

23

National Association of Medical Examiners

Report to the Intersociety Pathology Council

February 27, 2005

Recent Activities

In 2004, the President of NAME (Dr. Michael Graham) encouraged a stronger liason between medical examiners and organ/tissue procurement agencies toward increasing donations from the medical examiner case population.

A Standards Committee was created to formulate forensic autopsy standards. NAME believes that forensic autopsy standards will improve forensic practice and provide the basis for adequate funding for medical examiner operations.

NAME provided a Preliminary Report on America's Medicolegal Offices to the National Institute of Justice's Forensic Summit, May 18-19, 2004. This report summarized the scope of medical legal death investigation, addressed the need for professionalism including accreditation and standardization and provided substantial data regarding staffing and cost of medical examiner's offices.

Future Activities/Issues

Dr. Fred Jordan, current NAME President has identified three main areas to address in 2005. First, improvement of the financial stability of NAME and the identification of funding sources to assist medical examiners with their operating budgets. Second, strengthening the relationship with the ACGME to facilitate pathologist recruitment to forensic pathology and improvement of the awareness of forensic pathology as a career through the development of educational materials. Finally, improvement of the image of medical examiners by increasing the number of accredited offices adoption of Forensic Autopsy Performance Standards. These standards are still under development.

Future Meetings

February 22, 2005 NAME Interim Meeting; New Orleans, LA

October 14-19, 2005 NAME Annual Meeting; Los Angeles, CA

February 21, 2005 NAME Interim Meeting, Seattle, WA