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July 27, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Carolina Board of Funeral Services

FROM: Michelle Aurelius, MD, Chief Medical Examiner

SUBJECT: Update to OCME Website to Include List of Active Medical Examiners

The North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) has updated its website to include a regularly maintained list of active medical examiners. This resource is intended to assist funeral homes and the public in verifying the active status of a North Carolina Medical Examiner. This list will be updated as medical examiners are appointed and removed.

Local county medical examiner schedules, often available through local dispatch, continue to be the primary source for funeral home outreach to schedule cremation authorizations and other medical examiner functions. If you'd like to be added to your county medical examiner on call schedule, please make the request through ocme.medexadmin@dhhs.nc.gov. The active medical examiner list is available on the OCME website (www.ocme.dhhs.nc.gov) under the "Funeral Home Release Form and Resources" page.

While efforts will be made to update the list frequently, there may be some lag between OCME submission to update the website and publication of the website. If an expected medical examiner does not appear on the website, funeral homes may contact the OCME Medical Examiner Training Team at ocme.medexadmin@dhhs.nc.gov to verify the status of a medical examiner.



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This update will not replace current communications and procedures in medical examiner appointment notifications with the county managers and the Office of Vital Records but will supplement those updates.

Thank you for all that you do as partners with the OCME and North Carolina Medical Examiner System to provide professional, respectful, and excellent care of our decedents and those left behind. Please share this update with all North Carolina Funeral Homes.