

Franklin County Coroner's Office
2017 ANNUAL REPORT





DEDICATION

We recognize that each case within this report represents the death of a person whose absence is grieved by beloved family, friends, and our community. To those individuals, their loved ones, and to all the citizens of Franklin County who share in the loss, this report is dedicated.

Franklin County Coroner's Office

The Franklin County Coroner's Office serves a community of nearly 1.3 million people, including the city of Columbus. There are approximately 11,000 deaths per year. The Coroner's Office investigates all deaths by violence, criminal means, suicide, infant deaths and prisoner deaths or any unattended death whatever the cause. The Coroner's Office provides identification, performs autopsies or medical examinations, and carries out any other requirements in regard to deaths which fall in the categories mentioned above.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Franklin County Coroner's Office is to serve and protect the interests of the community by maintaining the highest standard of professionalism and integrity in determining the cause and manner of death. We are dedicated as a team to provide services in an efficient and courteous manner, respecting the needs of the families involved. We want the citizens of Franklin County to know, by our words and actions, that we are sincere and loyal to them, and will deal respectfully with each and every death.



Welcome to the 2017 Annual Report for the Franklin County Coroner's Office

Our goal for this report is to provide our partners and the residents of Franklin County with up to date information on the services we provided to the county in 2017. I dedicate this report to those families and friends who have suffered a loss and had their loved ones come to our office. This report, although full of statistics and numbers, signifies the countless times when many of our residents have suffered through the worst and last day of their lives. We are here to not only investigate their deaths but to provide some semblance of closure and peace to their loved ones.

Below are some highlights of the report that represent key areas for 2017.



2017 for this office saw a significant increase in the numbers of cases we handled. Although Franklin County saw an overall increase in all deaths of 5.5% for 2017, our office accepted jurisdiction on approximately 11% more cases in 2017 than in 2016. This increase translated to 47.2% more overdoses, 29.6% more homicides and 13.8% more suicides in 2017. To handle these increases we requested and were granted an increase in staffing by the Franklin County Commissioners.

Through this report you will get a sense of how our office functions. What I hope you will also discern is the amount of data our office collects and its importance to the county, the state and the nation. Our data is used to evaluate child and infant deaths, suicides, motor vehicle accidents, occupational accidents, and overdose deaths. We partner with various agencies to work on preventive measures against addiction, violence and mental health issues.

An effort many in our county are unaware of is mass fatality planning. If we had a situation like the Las Vegas mass shooting or the Parkland school shooting, how would our county respond? The Franklin County Emergency Management Agency would be in charge of coordinating a mass critical event and our agency would be the lead on a mass fatality response along with situational related partners.

I am proud to assure the residents of Franklin County that we have a comprehensive plan in place and have had frequent staff trainings and exercises to review the plan. In addition, as you will see in the report we were awarded a large grant to work with several smaller counties on a collaborative plan.

Our continued work with Lifeline of Ohio and the Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank on organ and tissue recovery has helped to save many lives in our community as well as nationally.

My charge as Coroner of Franklin County is to continue to provide the residents of our county excellence in service through integrity, transparency, accountability and communication. We are here to not only care for those who have died, but to also save lives.

Again, please welcome to the 2017 Annual Report for the Franklin County Coroner's Office.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anahi Ortiz M.D.', with a small 'ms' at the end.

Anahi Ortiz M.D.
Franklin County Coroner



FROM THE COMMUNITY

*“Thank you, Dr. Pojman,
for providing such a
detailed report
regarding my son.
You were very thorough
in your findings and
I greatly appreciate it.”*

Role of the Coroner’s Office

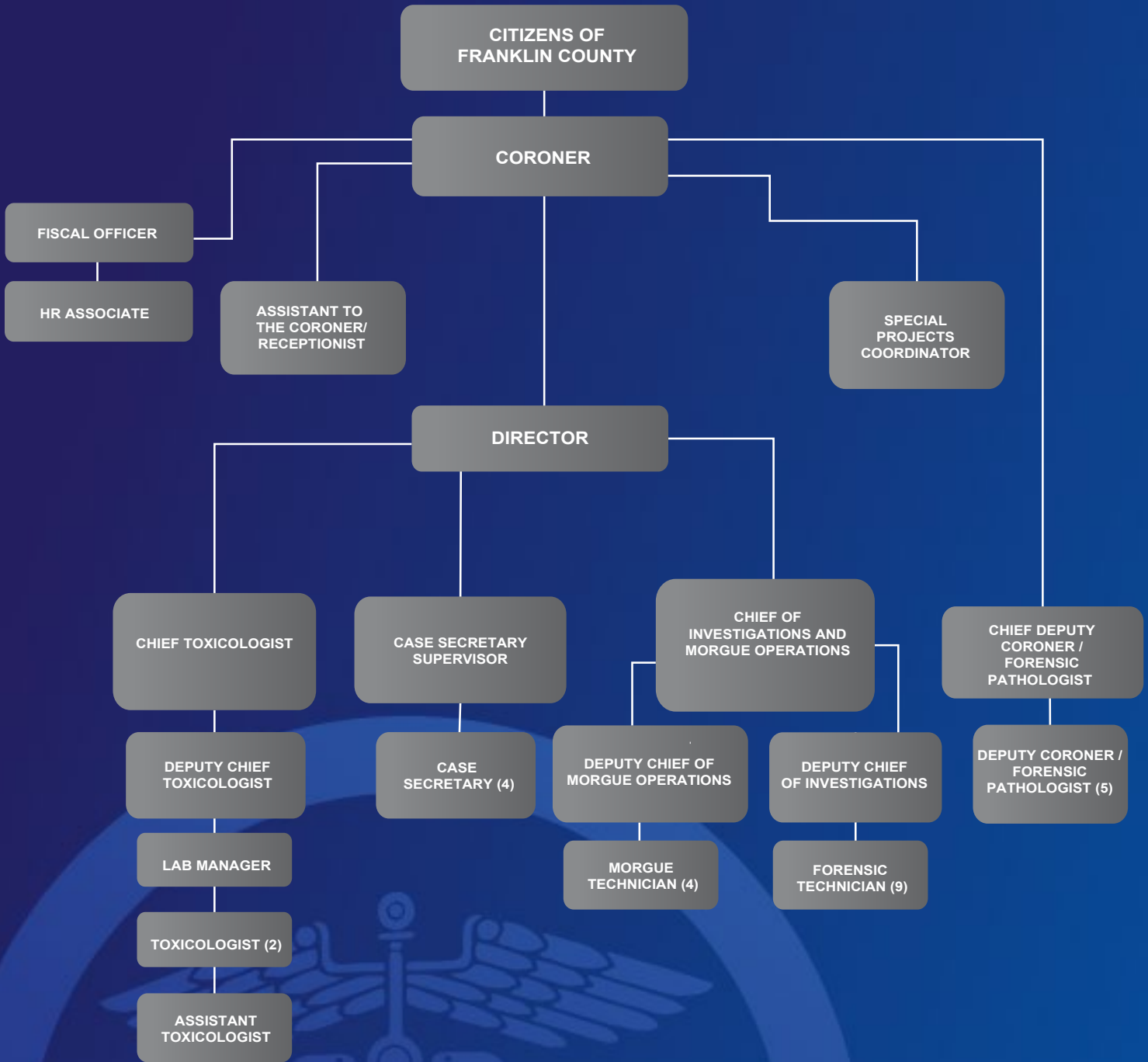
- Responsible for the unbiased, independent, and formal report and verdict on all deaths that fall under the coroner’s jurisdiction
- Obtains information surrounding the death and determines if it falls into the jurisdiction of the Coroner
- Only deaths defined in the “Coroner’s Statute”, Ohio Revised Code 313.12 are mandated to be investigated by the Coroner

