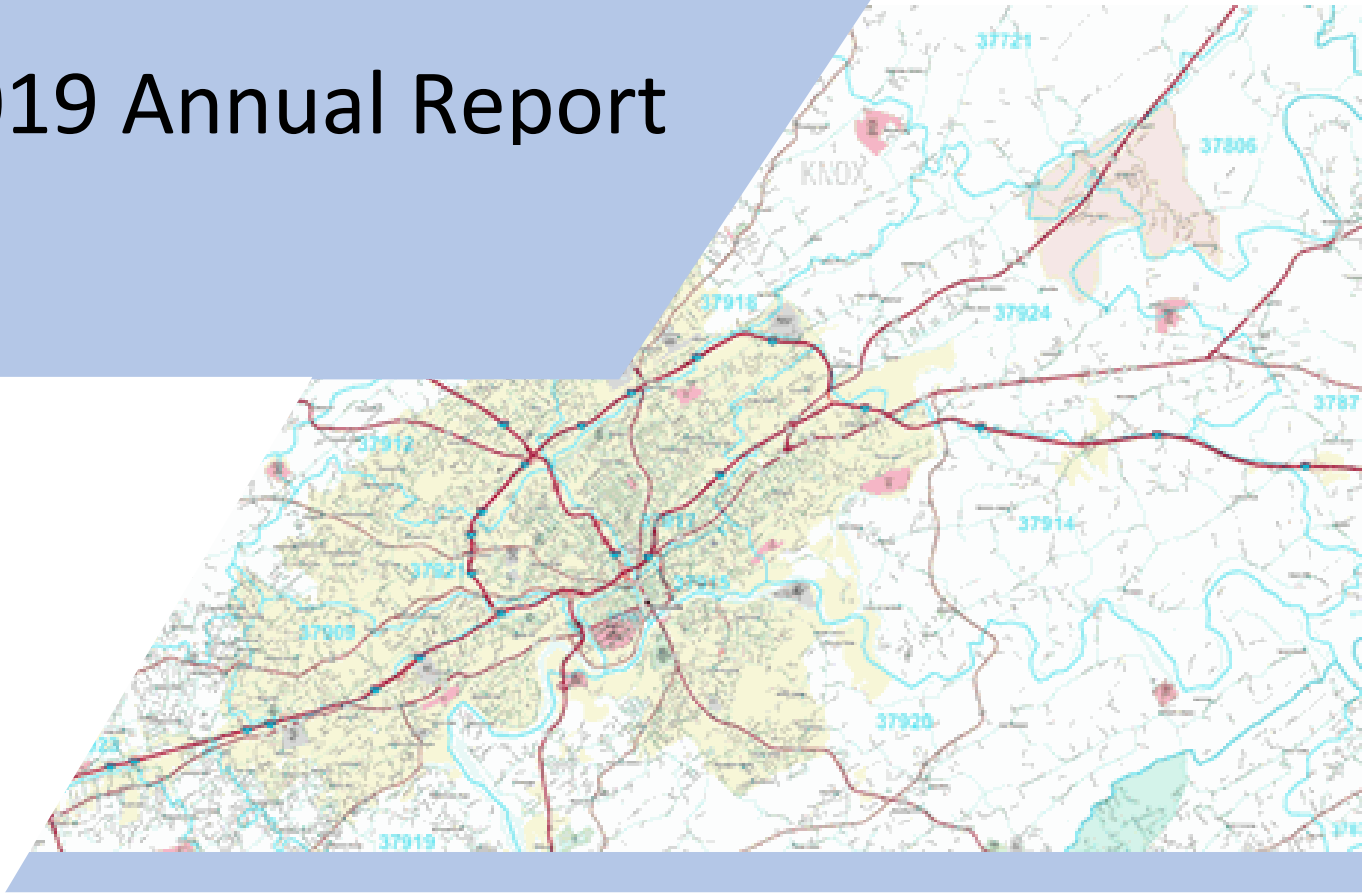


Knox County

Regional Forensic Center

2019 Annual Report



Darinka Mileusnic-Polchan, MD, PhD

Chief Medical Examiner
Knox and Anderson Counties

Chris Thomas

Chief Administrative Officer
Regional Forensic Center

To discuss this report, please contact Mr. Thomas.



Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Mission Statement	3
Knox County Regional Forensic Center	4
History	4
Overview	4
Legal Jurisdiction	4
Tennessee Code Annotated §38-7-104 – County Medical Examiner	4
Same Section – Regarding Medico-Legal Death Investigators.....	4
Tennessee Code Annotated §38-7-108 – Death under suspicious, unusual or unnatural circumstances	4
Function	5
National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUS).....	5
Opiate Information	5
Knox County Drug Overdose Task Force	5
Drug Related Death Report.....	6
Community Involvement	6
Community Care	7
Coverage	7
Staffing	8
Medical Examiners/Forensic Pathologist.....	8
Medico-legal Death Investigators (MDI).....	8
Autopsy Technicians	8
Forensic Clerks	9
National Association of Medical Examiners Accreditation	9
Regional Forensic Center Cases in 2019	11
Referrals	11
Data	11
Number and Type of Actions Completed by the RFC Over 10 Years	11
Deaths Reported to the RFC	12
Exam Types	13
Case Demographics of RFC Activities.....	14
Manner of Death Classification for Reported Cases	15
Cremation Authorizations in 2019	19
Indigent Cremation	20
Organ and Tissue Donations	20
Staff-Specific Data	21
Forensic Pathologists	21
Medico-Legal Death Investigations (MDI)	21
Autopsy Technicians	22
Forensic Clerks	22

Mission Statement

The Knox County Regional Forensic Center seeks to:

- Provide accurate, timely, compassionate and professional death investigative services for the citizens of Knox County and other counties it serves;
- 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.

