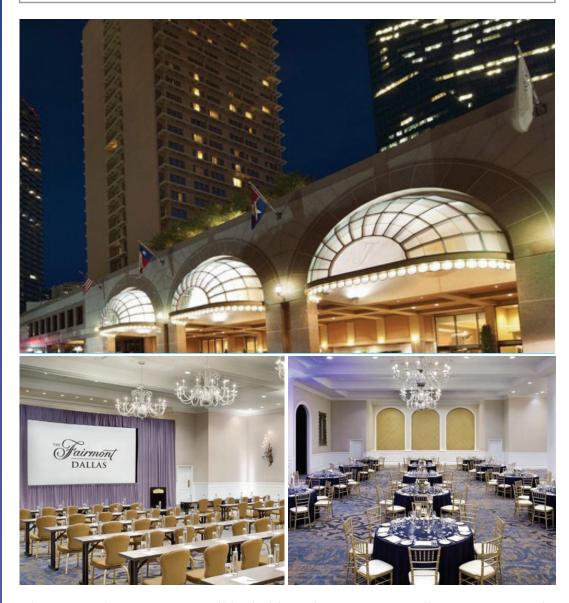
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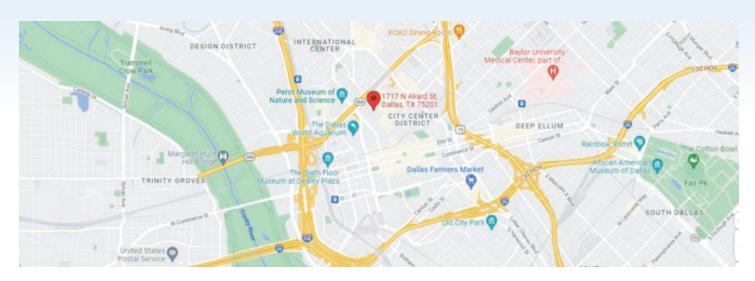
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Greetings from the NAME Foundation. This first Newsletter of 2022 comes as a prelude to this year's annual NAME meeting, which will take place in Dallas, TX, from October 14-18, 2022. The meeting will be the 56th Annual Meeting of the National Association of Medical Examiners.



The 2022 NAME meeting will be held at The Fairmont Dallas, at 1717 North Akard Street, Dallas, TX 75201. A group rate is available for rooms. The direct number to the hotel is 1-866-540-4427. Be sure to ask for the NAME Annual Meeting 2022 group rate. You need to book by September 21 to receive the discounted room rate.



The hotel is toward the northern edge of downtown Dallas, as shown on this map.

### **2022 NAME Annual Meeting**

The Annual meeting promises to be filled with a wide variety of interesting and educational presentations related to forensic pathology and death investigation. Many hours of CME will be available. As usual, there will be plenty of food, as well as opportunities for socializing with friends and colleagues. The information provided in this Newsletter is preliminary. Please check the official meeting information for complete details.

2022 Program Chair Robert Stoppacher has worked diligently putting together what promises to be an outstanding educational program. There were close to 200 abstracts submitted for consideration, with 185 accepted for presentation, including several dozen that will be presented by students or residents. As per usual, there will be poster presentations, as well as oral/platform presentations.

Certain papers are eligible for the various awards that will be given, including the following:

- John Smialek, MD Best Resident Platform Presentation
- John Smialek, MD Best Resident Poster Presentation
- John Pless, MD Best Student Platform Presentation

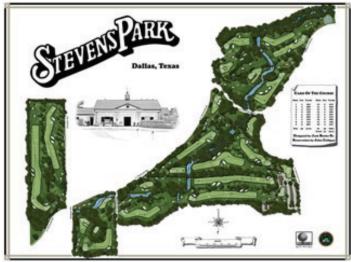
- John Pless, MD Best Student Poster Presentation
- Susan P. Baker Public Health Impact Award
- Mary Fran Ernst Best Affiliate Presentation
- Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) Foundation Award
- The Edward J. Barbieri Forensic Toxicology Award

### **Other Meeting Activities**

- Opening Banquet Friday, October 14
- Resident/Fellow Reception Friday, October 14, 5 pm
- Vendor/Exhibit Hall
- NAME Foundation Event "Jeffrey Dahmer" Saturday, October 15, 8:00-10:00 pm (see more details below) (1.5 CME)
- 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Rigor Run/Walk Sunday, October 16 – 6:00 am – 8:00 am
- 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Randy Hanzlick Memorial Cadaver Open Golf Tournament – Sunday, October 16 at noon
- Bring Your Own Slides/Stories Sunday,
   October 16 6:00 8:00 pm