In Ohio, the coroner is the only physician who may certify deaths that are not due to natural disease

Departments of the Franklin County Coroner’s Office

- Administration
- Case Management
- Toxicology
- Pathology
- Investigations
- Morgue/Histology

Organizational Chart





About Dr. Anahi M. Ortiz

Dr. Anahi Ortiz was born in New York, New York. She graduated from the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education, a six year BS/MD program, at City College of New York. She then received her medical degree from Downstate Medical College in Brooklyn. Dr. Ortiz decided on pediatrics as her focus and did her residency at St. Luke's - Roosevelt Hospital in Manhattan.

After residency, her career has focused on providing care to the underserved communities of New York City and eventually those in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Ortiz moved to the central Ohio area in 1996 where she has worked as a pediatrician at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Westside Community Health Center, and North Community Counseling. She has always been a proponent of volunteering in the community. She currently volunteers for several non-profits, including Timmy Global Health Care.

She was appointed to the Office of Franklin County Coroner in November of 2014. Since then she

has worked towards streamlining the process for more timely production of death certificates, professionally interpreted several forms for families of decedents whose primary language is not English, and is working on educating the medical community on completing death certificates. She has highlighted cultural sensitivity as a priority of the Coroner's Office and brought in several educational sessions on cultural sensitivity for the staff. As of April of 2018, she has added a paid FMLA program for employees.

In March of 2015, Dr. Ortiz convened the Franklin County Drug Overdose Death Initiative (DODI). This group currently meets quarterly to look at the rising rate of drug use and deaths in our county and how we can intervene. Since then she has hosted the Franklin County Opiate Crisis Summit in March of 2016 and again in 2017. She has also worked on a Community Action Plan towards the opiate crisis and launched the Franklin County

Opiate Crisis Task Force in August of 2016. She currently chairs the Recovery Committee of the Franklin County Opiate Action Plan.

Dr. Ortiz is on the Medical Advisory Board of Lifeline of Ohio, and the Board of the National Violent Death Reporting System. She is a member of the Franklin County Suicide Prevention Coalition and the Medical Advisory Board of YMCA Head Start. She has also spoken to numerous community groups, as well as professional organizations on suicide, infant mortality, and addiction/opiate crisis.

Dr. Anahi Ortiz has almost 30 years of experience in working with high risk communities in the medical field. She brings this experience and knowledge to the Office of Coroner where she will be a voice for those who die of violent means and to help improve the lives of our community.

Executive Administration



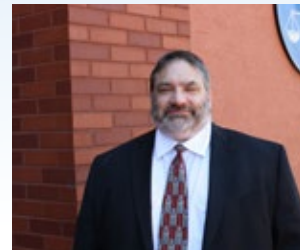
Matthew Caudill, B.A., CEM
Director of Operations



Beverly Harper, B.S.
Chief Fiscal Officer



John Daniels, M.D.
*Deputy Coroner/
Forensic Pathologist*



Donald Pojman, M.D.
*Deputy Coroner/
Forensic Pathologist*

Toxicology



**Daniel Baker, M.S.,
F-ABFT**
Chief Toxicologist



**Rebecca DeRienz, M.S.,
D-ABFT-FT**
Deputy Chief Toxicologist

Morgue and Investigations



**Amanda Alvarez, B.S./B.A.,
D-ABMDI**
*Chief of Investigations and
Morgue Operations*



**Brandon Perry, B.S.,
D-ABMDI**
*Deputy Chief of
Morgue Operations*

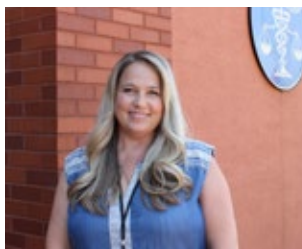


**Mark Hansbrough,
D-ABMDI**
*Deputy Chief of
Investigations*

Case Management



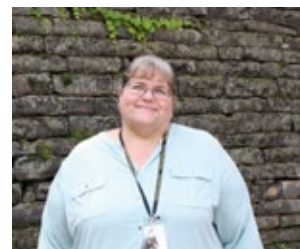
**Andrea Jarvis-Galvin,
B.A.s, A.T.S.**
*Case Secretary
Supervisor*



Adrienne Mandzak, B.A.
*Assistant to the Coroner/
Receptionist*

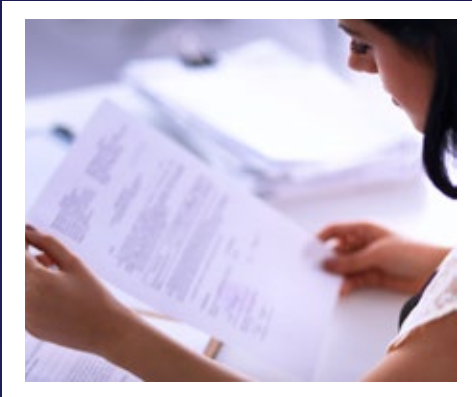


Charlie Vallance
Human Resource Associate



Tracy Baker
Special Projects Coordinator

Administrative Staff



FROM THE COMMUNITY

“Thank you very much for taking the time to call & speak with me. It means a lot. I am so grateful for all you did to help me get through this.”

