NAAG FORENSIC

FOR AGENCIES · 2026–2027

Agency *Services*

For sheriff-coroners, medical examiners and law enforcement.

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An institution, *not an intermediary.*

NAAG Forensic PC is a California professional medical corporation, owned and operated by forensic pathologists, providing forensic pathology laboratory services to law enforcement, the courts, the Department of Defense and families since 2015. NAAG is not an expert-witness referral service and not a staffing agency: our own physicians and scientists perform, document and testify to their own work.

THE SPECIALTY

Forensic pathology is not about the dead. It is medicine for the law.

Forensic pathology is a recognized subspecialty of medicine. Forensic pathologists are physicians: after medical school they complete residency training in pathology and fellowship training in forensic pathology, and earn board certification by examination. They apply that specialized medical knowledge and skill to help solve legal problems, whether the person at the center of the question has died or is living.

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IV

SHERIFF-CORONERS AND CORONER AGENCIES

Medicolegal autopsy for agencies

Postmortem examination services for California sheriff-coroner and coroner agencies, at our San Diego or Fresno facility or by our physicians on site in your county. Every service includes review of the investigative and medical records, the examination, an opinion on cause and manner of death, and the written report.

THE EXAMINATION MENU

01

Records review

Review of the investigative and medical records, with an opinion on cause and manner of death. No examination of the decedent.

OPINION ON CAUSE AND MANNER

02

External examination

Examination of the external aspects of the decedent, with or without specimen collection.

SPECIMENS AS NEEDED

03

Standard autopsy

External and internal examination with specimen collection, for deaths that need no additional pathology studies: sudden cardiac death, suicide, drug overdose.

COMPLETE AUTOPSY

04

Complex autopsy

Full examination with every pathology laboratory test the case pathologist considers necessary: delayed blunt head trauma, post-operative cardiac death.

LABORATORY STUDIES INCLUDED

05

Criminally suspicious death / homicide

Full examination with all indicated laboratory testing and formal peer review by a second board-certified forensic pathologist.

FORMAL PEER REVIEW

06

Pediatric autopsy

Full examination of an infant or child with all indicated laboratory testing and formal peer review.

FORMAL PEER REVIEW · PEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALISTS

07

Criminally suspicious pediatric death

The full pediatric forensic examination for suspected homicide of a child, with all indicated laboratory testing and formal peer review.

FORMAL PEER REVIEW · PEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALISTS

08

Brain-only autopsy

External examination with specimen collection and formal neuropathology consultation, in the very few circumstances where a partial autopsy is appropriate.

LIMITED INDICATIONS

PROGRAMS

09

AB 1108 Independent Autopsy Program

Independent examination of in-custody deaths in counties with a combined sheriff-coroner, as Government Code § 27491.56 requires from January 1, 2027. Toxicology included; report within 60 days, never more.

FROM JANUARY 1, 2027 · TOXICOLOGY INCLUDED

10

Autopsy Integrity Program

Independent second examination at the request of a prosecutorial agency, offered at no cost to prosecutors.

PROSECUTORS ONLY

11

Testimony

Testimony on NAAG cases is quoted in writing before any date is confirmed. No cancellation, rescheduling, late-release or standby fee at any point.

QUOTED IN ADVANCE

> Rates are guaranteed for the full term of an agreement. Toxicology on the on-demand schedule is arranged by NAAG and billed at cost; on the AB 1108 schedule it is included.

V

MEDICAL EXAMINERS, CORONERS AND AGENCIES NATIONWIDE

Forensic neuropathology

Directed by Dr. Deirdre Amaro, Chief Forensic Neuropathologist. Every full examination covers the brain, dura and spinal cord when submitted, gross photography, and every histology slide, special stain and immunostain the neuropathologist considers necessary.

FINDINGS ONLY

A written list of the gross and microscopic neuropathologic findings, without interpretation.

FINDINGS AND OPINION

The findings, a case summary, and the neuropathologist's interpretation and opinion, informed by the autopsy photographs, history, medical records and imaging.

EXAMINATIONS

01

Gross only

Gross examination and photography, with a written list of gross findings. Upgradeable to any full examination within 30 days.

UPGRADEABLE

02

SUID / SUDC

Full examination of the brain in sudden unexpected infant death and sudden unexplained death in childhood, funded by an internal NAAG Forensic grant.

GRANT FUNDED

03

Pediatric: standard

Full examination with histology, special stains and immunostains, for decedents under 18.

