



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR TIM BURCHETT

400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael Grider Jennifer Linginfelter July 14, 2016
215-4750 office 215-4579 office
363-8681 cell 803-5509 cell

Knox County Regional Forensic Center receives national accreditation

KNOXVILLE (July 14, 2016) – The Knox County Regional Forensic Center recently achieved accreditation from the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME). There are nearly 400 standards reviewed during the inspection process, and the Forensic Center received full accreditation with zero deficiencies. There are only five NAME-accredited medical examiner facilities in Tennessee.

“The Knox County Regional Forensic Center is one of the top medical examiner facilities in the state,” said Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett, “and this accreditation speaks to the high level of professional service Dr. Darinka Mileusnic-Polchan and her staff provide to citizens here in Knox County and the more than 25 surrounding counties served by the center.”

The accreditation process consists of a rigorous inspection of the physical facility and a review of the office practices, including the implementation of policies and procedures. The program is a peer review system with the goal of improving performance through objective evaluation and constructive criticism. NAME accreditation standards have been prepared and revised for the purpose of improving the quality of death investigation in the United States.

About the National Association of Medical Examiners:

The National Association of Medical Examiners, founded in 1966, is the national professional organization for medical examiners, and their staff, that sets standards, provides guidance and education, and promotes the practice of professional medico-legal death investigation in the United States. NAME accreditation is required by the state of Tennessee for any facility performing autopsies for medical examiners. More information at <http://www.thename.org/>.

About the Knox County Regional Forensic Center:

The Knox County Regional Forensic Center provides professional death investigative services for the citizens of Knox County and 27 other surrounding counties. Its mission is to identify and develop an understanding of sudden, unexpected and unnatural deaths and educate the public about those deaths; assist law enforcement agencies in their investigations; offer consults to medical professionals and attorneys; render unbiased opinions and testimony in court and extend research support for local and national medical, legal, academic and law enforcement organizations. More information at <http://knoxcounty.org/rfc/>

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