Case Management Department

The case management department is responsible for processing case files and death certificates and quality assurance of data; as well as fulfilling requests for public records. We also provide ancillary support, such as coordinating with transcription services for our pathology staff and technical support for the agency. The case management department is comprised of one supervisor and 4 case secretaries, working closely with the Assistant to the Coroner and Special Projects Coordinator. Our main purpose is to serve the community through quality assurance and excellent customer service.

In 2017, the case management department processed over 1,950 cases, many of which required more than one death certificate to be processed by the time the case was completed. We fulfilled over 4,800 requests for public records, including certified copies of reports. During 2017, we embarked upon a mission to increase productivity and efficiency. We accomplished this by closely examining existing processes and procedures to identify strengths and weaknesses. In 2018, we have implemented new procedures to streamline the case completion process and new productivity measures. We have also increased our staff from 3 to 4 full time case secretaries in 2018. Our goal in 2018 is to examine quality assurance measures to continue to improve productivity to better serve our community.

Special Projects Coordinator

In 2018, the Special Projects Coordinator position has been restructured to provide support to staff with the goal of maintaining the highest standard of providing excellent customer service. Responsibilities include overseeing a Records Management Project that will convert current and archived records to more accessible storage mediums, and fulfilling public records requests for legal and law enforcement agencies. Other tasks are to assist the Fiscal Officer with audits and to coordinate an agency-wide employee health and wellness initiative.



Pathology Department

Forensic Pathology is the study of how injury and/or disease affect a person at the point of death. An autopsy is a detailed form of medical inspection of the body, performed by a Forensic Pathologist, to determine the presence, nature, and extent of any disease or damage in order to ascertain the cause of death.

In the Franklin County Coroner's Office there are five Forensic Pathologists who, as Deputy Coroners, analyze the circumstances surrounding the death and determine whether an autopsy is indicated. Autopsies are performed at the discretion of the team of Pathologists. For cases in which an autopsy is not indicated, an external examination is performed. An autopsy consists of the gross external and internal examination of a body, documenting evidence of disease and injury. Additional studies such as special stains or microscopic tissue sections, toxicology, bacterial and viral cultures, sexual assault examinations, and analyses for inborn errors of metabolism are utilized as needed.

Autopsies on victims of homicides can assist in evidence collection that may help the

Prosecutor's Office to convict the guilty party or it may help to exonerate the innocent. Investigations of deaths in childhood can help to confirm or allay any suspicions of abuse in cases of Sudden Unexpected Infant Deaths (SUID). If the manner of death is ruled a homicide, the Forensic Pathologist may be asked to testify at the Grand Jury or in the Court of Common Pleas. Regardless of the manner of death, the Forensic Pathologist may be required to give expert testimony in civil trials and proceedings as to the specific cause of death; for example, wrongful deaths, auto accidents or work-related accidents.

Not all autopsies reveal the cause of death even after the toxicological, microscopic, and police investigations are concluded. These cases are ruled "undetermined" and they

are more likely to occur when decomposition removes "vital" clues to the cause of death. Some causes of natural deaths, such as abnormal heart beat, do not leave anatomical clues and may be difficult or impossible to document after death.

The Forensic Pathologists attend the Traffic Fatality Review, Child Fatality Review and SUID Review. These reviews occur quarterly to monthly and help to look for patterns that may be used to decrease mortality in our community. The Franklin County Coroner's Office has formal agreements with Nationwide Children's Hospital, The Ohio State University, and Ohio University for teaching purposes. The Pathologists play a vital role in teaching future pathologists, nurses, various other medical professionals, and law enforcement officers.

FROM THE COMMUNITY

"...Thank you for taking time to join our strategic discussion to address the growing fentanyl crisis in Ohio. Thanks for your partnership and leadership in combating the opioid epidemic. I appreciated your insight and counsel on what is happening on the front lines. ...Together we will stem the tide on this epidemic and save lives."

—Senator Rob Portman



Toxicology Department

Toxicology is the scientific study of the adverse effects of drugs and chemicals on living things. Forensic Toxicology is that application where the adverse toxicological effects have medicolegal consequences and the findings are likely to be used in a court of law.

The Franklin County Coroner's Office (FCCO) Forensic Toxicology Laboratory determines the presence or absence of drugs and chemicals in human tissues and fluids. Such investigations assist the Forensic Pathologist in the evaluation of toxicological implications regarding the death of an individual.

The FCCO Forensic Toxicology Laboratory's mission is "To provide thorough, accurate and timely toxicology testing results for the Forensic Pathologist of the FCCO, as well as Regional Coroners, Law Enforcement Agencies, and to apply our collective resources and abilities to assist in the solution or interpretation of Forensic Toxicology Problems and Issues." The FCCO Forensic Toxicology Laboratory is an industry leader in testing scope ensuring thorough and comprehensive results.



The FCCO Forensic Toxicology Laboratory is accredited by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology that is based upon compliance with professional standards as assessed by peer review, including onsite inspections and successful achievement in proficiency testing programs. The FCCO Forensic Toxicology Laboratory provides timely results by exceeding the National Association of Medical Examiner's toxicology completion time guidelines.