- Learn to Lead in FP During Crisis from Chief Medical Examiners – Breakfast Workshop – Monday, October 17, 7:00 – 8:00 (1.0 CME)
- NAME Annual Business Meeting -Monday, October 17
- Femme Fatale Luncheon Monday, October 17, 12:00 – 1:30 pm
- NAME 2021 Annual Awards Banquet Tuesday, October 18





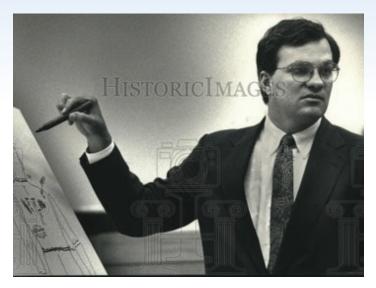
Stevens Park Golf Course, Dallas, TX, site of the Annual Cadaver Open.

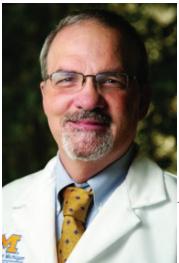
## Committee Meetings During the Meeting:

- NAME Executive Committee Thursday
- NAME Foundation Board of Trustees Friday 7-8 am
- NAME Board of Directors Friday 8-noon
- Strategic Planning Committee Friday, 1230-4:30
- Ad Hoc Committee on Organ and Tissue Donation – Friday, 3-5 pm
- NAME Foundation Business meeting Friday, 430-5 pm
- Past President's Committee Saturday, 1200-130 pm
- Journal Editorial Board Meeting Saturday, 1200-130 pm
- Inspection & Accreditation Committee Sunday, 530-630 pm
- Inspection & Accreditation Training Sunday, 630-1030 pm

## NAME Foundation Events at the 2022 Annual Meeting

The NAME Foundation "special event" will take place on Saturday, October 15, from 8:00 pm until 10:00 pm. The event, entitled "The Jeffrey Dahmer Death Investigation: Questions and Answers 30 Years Later," will feature Dr. Jeff Jentzen. The event is NOT open to the public, but is open to significant others attending with NAME meeting participants. PRE-REGISTRATION is REQUIRED via the NAME Foundation website: www.namefoundation.wildapricot.org/Events 1.5 hours of CME will be available. All proceeds will benefit the NAME Foundation.





Jeff Jentzen... awhile back compared to now.

After a 2-year hiatus, with virtual auctions, the ever-popular NAME Foundation Silent Auction will be held in-person this year. Special thanks to Dee, Tara, and Kim Collins for all of their hard work in making this year's auction a success. Thanks to everyone who donated items. Please bid early and bid often! All proceeds will benefit the NAME Foundation.



The annual 50/50 raffle will also take place this year, with half of the proceeds going to the lucky winner and the other half to the NAME Foundation.

Students and residents who present papers at the meeting are eligible to receive a travel stipend from the NAME Foundation. In order to meet the criteria, presenters must: submit an abstract, have the abstract accepted, register for the meeting, attend and present at the meeting, and submit a manuscript to NAME two weeks prior to the meeting. We look forward to this year's student and resident presentations!

The NAME Foundation continues to fund various awards at the NAME Annual Meeting, including the Best Resident and Best Student poster and platform presentations, and the Best Affiliate presentation (see list above).



2022 NAME President Kathy Pinneri, MD

### Message from the 2022 NAME President

Greetings!

In just a few short months, the NAME annual meeting will be underway in Dallas, Texas. The program chair, Rob Stoppacher and the NAME program committee have developed a fantastic meeting with exceptional educational content

and scientific presentations from over 190 abstract submissions. Many thanks to the NAME Foundation for providing travel stipends for students and residents to attend the meeting and for sponsoring the awards for best student, best resident, and best affiliate presentations. I hope you can join us for this in-person event. North Texas in October is wonderful and it is hard to beat the amazing Tex-Mex and BBQ!

The past few years have tested us in ways like never before. As we struggled with increasing numbers of drug-related and violent deaths. a pandemic descended upon us. My office, like many others, struggled with staffing shortages, inadequate cooler space, record numbers of cases, supply chain shortages and a host of other problems. But we are still here, doing good work and making a difference for families, public health and our communities. Our mission has always had a public health component; however, the COVID-19 pandemic brought that role to the forefront. The need for accurate death certification was highlighted as local, state, and national agencies attempted to capture the number of COVID-related deaths. It became apparent that the lack of training in death certification for clinicians can have significant consequences. Kudos to the many NAME members who stepped up with their expertise to educate and offer trainings on death certification for their jurisdictions (in addition to all their other work!).

