NAAG FORENSIC

FOR FAMILIES · 2026–2027

Private *Autopsy*

A guide for families and next of kin.

CONTENTS

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.

III The private autopsy program — FAMILIES AND NEXT OF KIN

VIII Molecular autopsy & genetic testing — FAMILIES, ATTORNEYS AND AGENCIES

FAMILIES AND NEXT OF KIN

The private autopsy program

NAAG does not perform a lesser autopsy for a lesser fee. Every private autopsy is performed by a board-certified forensic pathologist to the same standard, with the same photographic documentation. What differs is the report that follows and what is included.

AUTOPSY SERVICES

01

Non-invasive autopsy

A full external examination with photographic documentation, postmortem CT imaging and specimen collection for laboratory testing. No incision is made. A one-to-two-page narrative report written for the family.

FROM JANUARY 1, 2027 · POSTMORTEM CT · TOXICOLOGY OPTIONAL

02

Private autopsy

A complete autopsy with postmortem CT imaging, photographic documentation and every laboratory test the case pathologist considers necessary. A narrative report written for the family.

FROM JANUARY 1, 2027 · POSTMORTEM CT · TOXICOLOGY OPTIONAL

03

First (forensic) autopsy

For families who already know the death will be the subject of a legal claim. A complete autopsy with litigation-grade toxicology and a comprehensive report prepared to litigation standard from the outset. Transport included.

AVAILABLE NOW · LITIGATION STANDARD · TRANSPORT INCLUDED

04

Second autopsy

A full re-examination after an autopsy performed elsewhere, with a comprehensive litigation-standard report and litigation-grade toxicology. Transport included.

AVAILABLE NOW · LITIGATION STANDARD · TRANSPORT INCLUDED

05

Exhumation with second autopsy

The second autopsy, together with every arrangement for disinterment and reinterment of the remains.

WHEN LEGALLY AUTHORIZED · REINTERMENT INCLUDED

06

Apex Autopsy Service

NAAG's highest level of private autopsy. The examination within 24 hours of authorization, every test and the report complete within five calendar days, and top-priority, ultra-secure handling of the case and every document it produces.

WITHIN 24 HOURS · REPORT IN FIVE DAYS · ABSOLUTE CONFIDENTIALITY

BRAIN-ONLY EXAMINATIONS

07

Gross examination

Examination and description of the brain by a forensic pathologist.

DEMENTIA AND NEURODEGENERATION

08

Neuropathologist evaluation

Formal evaluation by a neuropathologist, including microscopic examination.

MICROSCOPY

09

Dementia protocol

The full neuropathology protocol for neurodegenerative disease, including Alzheimer disease and chronic traumatic encephalopathy.

CONSENSUS PROTOCOL

10

Dementia protocol with family genetics

The dementia protocol together with genetic testing of the decedent and one sibling.

GENETIC TESTING · ANSWERS FOR THE LIVING

CONSULTATION AND ADDITIONS

11

Case review without autopsy

Review of the available records and evidence, with verbal opinions. A written expert report is available afterwards.

VERBAL OPINIONS · REPORT AVAILABLE

12

Toxicology

Litigation-grade toxicology is included in the first autopsy, second autopsy, exhumation and Apex services, and can be added to every other examination. We never perform toxicology on its own: a result read without autopsy findings can badly mislead a family.

INCLUDED OR ADDED · NEVER STAND-ALONE

13

Litigation report and evidence package

If a death later becomes a legal matter: the exhibits, photographic and imaging documentation, specimen inventory, formal opinion work and testimony preparation that litigation requires. An attorney must be retained first.

SEPARATE ENGAGEMENT · THROUGH COUNSEL

14

Transport of your loved one

Included in the first autopsy, second autopsy, exhumation and Apex services. Otherwise, your funeral home may bring your loved one to us, or we will: within 180 miles of either facility, by our own staff in our own vehicles; beyond that, by a licensed service, quoted before anything is booked.

OUR OWN STAFF AND VEHICLES · NO SURCHARGES

OUR PRINCIPLES

- **Only in a medical facility.** NAAG performs autopsies at its Fresno and San Diego facilities, never on a funeral home table.
- **No partial autopsies.** Other than brain-only examinations, an examination limited to one region cannot exclude a cause of death elsewhere.
- **A death investigator for your family.** One person gathers what we need, liaises with the forensic pathologist, and is there for you throughout.
- **Nothing is held back.** Tissue, imaging, photographs and specimens are retained under our standard policy, so every future option stays open.
- **Quoted before any work begins.** Flat rates, no hourly billing, and no invoice you were not told about in advance. Payment plans are available.
- **Honesty about what we can promise.** We cannot promise what an examination will find. We promise to look carefully and to tell you honestly what the evidence does and does not show.

VIII

FAMILIES, ATTORNEYS AND AGENCIES

Molecular autopsy & genetic testing

Postmortem genetic and specialized laboratory testing, interpreted by the appropriate specialist and read against the autopsy findings. Every test includes specimen coordination, chain-of-custody documentation, the assay itself, and a written interpretation.

STANDARD
Broad, well-validated panels covering the common inherited causes; the right first test in most cases. Reported in 10 to 21 days.

ADVANCED
Disease-specific panels with deeper coverage of a narrower question. About three weeks, or two on a STAT order.

PREMIUM
Genome-backed exome analysis with the deepest variant interrogation available, and a faster turnaround than standard.

CARDIAC: SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH, ARRHYTHMIA AND CARDIOMYOPATHY

01 ### Arrhythmia and cardiomyopathy comprehensive panel

The appropriate first test in most sudden cardiac deaths.

STANDARD

02 ### Targeted cardiac panels

Comprehensive cardiac arrhythmia; sudden cardiac arrest; long QT; short QT; Brugada syndrome; catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia; familial atrial fibrillation; arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy; hypertrophic, dilated and left ventricular noncompaction cardiomyopathy; dystrophinopathy (DMD).

ADVANCED

03 ### Pan-cardiomyopathy panel

The widest cardiomyopathy panel we order, for unclear or mixed phenotypes.

ADVANCED

EXOME, DEVELOPMENTAL AND METABOLIC

04 ### Exome sequencing

The decedent alone, with one parent (duo), or with both parents (trio, the highest diagnostic yield), at standard or premium analysis.

STANDARD · PREMIUM

05

Targeted panels

Ehlers-Danlos and related multi-system disorders; skeletal disorders of bone and cartilage development.

STANDARD

06

Postmortem metabolic screening

Acylcarnitine analysis of blood and bile, for sudden or unexpected death.

BLOOD AND BILE

07

Vitamin D (25-OH, D2 and D3)

From a newborn blood-spot card, or a card produced at examination.

BLOOD SPOT

HEMATOLOGIC AND THROMBOPHILIA

08

Thrombophilia and clotting

Hereditary thrombophilia; antithrombin III, protein C and protein S deficiencies.

STANDARD

09

Platelets, anemia and marrow

Inherited platelet disorders; hereditary hemolytic anemia; atypical HUS and thrombotic microangiopathies; bone marrow failure syndromes; Fanconi and Diamond-Blackfan anemia; familial essential thrombocythemia.

STANDARD

10

Bleeding disorders

Inherited bleeding from impaired platelet function, coagulation factor deficiency or thrombocytopenia; prothrombin (factor II) deficiency.

ADVANCED

OUR PROMISES

- **Not sure which test?** Ask. Our Laboratory Director recommends a test, and says plainly when a simpler one answers the question as well.
- **No hidden charges.** Shipping, specimen handling, storage and reporting are included.
- **Specimen failure** is reported at no charge.
- **An accepted case is never repriced.**

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.