The FCCO Forensic Toxicology Laboratory is equipped with two liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometers and four gas chromatography mass spectrometers, which allow the Laboratory to accomplish its mission. Attesting to the toxicology staffs' ability, all eligible FCCO toxicology laboratory scientists have earned Board Certification in Forensic Toxicology by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology, based upon the candidate's personal and professional record of education and training, experience, achievement, and a formal written examination.

In 2017, the FCCO Forensic Toxicology lab was awarded \$7877 by The Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program. The Coverdell Program awards grants to states and units of local government to help improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner/coroner services. Among other things, funds may be used to eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic evidence and to train and employ forensic laboratory personnel, as needed, to eliminate such a backlog.

The Franklin County Coroner's Office was also awarded a \$25,000 grant for the Ohio Coroner/Medical Examiner Data Improvement Project by The Ohio Department of Health in 2017. This grant was awarded to provide funding with the objective to improve the quality, availability, and timeliness of coroner data as it is transmitted to the Ohio Violent Death Reporting System and Vital Statistics at The Ohio Department of Health.

Toxicologists at the FCCO Forensic Toxicology Laboratory are available full-time for consultation with Forensic Pathologists for interpretation of results, ordering additional tests, and ultimately documenting the scientific truth.

FROM THE COMMUNITY

In September, Westerville Police Department found a package near the roadway that contained what appeared to be human cremains. The package had no identifying information on it, other than a few sets of numbers, when it was turned over to the Franklin County Coroner's Office.

Using those few numbers, investigators traced the cremains to a County Crematory in Perris California. The team then identified the name of the decedent and her legal next of kin. The family expressed how happy they were that we were able to reunite them with their family member.

When the family arrived to claim their loved one, they were very appreciative, and the team was very happy that someone who appeared lost forever finally "made it home".



Investigations Department

The investigations department is responsible for conducting death scene investigations for unnatural and unexplained deaths for Franklin County. We serve the community and are a part of the process to determine cause and manner of death. In addition to death investigation, the investigators process bodies, and communicate with law enforcement, medical professionals, and families. There are 8 investigators with 2 working supervisors. The coroner's office is staffed with investigators 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Our goal for 2018 is to increase our investigation staff level by adding an additional investigator. In October of 2017, investigators began using ODMAP, a mapping tool supported by HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area). ODMAP provides real-time overdose surveillance data across jurisdictions to support public safety and health efforts to mobilize an immediate response to an overdose spike.

We are the first coroner's office in the United States to be a part of ODMAP. We have developed a unique standard operating procedure for scene responses for our investigators regarding opiate exposure. Additionally each of our investigation vehicles contain a Project Dawn Kit containing Narcan.



Morgue Department

The Morgue Department is responsible for assisting the pathologists in postmortem examinations, forensic processing, evidence collection, postmortem radiology, and facilitating communication between law enforcement, funeral directors, and families. The postmortem examination is of vital importance in helping the pathologists determine cause and manner of death. Careful examination of the decedent is performed, and samples for toxicological and microscopic analysis are obtained. The department is staffed 7 days a week, with 4 full time technicians and 2 working supervisors.

In 2017, we increased our staffing level from 3.5 to 4 full time technicians. This increase allows the department to better serve the needs of the community, by ensuring that examinations are completed in a timely manner and with the highest measure of integrity. The department performed more than 1,900 postmortem examinations. Despite an increase in examinations, our case completion rate and turnaround time remains outstanding with 96.3% of examinations completed in less than 24 hours after arrival, and 100% of examinations completed in less than 48 hours after arrival.





Community Outreach

In addition to investigating unnatural deaths, The Franklin County Coroner's Office engages in a number of community outreach initiatives. These include educational opportunities, Interagency Informational Sessions, Drug Overdose Death Initiative, and conferences. In addition the Coroner, if requested, will give presentations on a variety of topics to organizations in the community.

Educational Opportunities

Educational opportunities at The Franklin County Coroner's Office include hosting rotating medical students, college interns, shadowing, and tours for classes in medical and forensic programs. Additionally, coroner's investigators visit local schools and libraries to present on forensics and the role of the coroner's office.

Opiate Crisis

In March of 2015, the Franklin County Coroner's Office initiated a poison death review of decedents who had died of overdoses. This was due to the increase in deaths we were seeing since 2014. The review became known as the Drug Overdose Death Initiative or DODI. Members of the review are from multiple disciplines and work on providing information on decedents to look for patterns.

In addition to DODI, the Franklin County Coroner's Office hosted the Opiate Crisis Summit in 2016 and 2017. The Summit provided people from multiple disciplines information on the opiate crisis, especially on a local level. The 2017 Summit had over 600 attendees.

In 2017, the City of Columbus and the Franklin County Commissioners with ADAMH (Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board) created the Franklin County Opiate Action Plan. The Franklin County Coroner's Office supports the plan through the continuation of DODI now on a quarterly basis. In addition, the Coroner is chair of the Recovery Committee for the Opiate Action Plan and is a partner in the community Naloxone trainings, along with both Franklin County and Columbus Public Health agencies.

To keep the residents of Franklin County informed on the crisis, the Franklin County Coroner's Office posts quarterly statistics of overdose deaths on our website.

Interagency Informational Sessions

The Franklin County Coroner's Office also hosts Interagency Informational Sessions, in which outside agencies visit the coroner's office, to foster positive relationships between agencies. These sessions provide an opportunity for the coroner's office to explain our role to the outside agencies we work with, as well as ask questions about their protocols and procedures.

