



## Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences

Position available May, 2020

**Position Title:** Forensic Pathologist/ Neuropathologist

**Reports To:** Deputy Chief Medical Examiner

**Required Education:**

- Medical degree from an accredited medical school
- Board certified in Anatomic or Anatomic and Clinical Pathology
- Board certified in Neuropathology

**Preferred Education:**

- Completion of forensic pathology fellowship in an ACGME-accredited training program

**Preferred Experience:**

- Two years of practice in forensic neuropathology in a hospital or medical examiner office

**Certification or Licensure:**

- Must possess a valid Texas Medical License that authorizes the incumbent to practice medicine in the State of Texas

**Skills:**

- Skilled in the practice of medicine and forensic neuropathology and demonstrates an ability to improve such skills and experience
- Ability to provide neuropathology diagnostic information in a timely fashion with relevant emphasis on medicolegal issues, and appropriately to the medicolegal context
- Ability to direct support staff
- Ability to work cooperatively
- Ability to use good safety practices and precautions including the use of personal protective gear
- Proper cognitive scientific opinion/testimony with good communication skills in the English language

**Routine External Contacts:**

This position will have contact with personnel from the District Attorney's Office and Public Defender's Office, defense attorneys in private practice, and academic partners in various Texas Medical Center institutions, to include academic faculty and trainees at various levels

**Duties:**

- Provides gross neuropathology consultation to forensic pathologists during forensic autopsies. This will entail examination of fresh, non-formalin-fixed specimens for identification of gross lesions, and for direction with regard to optimal microscopic sampling.
- Provides gross neuropathology consultation to forensic pathologists and other trainees on formalin-fixed brains and other neuropathology-related specimens (e.g., ocular and spinal cord)
- Provides microscopic neuropathology consultation to forensic pathologists. This consultation will include cases that were examined as gross (fresh or formalin-fixed) specimens, as well as other cases where consultation is requested only for microscopic findings.

- Coordinates gross and microscopic consultation conferences with the neuropathology fellowship program from Texas Medical Center. These activities will be organized to maximize the educational benefit to the Assistant Medical Examiners, the Forensic Pathology Fellows, and the Neuropathology Fellows.
- Provides neuropathology coordination for the brain bank at UT Houston psychiatry department and liaisons with their staff and other personnel.
- Participates in a multidisciplinary team involved in the training of forensic pathology fellows in an ACGME-accredited forensic pathology fellowship program.
- Fosters academic activity within the medical examiner setting; this will include development of research projects independently, or in conjunction with various ME and TMC colleagues. All research protocols will be in compliance with standards required by TMC institutional review boards, and with Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Chapter 49, section 25
- Provides forensic neuropathology consulting services for cases referred to the office by other jurisdictions under contract
- Participates in departmental teaching and research functions arising from the nature of departmental duties and responsibilities
- Provides forensic medical information and consultation services to families of the decedents, the legal community and others regarding case findings; provides expert witness testimony in legal proceedings as required
- Attends daily conferences of doctors to review new cases and review of prior day's cases
- Provides testimony in court regarding cases in which a neuropathological examination was required
- In cases where additional neuropathology studies are required to classify the death the neuropathologist will follow up in a timely manner to acquire the necessary test results to close the case.
- Performs other duties as assigned by the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner (or his designees), including performance of complete forensic autopsies needed to fulfill requirements of "Article 49.25" of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

**Additional Requirements:**

- Ability to work in an autopsy room, with routine, potential exposure to biological and/or chemical hazards; routine exposure to odorous specimens and chemicals
- Prolonged, extensive, or considerable standing/walking may be required
- Lifting, positioning, pushing bodies; lifting supplies, equipment; considerable reaching, stooping and bending may be required
- Death scene attendance may be required
- Must possess manual dexterity, physical mobility and visual and hearing acuity sufficient to execute standard protocols
- Travel to provide testimony and attend training seminars is required  
Must possess a valid Texas Driver's License

**FLSA Status:** Exempt

<b><i>Position:</i></b>	Forensic Neuropathologist
<b><i>Maintained by:</i></b>	S. Abascal, Administration
<b><i>Date last revised:</i></b>	05/21/2019