UNDER 18

04

Pediatric: complex

Extended sampling for suspected criminal trauma, including whole-mount sections, amyloid precursor protein (APP) and iron studies.

SUSPECTED CRIMINAL TRAUMA · WHOLE MOUNT · APP

05

Pediatric cervical spine

Examination of the submitted cervical spine, with decalcified sections and histology.

UNDER 18

06

Adult: standard

Full examination with histology, special stains and immunostains.

ADULT

07

Adult: complex

Extended sampling for suspected criminal trauma, including whole-mount sections and APP studies.

SUSPECTED CRIMINAL TRAUMA · WHOLE MOUNT

08

Neurodegenerative, including CTE

Consensus-criteria sampling and the immunostain panel required for diagnosis and staging: β-amyloid, phospho-tau, α-synuclein, TDP-43 and others as indicated.

CONSENSUS CRITERIA · STAGING

09

Adult cervical spine

Examination of the submitted cervical spine, with decalcified sections and histology.

ADULT

10

Forensic ophthalmology

Formalin-fixed pediatric eyes, submitted as a pair: dissection, professional photography, histology, interpretation and a written report.

PEDIATRIC EYES · PER PAIR

11

Second-opinion case review

Review of an existing case from the reports, photographs and slides you submit, with a written consultation report. Criminal and non-criminal.

RECORDS AND SLIDES

OUR PROMISES

- **One case fee.** No separate charge for histology, stains, immunostains, photography, or recuts our own quality control requires.
- **Report within 60 days** of accession, guaranteed.
- **Storage at no fee** for tissue, blocks and original slides, under our retention policies.
- **Digital slides** for every case, at no charge.
- **Not accepted:** known or suspected Creutzfeldt-Jakob or other prion disease, which belongs with the National Prion Disease Pathology Surveillance Center.

VI

MEDICAL EXAMINERS, CORONERS AND AGENCIES NATIONWIDE

Forensic anthropology & osteology

Directed by Dr. Madeleine Hinkes, with Dr. Leah Auchter, Lead Pediatric Forensic Anthropologist. Every examination includes processing of the remains, decalcification, photography, and every analysis and histology slide the anthropologist considers necessary.

FINDINGS ONLY / GROSS AND SLIDES

An inventory and description of the skeletal findings, or gross dissection with prepared slides, without interpretation.

FINDINGS AND OPINION / INTERPRETATION

Everything in the first level, plus the anthropologist's interpretation: the biological profile, trauma and pathology, or the histology slides.

FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY

01 **Partial remains**

Processing, inventory, photography and skeletal analysis of an incomplete skeleton or isolated elements.

SKELETAL, DEFLESHED OR MUMMIFIED

02 **Complete remains: standard**

Processing, inventory, photography and full skeletal analysis.

BIOLOGICAL PROFILE

03 **Complete remains: complex**

Full skeletal analysis with detailed trauma documentation and analysis, where criminal trauma is suspected.

SUSPECTED CRIMINAL TRAUMA

FORENSIC OSTEOLOGY: SPECIMENS REMOVED AT AUTOPSY

04 **Throat: adult and pediatric**

Gross dissection of the tongue, hyoid, larynx and proximal trachea, with histology.

STRANGULATION AND NECK TRAUMA

05 **Pediatric rib cage**

Gross dissection of the rib cage and spine, with histology of every rib and fracture site as indicated.

UNDER 18

06

Pediatric long bones

Gross dissection of each pair of long bones, including the metaphyses, with histology. Affected and contralateral bones are submitted together.

SUBMITTED IN PAIRS

07

Skull fracture assessment

Resection and gross dissection of each fracture site, with histology.

PER FRACTURE SITE

METABOLIC BONE DISEASE

08

Metabolic bone disease evaluation

Unfractured bone segments, including iliac crest or vertebral centrum: high-resolution radiography, paraffin and plastic-embedded (undecalcified) histology, and a written interpretation.

ALWAYS INTERPRETED

09

Vitamin D testing

25-hydroxyvitamin D, from blood submitted in a red-top tube.

BLOOD

10

Vitamin D with bone-fragility genetics

Vitamin D testing together with genetic testing for inherited bone fragility.

GENETIC TESTING

OUR PROMISES

- **One case fee.** No separate charge for processing, decalcification, histology, photography or quality-control recuts.
- **Report within 60 days** of accession, guaranteed.
- **Remains returned** to the submitting agency when the case is complete.
- **Storage and digital slides** at no charge.