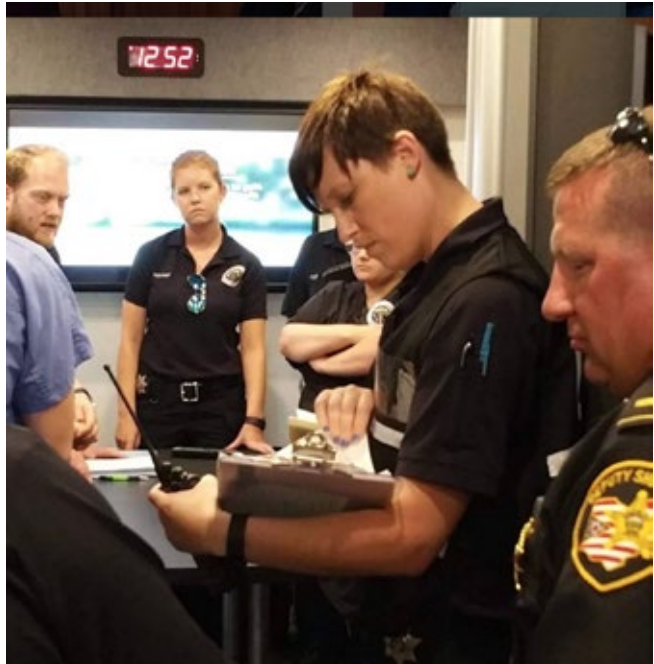
Organ, Tissue and Eye Donation

Once every 48 hours, an Ohioan dies waiting for a life-saving organ transplant - in the last ten years, more than 2,000 Ohioans have died waiting. As transplantation of hearts, kidneys, lungs, pancreas and livers has emerged as the preferred and most successful treatment of many life-threatening diseases, the need for these life-saving gifts has increased. Today there are more than 117,000 Americans on the transplant waiting list, with more than 2,900 waiting in Ohio. FCCO continues to support organ, tissue and eye donation with our partners, the Central Ohio Lion's Eye Bank and Lifeline of Ohio (LOOP). Dr. Ortiz advises LOOP as a medical board member, a long-standing tradition of the Coroner's Office.

Suicide Prevention

Suicide is a major public health concern. Suicide is among the leading causes of death in the United States. Based on recent nationwide surveys, suicide in some populations is on the rise. A report, released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), showed that rates of death by suicide in the United States have risen by roughly 25% in the last couple decades. FCCO continues to support Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) in providing grief support for those impacted by suicide. In addition, the Coroner is a member of the Franklin County Suicide Prevention Coalition.





Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks Plan

The Franklin County Coroner's Office has partnered with Franklin County Homeland Security and Justice in authoring a federal grant in support of preparing for and responding to Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks. The partnership was recently awarded \$829,725 with an allocation to the FCCO of \$90,000. Recent terrorist incidents highlight an emerging threat known as complex coordinated terrorist attacks where a violent assault or series of assaults that employs one or more types of weapons, intends to injure or kill large numbers of people. To effectively respond to an attack requires comprehensive planning and preparation. The Coroner's Office will work with all public safety services agencies within Franklin County to develop a plan, conduct training and exercises, and purchase equipment necessary to support this type of incident.



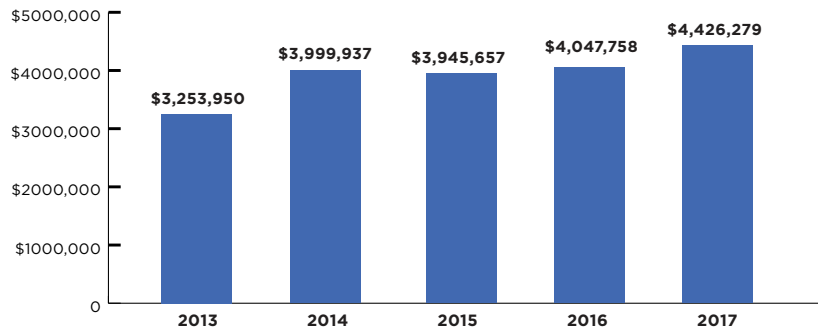
Fatality Management Response Plan

The Franklin County Coroner's Office has partnered with Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security to co-lead the planning efforts to support a comprehensive revision to the Franklin County Mass Fatality Plan. Fatality management is the ability to coordinate with other organizations (e.g., law enforcement, healthcare, emergency management, and medical examiner/coroner) to ensure the proper recovery, handling, identification, transportation, tracking, storage, and disposition of human remains and personal effects; certify cause of death; and facilitate access to mental/behavioral health services to the family members, responders, and survivors of an incident. Recently, International Emergency Management was selected to steward this action with \$200,000 of grants funds provided by the State Homeland Security Grant Program through FEMA/DHS. Fatality Management Services is 1 of the 32 Federal Core Capabilities in support of the National Preparedness Goal.

Fiscal Department

The Franklin County Coroner’s Fiscal Department strives to assure that tax dollars are spent prudently and judiciously while assuring that all identified needs are met as cost effectively as possible. It oversees all financial and purchasing matters of the Coroner’s Office including annual performance-based budgets, payroll, expenditures, and revenue.

Total Budget Amounts for 2013 –2017



2017 Budget Overview

Franklin County Coroner’s Office	2017 Original Budget	2017 Revised Budget
Staffing Services	\$2,571,224	\$2,642,293
Benefits	\$1,051,813	\$1,077,137
Materials and Services	\$709,683	\$755,114
Capital Outlays Total	\$98,800	\$103,951
Total	\$4,431,520	\$4,578,495

Human Resources

The Human Resource Associate is responsible for maintaining personnel records, FMLA leave, and payroll for the staff of the Coroner’s Office.

We are proud to share that 50% of our staff participate in the annual Wellness Program. The employees who use less than 40 hours of sick time are able to convert unused sick leave into cash or personal time.

In 2018, the Coroner has initiated a new paid family leave benefit to employees for the birth of a child or to care for a spouse, parent or child.

