



NATIONAL COMMISSION ON FORENSIC SCIENCE

NIST
National Institute
of Standards
and Technology

Electronic Networking of Medical Examiner and Coroner Offices in the United States

Subcommittee

Recommendation from the Subcommittee on Medicolegal Death Investigation.

Type of Work Product

Policy Recommendation.

Recommendation

The National Commission on Forensic Science requests that the Attorney General of the United States approve policy that recommends the implementation of an electronic communication network for all medical examiner and coroner offices in the United States, to be developed and implemented by 2017 in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other federal agencies with interest in medicolegal death investigation.

Recommended Implementation Strategy

The National Institute of Justice and CDC would establish and fund a Working Group in 2015 to prepare a specific plan to develop a Medical Examiner and Coroner Electronic Information Network (MECIN).

The working group would include at least one representative from each of the following, including a sufficient number of members from the medical examiner and coroner communities:

- National Association of Medical Examiners
- International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners
- The National Institute of Justice

Features and Functions

- Controlled dissemination of information
- Controlled responses to user inquiries
- A repository for important documents
- Announcements of grant and funding opportunities
- Facilitation of research
- Controlled access to an ME/C Directory
- Accessibility to all ME/Cs
- Controlled access to the system
- User registration, verification, and updating
- A stable, permanent email address system

System-based Email Addresses

- Coroner@al.calhoun.mecin.us (C)
- ME@ga.fulton.mecin.us (County Medic)
- ME@ga.mecin.us (State Medical Examiner for)
- RME@fl.d9orlando.mecin.us (Regi)



The email addresses would be permanent on not change if the individual coroner or ME changes.

Proposed Working Group



+



+



ABMDI
American Board of
Medicolegal Death Investigators

3



1



NVDRS + NCHS

2

NIST OSAC
MDI-Sub



1



1



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
of CHIEFS OF POLICE

1

ME/C Database Developer

1

About 10 People

Working Group Duties

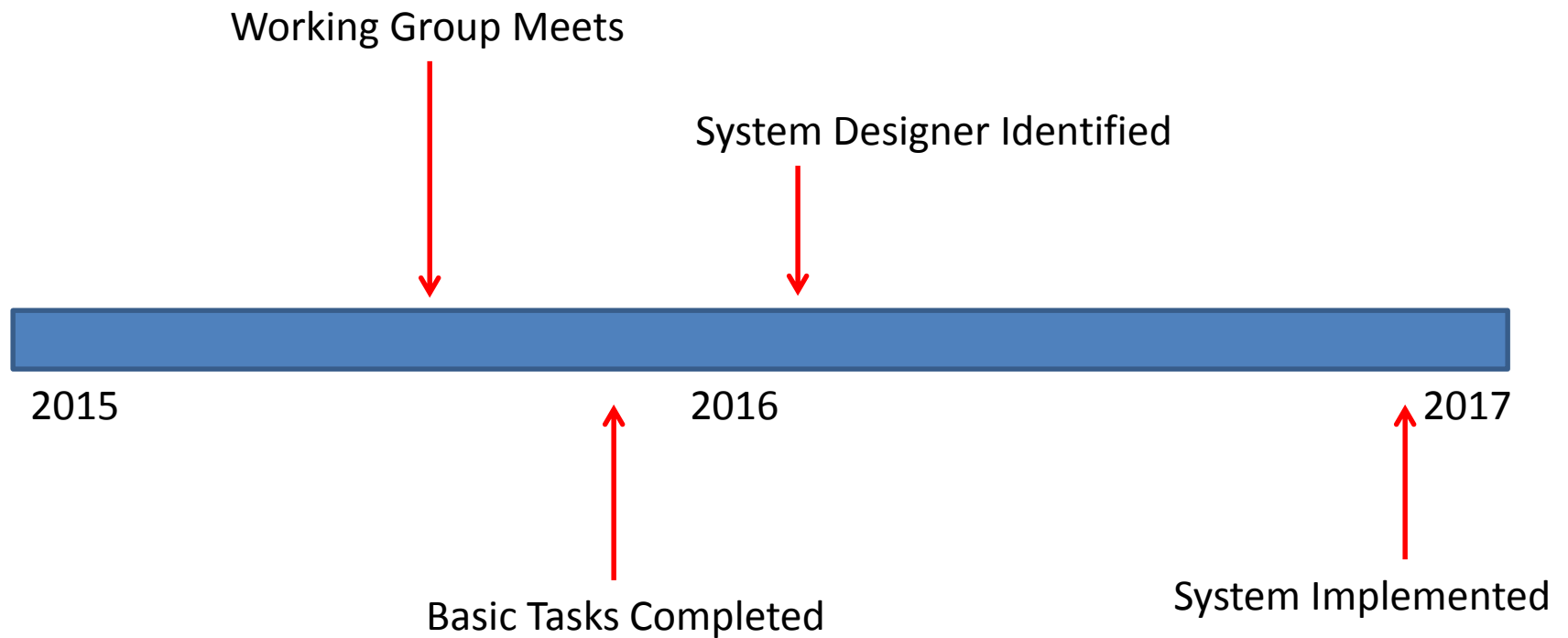
- Review/Refine system goals
- Modify working group membership if needed
- Identify a parent entity to administer/manage the system
- Develop a plan to ensure internet and email access for all ME/Cs
- Determine how information would be controlled and disseminated
- Identify initial and ongoing funding and support sources
- Plan so that federal restrictions on communication are not an obstacle to system utility