VII

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND MEDICOLEGAL AGENCIES

Forensic odontology

Dental identification by one of our board-certified forensic anthropologists, by our forensic dentist, who is board certified in forensic odontology, or by both together. Every examination includes dental radiography, photographic documentation, comparison against the antemortem dental record, and a written identification report.

IDENTIFICATION SERVICES

01

During an anthropology examination

Dental identification requested while our anthropologist is already with the remains, wherever that examination is taking place.

ASK AT THE OUTSET

02

With a forensic dentist's report

The anthropologist's findings and radiographs reviewed in San Diego by our forensic dentist, who issues a separate identification report under their own board certification.

BOARD-CERTIFIED ODONTOLOGIST

03

Remains submitted to San Diego

Examination of the remains, head or resected jaws at our San Diego facility, by the forensic dentist directly or by the anthropologist with the dentist reporting.

SAN DIEGO

04

At your facility

Where remains cannot leave your jurisdiction, our anthropologist travels to you, performs the examination and radiography, and carries the data back for the dentist to review and report.

REMAINS STAY WITH YOU

OUR PROMISES

- **Report within 14 days** of accession of the remains or the antemortem record, whichever is later; faster when the investigation needs it.
- **Guidance on the antemortem record:** what to request, and from whom, before anything is shipped.
- **Plain answers.** Where dental identification will not answer the question, we say so before you spend money on it.

IX

PATHOLOGISTS, AGENCIES AND COUNSEL

Reference histology laboratory

Recuts and special studies from submitted blocks, with chain-of-custody documentation throughout. Every slide includes the cut, the stain, labeling and quality control.

SLIDES

01

Unstained and H&E

Standard size or whole mount.

STANDARD · WHOLE MOUNT

02

Special stains

General and organism stains, including Alcian blue, Congo red, elastic, iron, Luxol fast blue, Masson and Gomori trichrome, Movat's and Musto pentachrome, PAS, PTAH, reticulum, Von Kossa, AFB, GMS, Steiner and more.

FULL LIST ON REQUEST

03

Immunostains

All standard surgical pathology primary antibodies.

STANDARD · WHOLE MOUNT

04

Neurological injury timing panel

Amyloid precursor protein (APP), heat shock protein 70 (HSP70), glial fibrillary acidic protein (GFAP) and NF-κB / RelA: specialist antibodies with dedicated protocols, controls and interpretation. Our Laboratory Director advises which the tissue will support.

INDIVIDUALLY OR AS A PANEL

05

Bone panels

Decalcified bone: H&E with Musto pentachrome. Undecalcified, plastic-embedded bone: H&E, Goldner trichrome, Von Kossa and TRAP, quantifying osteoid and osteoclast activity.

PLASTIC-EMBEDDED · UNDECALCIFIED

ORDERING

06

One handling fee per order

Block retrieval and identification, chain-of-custody documentation, quality control of every slide, packaging and tracked return shipping within the United States, however many slides the order contains.

NO MINIMUM ORDER

07

Standard and rush

Ten business days as standard; rush orders completed and shipped within five business days.

10 DAYS · 5-DAY RUSH

HOW NAAG PRICES ITS WORK

Flat, quoted first, *guaranteed.*

- **Flat, and quoted first.** Almost every NAAG service is a flat rate, quoted in writing before any work begins.
- **All-inclusive.** A flat rate covers all professional, paraprofessional and administrative time. No separate charges for file handling, records review, correspondence or case management.
- **Guaranteed.** Rates in force when a matter opens are guaranteed for that matter, whenever the work is performed.
- **No penalty fees.** No cancellation, rescheduling, late-release or standby fees. Ever.
- **Expenses at cost.** Travel and out-of-pocket expenses are passed through at cost, without markup or surcharge.
- **Fee schedules on request.** Current fee schedules are provided directly to agencies, counsel and families. Ask, and we will send the one that governs your matter.

BEGIN

Submit a case, or *simply call.*

NEW CASES	naagforensic.com/submit-a-case
TELEPHONE	1-800-985-5346 · seven days a week
CONSULTATIONS	consult@naagforensic.com
AGENCIES	coroner@naagforensic.com
SPECIMENS	admin@naagforensic.com
SUBPOENAS	subpoena@naagforensic.com
LABORATORY	6335 Ferris Square, Suite C, San Diego, California 92121

Services and availability as of the 2026–2027 rate period. Postmortem CT imaging is available from January 1, 2027. This guide is general information about NAAG's services; it is not medical or legal advice and is not an offer. Engagement terms and fees are confirmed in writing before any work begins.