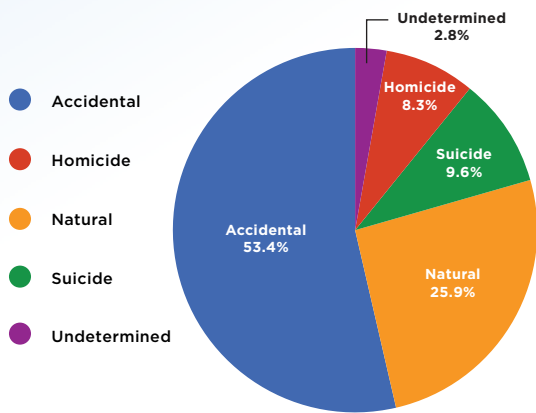
Statistics

Overview

Within Franklin County are a number of major hospitals and trauma centers which are serving this area. The county is also home to The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Nationwide Children's Hospital, OhioHealth, and Mount Carmel Health Systems which treat patients from across the country. Consequently, there are numerous deaths in Franklin County each year wherein the precipitating incident leading to death occurred outside Franklin County, but the death falls under the jurisdiction of Franklin County Coroner. Thus the statistics appearing in this Annual Report do not necessarily agree with numbers reported by police agencies throughout the county.

The Franklin County Coroner's office provides forensic services to surrounding counties on a fee-for-service basis.

Manners of Death - 2017



TOTAL REPORTED CASES 4363

Accepted as Coroner's Cases 1951
 Not Assigned as Coroner's Cases 2412

MANNER OF DEATH AFTER INVESTIGATION

Accidental 1042
 Homicide 161
 Natural 505
 Suicide 188
 Undetermined 55

AUTOPSIES

Total Performed 1376
 Franklin County Cases 1147
 Out of County Cases 229
 External Examinations 533

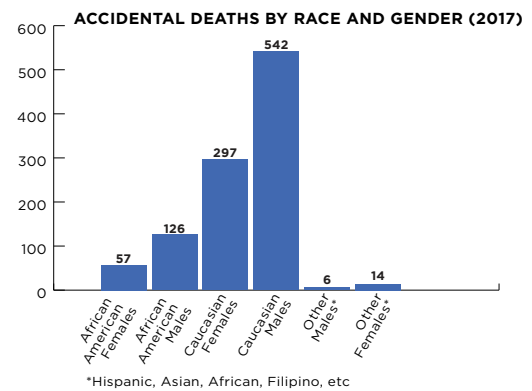
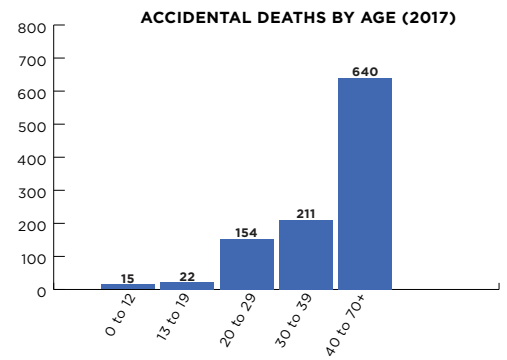
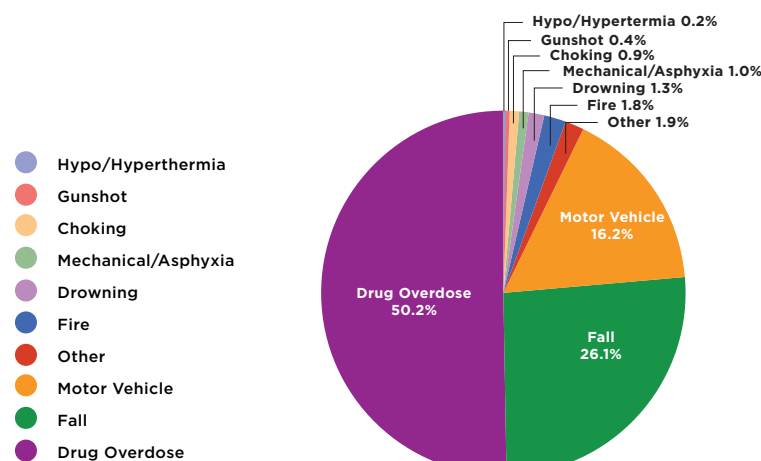
ADDITIONAL FIGURES

Bodies Transported 2087
 Storage Cases 169
 Scene Investigations 1270
 Toxicology Performed 1882
 Sudden Infant Deaths 11

Sudden Infant Deaths were reported in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code 313.121. *SID* total is also reflected in the Manner of Death categories; *Natural, Accidental, & Undetermined*. Present language also identifies this cause of death as *Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID)*

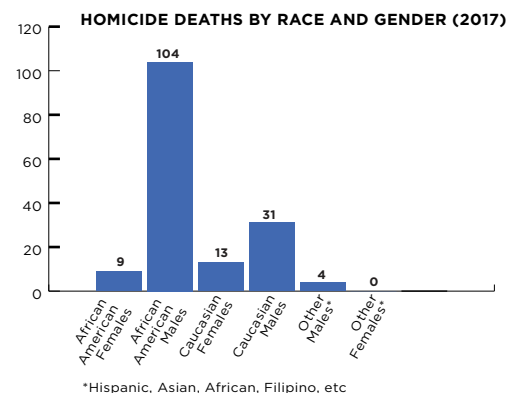
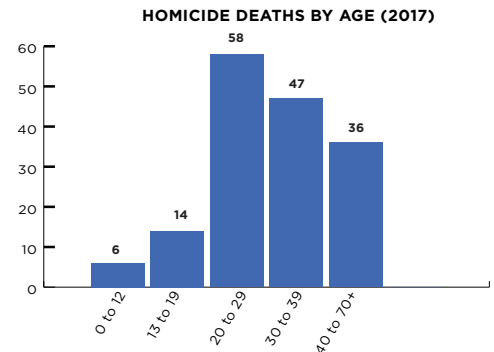
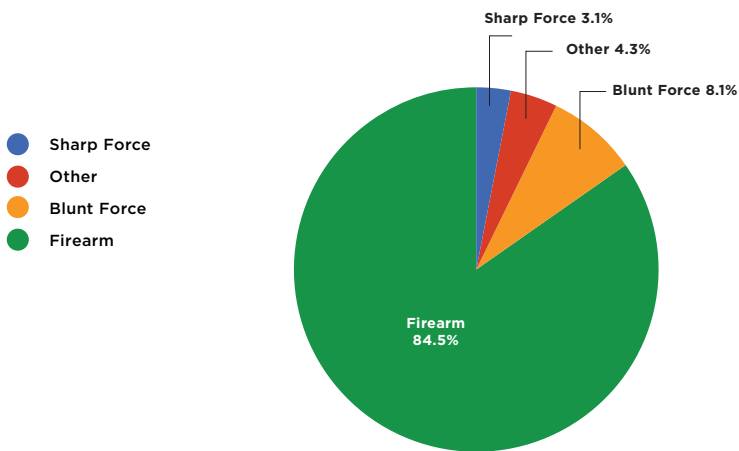
Manner of Death: Accidental

An accidental death is a result of an unnatural cause where there is no evidence of intent to cause harm and the fatal outcome was unintentional.