"The most important factor in survival is neither intelligence nor strength but adaptability" -Charles Darwin

Despite the many recent and ongoing challenges, it is important to recognize the positive changes and adaptations that have been made. Virtual platforms connected us, despite travel bans. We found ways to hold meetings, conferences, and work from home. Once considered a taboo subject, mental health and wellness has become a priority for workplaces – even our resilient field of forensic pathology and medicolegal death investigation. With the work-related and personal

stresses many of us are or have experienced, it is important to find a way to maintain a good work/personal life balance. The NAME ad hoc Workplace Stress and Wellness Committee has some helpful information on the NAME website: Workplace Stress and Wellness (thename.org)

NAME is also putting forth strong efforts to address the forensic pathologist workforce shortage. Our monthly medical student webinar series has reached over 1000 people since it began the latter part of 2021. We can reach more medical students at an earlier point in their training than ever before. The webinars are held on the third Thursday of each month. Upcoming topics include forensic anthropology, gunshot wounds, pediatrics, mass fatality events and environmental deaths. Interest in forensic pathology as a career is at an all-time high!

Still, our workforce numbers are far below what they should be to handle the caseload across the United States. NAME has approximately 750 fellow members (board certified forensic pathologists), although it is not clear how many are working full-time. It is estimated that the need is double that amount. While our workforce efforts thus far have been successful; it will be many years before we see the fruits of our labors due to the lengthy training involved in becoming a forensic pathologist. That said, the number of resident/ student/fellow in training NAME members is over 300 now! On July 1, one of the largest groups to date began their fellowship training, with approximately 55 forensic pathology fellows placed in 31 programs across the US! Welcome to the new fellows and congratulations to those who recently completed their fellowship training.

Forensic Pathology will be the first pathology subspecialty to participate in the NRMP match for fellowship positions. Spearheaded by Jim Gill, MD and sponsored by NAME, the first match will occur in 2023 for positions starting in 2024. A presentation on the match process will be held at the annual meeting in Dallas. Information on the match process can also be found on the NAME website, with more information coming soon.

2021 was a remarkably busy year for forensic pathologist job changes and retirements and 2022 has become the year of the locums! A lot of offices are utilizing contract forensic pathologists to help fill the gaps in staffing shortages. This is a great way to 'stay in the game' after retirement or to travel, meet FPs across the country and learn new ways of doing things. While monetarily enticing on the surface, working as a locum tenens has some up-front costs and takes planning and discipline. Here are some tips/guidelines if you are considering this as an option:

- Medical licenses must be obtained and maintained for each state you work in
- Most places require you to have your own liability and malpractice insurance
- The payment differs from place to place: some pay by the case after it is completed and some pay by the day
- You most likely will have to pay for your own travel and lodging up front; keeping in mind that reimbursements can take months to receive
- Taxes are typically not taken out of your pay, so you will need to set money aside to pay them; you should receive a 1099 tax document from each employer the end of January the following year; you may need to file taxes in each state you work in

Locums have become a great option for offices who need extra help and for FP's who want to make some extra money. Given the current staffing situation, I think locums use will only increase in the next couple of years.

Stay well and I hope to see you all in Dallas!

**Kathryn Pinneri, MD** 2022 NAME President

### **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.

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/Annual Meeting (team), Newsletter (Joe Prahlow), Silent Auction/Meeting (Kim Collins), Education (Frank Miller), Research (Joe Felo), History (Greg Schmunk), and Long-Range Planning (Tom Noguchi).

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; at the time that this Newsletter is going to press, nothing firm has been established. 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.

# 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 2022, SAGE, the publisher of the journal, will continue to provide this benefit to NF members in good-standing. The scope and the focus of APFj 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.



### **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: greg@urbandaleforensics.com

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

### **Future NAME Meeting Locations**

2023 Annual Meeting

San Jose, CA October 13-17, 2023

2024 Annual Meeting

Denver, CO September 19-23, 2024



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

### **NAME Foundation Board of Trustees (2022)**

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, Jim Luke, Frank Miller, Keith Pinckard, Michael F. Rieders, Joel Sexton, Samantha Wetzler; Ex-Officio (non-voting): Jim Gill, Kathy Pinneri, Joyce deJong

#### **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