

CORONER'S PHYSICIAN

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:

Determines by medical examination the cause of all violent, suspect and unattended deaths under the authority of the Coroner; does related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

The Coroner's Physician has responsibility for discovering the cause of death, when not readily discernable by other means, through direct medical examination or by surgical dissection. The work is under the administrative direction of the Coroner and is executed within the framework of the laws defining the duties and functions of that office. The incumbent serves as a deputy to the Coroner and assumes the duties of that office in his absence.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative only)

- Acts as technical medical consultant to the Coroner;
- Examines dead bodies to determine officially the medical cause of death;
- Conducts surgical dissections on cadavers upon the order of the Coroner;
- Identifies witnesses to death where practical;
- Takes possession of any objects which may help to establish the cause or means of death;
- Testifies at inquests conducted under the authority of the Coroner;
- Writes reports and opinions regarding the results of medical examinations and surgical dissections of dead human bodies;
- May be called upon to give medical testimony at court trials;
- Makes quantitative tests for alcohol in accident cases except where morally or religiously prohibited.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Good knowledge of the principles and practices of medicine; conscientiousness and thoroughness; interest in maintaining a high standard of public service; high integrity; good professional judgment; good physical condition.

ACCEPTABLE EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING:

Two years experience as a physician or surgeon and possession at time of appointment of a license to practice medicine in New York State.