Manner of Death: Homicide

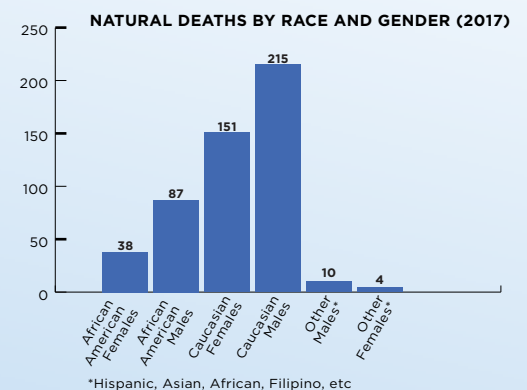
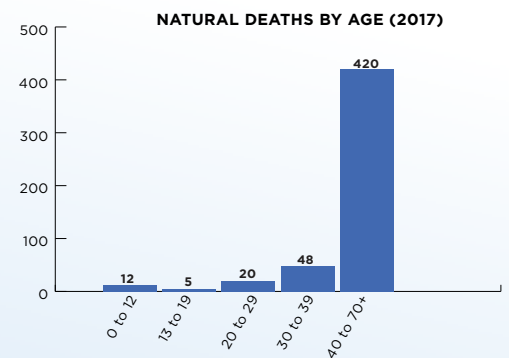
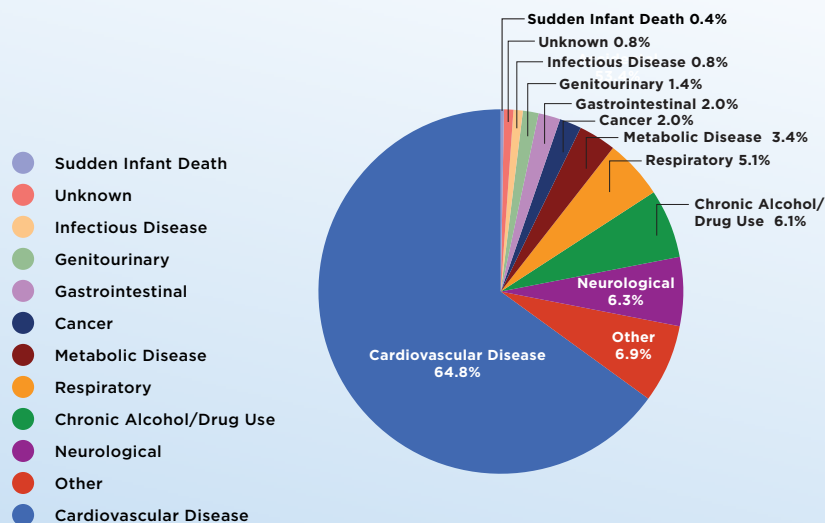
A homicide death is a death resulting from a voluntary action committed by another person. A homicide is not necessarily a murder. This classification does not necessarily indicate criminal intent, which is determined by the legal process.



Manner of Death: Natural

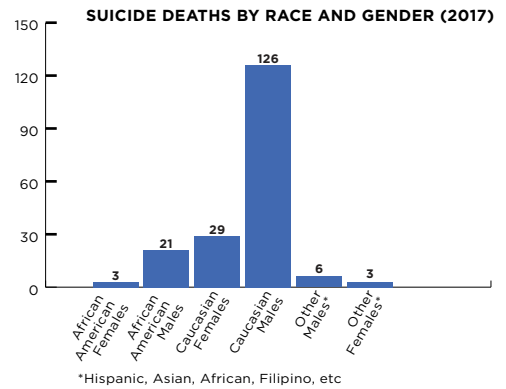
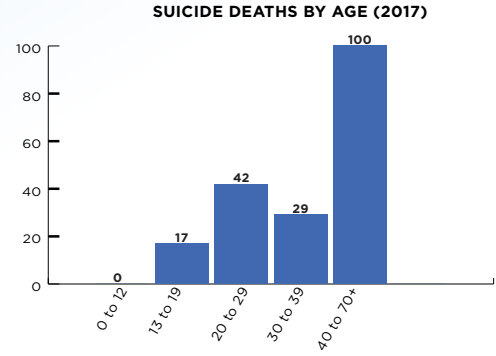
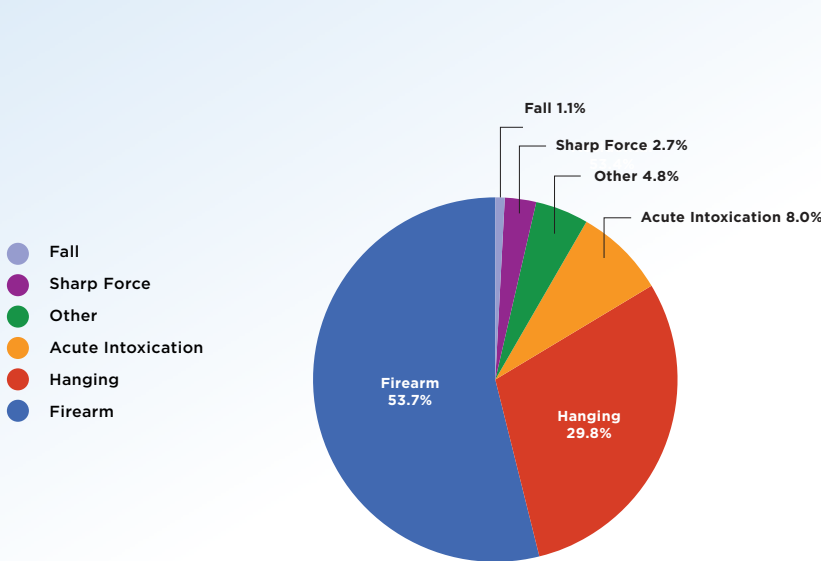
A natural death is one due to a spontaneous or naturally occurring disease or degenerative process.

