**Modern Death Investigation**

**Pennsylvania Coroner’s Basic Education Course**

12-17 December, 2022

Hershey, PA

Sponsored by HD Forensics, LLC

**Syllabus**

**Monday, Dec 12. The Office of the Pennsylvania Coroner: Roles and Duties**

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| 7:30-8:008:00 |  | Registration |  |
| 8:00-8:308:30 |  | Introduction, Course Content (Dirkmaat) |  |
| 8:30-9:009:00 | **1** | History of Coroner/Medical Examiner System in the US (Kiessling) |  |
| 9:00-10;000:00 | **2** | Roles and Duties of the Coroner, Part I (Kiessling) |  |
| 10:00-10:150:15 |  | Break |  |
| 10:15-11:301:30 | **3** | Roles and Duties of the Coroner, Part II (Kiessling) |  |
| 11:30-12:302:30 |  | Lunch |  |
| 12:30-1:301:301:30-3:003:003:00-3:153:00 | **4****5** | Pennsylvania State Statutes and Laws for the Coroner’s Office (Shanaman-Grim)Forensic Evidence in Death Investigations I (Grim)Break |  |
| 3:15-5:005:005:00-5:304:30 | **6****7** | Forensic Evidence in Death Investigations I (Grim)Blood samples (Grim) |  |
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**Tuesday, Dec. 13. Investigation of Accidental Deaths and the Indoor Crime Scene**

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| 8:00-9:009:00 | **9** | Fatal Motor Vehicle Accidents (Gay) |
| 9:00-10:300:30 | **10** | Drugs: The New Epidemic (Gay) |
| 10:30-10:450:45 |  | Break |
| 10:45-11:301:30 | **11** | Right to Know/Filling out the Death Certificate (Gay) |
| 11:30-12:302:3012:30-2:002:002:00-2:152:152:15-4:304:304:30-4:454:454:45-5:306:00 | **12****13****14** | LunchRole of Law Enforcement in Death Investigations (Lench)BreakInvestigating the Indoor Crime Scene (Hochrein, Jester)BreakInvestigating the Indoor Crime Scene: Mock Scene (Hochrein and Jester) |

**Wednesday, Dec. 14. Recovery of Physical Evidence and Context at the Outdoor Crime Scene**

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| 8:00-10:000:00 | **15** | Outdoor Crime Scene Reconstruction; Surface Scattered Cases (Dirkmaat) |
| 10:00-10:150:15 |  | Break |
| 10:15-11:301:30 | **16** | Recovery of Buried Body Cases (Hochrein)  |
|  11:30-12:302:30 |  | Lunch  |
|  12:30-1:301:301:30-2:152:15 | **17****18** | Fatal Fire Scene Recovery (Dirkmaat)Forensic Entomology (Cabo) -zoom- |
| 2:15-2:302:30 |  | Break |
| 2:30-4:004:00  | **19** | Mass Disaster Scene Recovery and Victim ID Considerations (Dirkmaat and Adserias) |
| 4:00-5:306:00 | **20** | Role of NTSB in Mass Disaster Events (Kontanis) |

**Thursday, Dec. 15. Recovery of Evidence at the Medicolegal Autopsy**

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|  8:00-9:159:00 | **21** | Forensic Odontology (Adserias) |
| 9:15-9:300:00 |  | Break |
|  9:30-11:300:15 | **22** | DNA (Young) |
| 11:30-12:301:30 |  | Lunch |
| 12:30-1:002:30 | **23** | Introduction to Autopsy and Forensic Pathology (Johnson) |
|  1:30-3:001:30 | **24** | Postmortem Interval and Natural Disease (Johnson) |
|  3:00-3:152:30 |  | Break |
| 3:15-4:154:154:15-5:302:45 | **25****26** | Toxicology (Johnson)Pediatrics (Johnson) |

**Friday, Dec. 16. Establishing Identification, Special Forensic Cases and Court**

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| 8:00-9:00 045 | **27** | Gunshot trauma (Mazuchowski) |
| 9:00-10:00 :0010:00-10:151:00 | **28** | Blunt Force Taruma (Mazuchowski)Break |
| 10:15-11:301:30 | **29** | Sharp Force Taruma (Mazuchowski) |
| 11:30-12:302:30 |  | Lunch |
| 12:30-2:301:30 | **29** | Forensic Anthropology (Adserias and Dirkmaat)  |
| 2:30-2:453:15 |  | Break |
| 2:45-4:304:304:30-5:305:45 | **31****32** | Cause and Manner of Death (Grim)Ethics, Morals, Professionalism and Perception (Grim) |

**Saturday, Dec. 17. Special Considerations and Overview of the Coroner’s Office**

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| 8:00-9:00 :009:00-10:000:0010:00-10:450:1510:45-11:001:0011:00-2:00 :00 | **32****33** | Courtroom Testimony (Grim)Mental Health in the Coroner’s Office (Grim)QuestionsBreak**Examination** |
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**Course Directors**

Dennis C. Dirkmaat, Ph.D., D-ABFA. Applied Forensic Sciences Dept, Mercyhurst University, Erie, PA; HD Forensics

Joe Adserias-Garriga, Ph.D., D-ABFO. Applied Forensic Sciences Dept., Mercyhurst University, Erie, PA; HD Forensics

**Instructors**

1. Pam Gay. RN, D-ABMDI. Coroner York Co, PA.
2. Scott M Grim, D-ABMDI, Lehigh County Coroner (ret.), Allentown, PA
3. Michael J. Hochrein, Sp. Ag, FBI, (ret.) LaRoche College, Pittsburgh, PA; HD Forensics.
4. Todd Jester. Applied Forensic Specialist at Precision Laser & Instrument, Inc.
5. Michael W. Johnson, MD, PhD, Forensic Pathologist, Forensic Pathology Associates, Allentown, PA.
6. Chuck Kiessling, Coroner Lycoming Co, PA.
7. Elias Kontanis, Ph.D., Chief, Transportation Disaster Assistance Division, NTSB, Washington.
8. Edward L Mazuchowski, MD, PhD Forensic Pathologist, Forensic Pathology Associates, Allentown, PA.
9. Cpl Christine Lench. PSP (ret.). Department of Applied Forensic Sciences, Mercyhurst University, PA.
10. Arthur W. Young, B.S., F-ABC, Guardian Forensic Sciences, Abington, PA.