Estimated Costs

Task	Frequency	Estimated Cost
Initial 2 3 day meeting of working group	One time	\$10,000
Email server system hardware and software	One time	2,500
Collection and entry of email addresses and standard email addresses	One time	\$50,000
Development of on line database and email server system	One time	\$50,000
Overhead	One Time	\$17,000
One-time costs		\$129,500
Data storage	Ongoing	200/year*
IT Support and Help Desk	Ongoing	12,000/year
System and user management (1 FTE)	Ongoing	50,000/year
Ongoing Costs		\$62,200/year

* This would increase slightly with time.

Time Frame



Prototype



2 ways to receive information:

- 1) Log into MECIN and read emails on-line
- 2) Divert emails sent to at the MECIN address to a preferred email address.

www.mecin.us

ME@ga.fulton.mecin.us

>>

randy.hanzlick@fultoncountygga.gov

New user

* - denotes a required field

Job type	<input type="text"/>	Agency	<input type="text"/>	Education level	<input type="text"/>
Job title	<input type="text"/>	Building	<input type="text"/>	Specialty	<input type="text"/>
First name*	<input type="text"/>	Address 1	<input type="text"/>		
Middle name	<input type="text"/>	Address 2	<input type="text"/>		
Last name*	<input type="text"/>	City	<input type="text"/>		
Email	<input type="text"/>	State*	<input type="text"/>		
Retype email	<input type="text"/>	Zip	<input type="text"/>		
Alternative email	<input type="text"/>	Phone 1	<input type="text"/>		
Retype alt email	<input type="text"/>	Phone 2	<input type="text"/>		
User name*	<input type="text"/>	Phone 3	<input type="text"/>		
		Fax	<input type="text"/>		

Counties

Name	Email	Type	Expires	Delete
------	-------	------	---------	--------

[Create](#)[Back to List](#)

Fulton, GA County



☒ Office is accredited or part of an accredited ME/C office

☒ Accredited by NAME

☐ Accredited by IAC&M/F

Medical Examiner

[Hanzlick, Randy](#)

430 Pryor St SW

Atlanta, GA 30312

(404) 613-4400 [Phone]

(404) 730-4405 [Fax]

randy.hanzlick@fultoncountyga.gov

fultoncountymedical@fultoncountyga.gov [Alternative]

Position type

Term length


Term limit

End of term

Last updated: 03/26/2




A Comparison




U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs

Innovation * Partnerships * Safer Neighborhoods




NamUs *National Missing and Unidentified Persons System*

[Home](#) [About NamUs](#) [Contacts](#) [Volunteer Information](#) [News Room](#)




Missing Persons

The National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) is a national centralized repository and resource center for missing persons and unidentified decedent records. NamUs is a free online system that can be searched by medical examiners, coroners, law enforcement officials and the general public from all over the country in hopes of resolving these cases.




Unidentified Persons

The **Missing Persons Database** contains information about missing persons that can be entered by anyone; however before it appears as a case on NamUs, the information is verified. NamUs provides a user with a variety of resources, including the ability to print missing persons posters and receive free biometric collection and testing assistance. Other resources include links to state clearinghouses, medical examiner and coroner offices, law enforcement agencies, victim assistance groups and pertinent legislation.




Unclaimed Persons

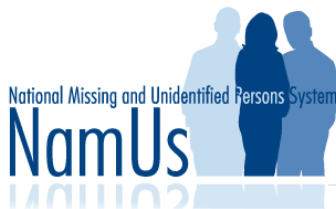
The **Unidentified Persons Database** contains information entered by medical examiners and coroners. Unidentified persons are people who have died and whose bodies have not been identified. Anyone can search this database using characteristics such as sex, race, distinct body features and even dental information.



Watch an 6-minute video:
Namus: Making a Difference



Watch a 6-minute video:
Namus Behind the Scenes: How It Works, Why It Matters



National Missing and Unidentified Persons System
NamUs

When a new missing persons or unidentified decedent case is entered into NamUs, the system automatically performs cross-matching comparisons between the databases, searching for matches or similarities between cases.

NamUs provides free DNA testing and other forensic services, such as anthropology and odontology assistance. NamUs' Missing Persons Database and Unidentified

MEDICAL EXAMINER/CORONER INFORMATION NETWORK

M E C I N



THE MEDICAL EXAMINER AND CORONER INFORMATION NETWORK PROGRAM

The medical examiners and coroners (ME/Cs) are responsible for investigating deaths and determining the cause of death. They also provide information to the public health agencies. The information provided by ME/Cs is used to develop public health policy and public health programs.

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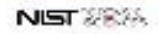
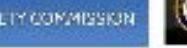
Until recently, however, such information was not available and only to the public health community or to other public health programs. Now, that information is available to all of the public health agencies and to the public health community.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration



Examiner/Coroner
password to register
Examiner/Coroner who will be



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