A death so classified can fall under the jurisdiction of the Coroner because of the sudden or unexpected nature of the death, because there was no physician with knowledge or awareness of the decedent's condition, or when circumstances surrounding the death arouse suspicion.



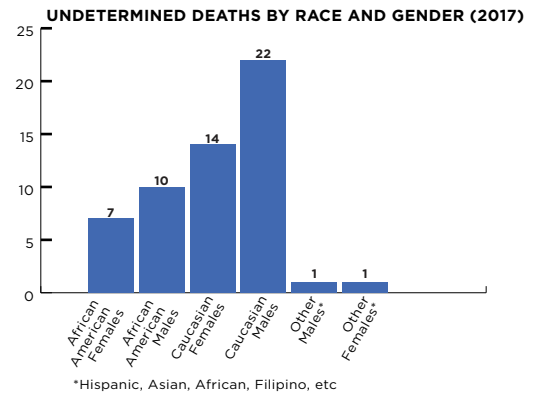
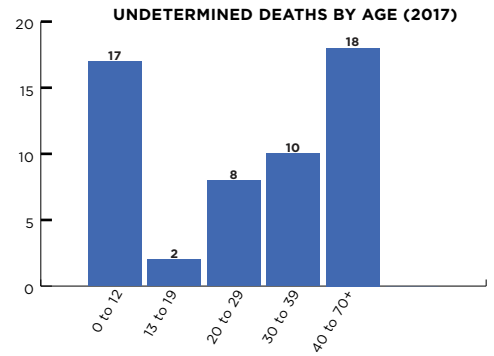
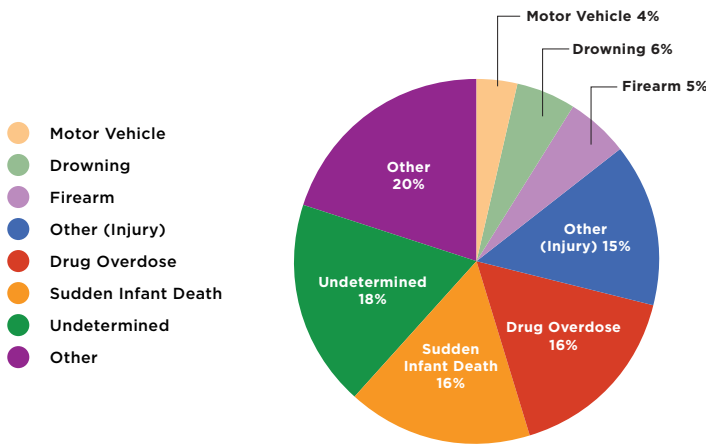
Manner of Death: Suicide

A suicide is a death resulting from a self-inflicted injury which ends one's life.



Manner of Death: Undetermined

“Undetermined” is a classification used when the information pointing to one manner of death is no more compelling than one or more other competing manners of death in thorough consideration of all available information.



The New Franklin County Forensic Science Center

The Franklin County Coroner's Office will be relocating! The year 2017 saw much planning activity and completion of the schematic drawings for a state of the art forensic science center including an expanded morgue. The new center will be built on the site of a former elementary school in the southwestern part of the county. The new 55,000-square-foot facility will offer the needed space for expansion and include additional toxicology lab space and diagnostic imaging capabilities to allow virtual and other autopsy techniques. With these new efficiencies, a reduction in time to complete an autopsy and determination of the cause and manner of death will occur. Respite and family support areas are also included in the design. A groundbreaking ceremony is planned for September 2018 with a projected opening in early 2020.



Unidentified Individuals

The Investigations department of the Franklin County Coroner's Office is responsible for identifying any person under the jurisdiction of the Coroner. Immediate response is made by forensic technicians and law enforcement to initiate identification. Initial presumptive information may lead to the identity of the decedent. Available fingerprints along with dental and medical documentation of unique identifying anatomical features are beneficial characteristics for an identification to be made. In situations where we do not have a presumptive identification upon our arrival on scene, our next steps is to coordinate with law enforcement to have a DNA sample submitted to The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI), as well as NamUs (National Missing and Unidentified Persons System).

Returning unidentified individuals to their loved ones is priority and it is a continuous process. For additional information on these cases please visit our website www.coroner.franklincountyohio.gov.

FCCO Case #	Date Located	John or Jane Doe	BCI Unidentified #	NamUs #	Notes
89-2994	11/3/1989	John Doe	2005	14619	Body of a white male located on 11/03/1989 found on Walcutt Road.
92-2730	9/20/1992	John Doe	202	17871	Body located 09/20/1992 gunshot wound to the head.
93-2908	10/11/1993	John Doe	203	17869	The body of a black male found in woods between Alum Creek & Rt. 33 on 10/11/1993.
97-2573	8/9/1997	Jane Doe	187	17868	Remains of a black female located on the west bank of the Scioto river.
98-1632	5/17/1998	Jane Doe	183	4747	The body of a black female was found 05/17/1998 in a parking lot.
99-4013	11/28/1999	Jane Doe	185	17866	The body of a white female found in front of the 3583 East Broad Street (Kahiki Restaurant) on 11/28/1999.
06-1082	3/26/2006	John Doe	192	263	White male found in Scioto River
07-1801	5/30/2007	John Doe	1959	616	Unknown Hispanic male found in Scioto river
17-1051	3/28/2017	Jane Doe	3009	17067	Human legs (female) located at a recycling facility



Franklin County Coroner's Office

520 King Avenue

Columbus, Ohio 43201

Phone: 614.525.5290

Fax: 614.525.6002

coroner.franklincountyohio.gov