Knox County Regional Forensic Center

History

The Knox County Medical Examiner's Office has been in existence since the early 1950s when it operated out of a small, one-room morgue. In 1998, the Regional Forensic Center (RFC) moved inside the University of Tennessee Medical Center. In 2014, the Knox County government, with financial support from the State of Tennessee, built an 18,000 square foot facility located on Sullins Street in Knoxville, Tennessee, and officially began service as the Regional Forensic Center.

Overview

The Knox County Regional Forensic Center is a department under the purview of the Knox County Mayor's Office. It serves as the Office for the Chief Medical Examiner for Knox and Anderson Counties and provides autopsy and consultative services for 21 other counties in Middle and East Tennessee. The facility operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, all year long. There is always at least one autopsy technician at the facility. There is also always a Medical Examiner/Forensic Pathologist on-call or on duty and a Medico-legal Death Investigator available to respond to death scene investigations.

Legal Jurisdiction

There are three areas of the Tennessee Code that dictate how deaths and death status are reported in the State of Tennessee.

Tennessee Code Annotated §38-7-104 – County Medical Examiner

A county medical examiner shall be appointed by the county mayor, subject to confirmation by the county legislative body, based on a recommendation from a convention of physicians resident in the county. A county medical examiner shall be a physician who is either a graduate of an accredited medical school authorized to confer upon graduates the degree of doctor of medicine (M.D.) and who is duly licensed in Tennessee, or is a graduate of a recognized osteopathic college authorized to confer the degree of doctor of osteopathy (D.O.) and who is licensed to practice osteopathic medicine in Tennessee, and shall be elected from a list of a maximum of two (2) doctors of medicine or osteopathy nominated by convention of the physicians, medical or osteopathic, resident in the county, the convention to be called for this purpose by the county mayor.

Same Section – Regarding Medico-Legal Death Investigators

A medical investigator shall be a licensed emergency medical technician (EMT), paramedic, registered nurse, physician's assistant or a person registered by or a diplomat of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators and approved by the county medical examiner as qualified to serve as medical investigator...The county medical investigator may conduct investigations when a death is reported, as provided in §38-7-108, under the supervision of the county medical examiner. The county medical investigator may make pronouncements of death and may recommend to the county medical examiner that an autopsy be ordered. However, the county medical investigator shall not be empowered to sign a death certificate. The county medical examiner may delegate to the county medical investigator the authority to order an autopsy.

Tennessee Code Annotated §38-7-108 – Death under suspicious, unusual or unnatural circumstances

Any physician, undertaker, law enforcement officer, or other person having knowledge of the death of any person from violence or trauma of any type, suddenly when in apparent health, sudden unexpected

death of infants and children, deaths of prisoners or persons in state custody, deaths on the job or related to employment, deaths believed to represent a threat to public health, deaths where neglect or abuse of extended care residents are suspected or confirmed, deaths where the identity of the person is unknown or unclear, deaths in any suspicious/unusual/unnatural manner, found dead, or where the body is to be cremated, shall immediately notify the county medical examiner or the district attorney general, the local police or the county sheriff, who in turn shall notify the county medical examiner.

Function

The Knox County Regional Forensic Center serves citizens by investigating deaths that are unnatural and/or unexpected and determining the cause and manner of death, recognizing and collecting evidence needed for adjudication, defining public health and product safety risks, and providing compassionate services to families.

These investigations begin with the careful review of the scene of death and are supplemented, when appropriate, by autopsy examination, toxicology reporting and other testing.

The Center is responsible for the investigation and certification of cause and manner of death of all sudden, unexpected, violent, suspicious and/or unnatural deaths or death without medical attendance that occur in its jurisdictional counties.

The Knox County RFC also provides autopsy and consultative services for similar-type deaths occurring in 23 East and Middle Tennessee counties—Knox and Anderson are jurisdictional; the 21 others are not—at the written request of local authorities.

Cause of death refers to a disease, injury, drug toxicity or combination of factors that causes a physiological derangement severe enough to result in death.

Manner of death refers to the circumstances surrounding how a death came about and has five possible classifications including natural, accidental, suicide, homicide or undetermined.

National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUS)

As part of *Tennessee Code Annotated §38-6-1*, Regional Forensic Centers are charged with taking control of an unidentified body and coordinating efforts with law enforcement and NamUs to identify the decedent. The RFC serves as a regional resource for East Tennessee counties with a need to identify a decedent or assist in finding a missing person and partners with NamUS to work cases to identify missing and unidentified persons.

Opiate Information

Knox County Drug Overdose Task Force

The RFC partners with the Office of the District Attorney in the Sixth Judicial District, Knox County government, Knoxville Police Department, Knox County Sheriff's Office, Drug Enforcement TBI and the Appalachia High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area as part of the Knox County Drug Overdose Task Force.

The force formed out of a desire to address the growing drug issues and increasing drug deaths in Knox County. The goals of the Task Force are:

- Identifying drug categories of interest, prosecutable street-level sources of illegal opiates and other drugs, and strategies to lower drug-related deaths, overdoses and arrests;

- Developing best practices and a uniform data collection tool for local and regional use and a drug-related death data reference resource for medical and service professionals; and
- Creating a confidential and secure system (behind the DRDTF firewall) to collect law enforcement and medically sensitive information then quantifying in order to analyze the information and data for use in redacted reports in collaboration with community partner agencies.

The RFC has also partnered with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and participates in their DEA360 program which focuses on coordinating education and community action for drug issues in Knox County.

Drug Related Death Report

The RFC produces an annual Drug Related Death Report for Knox and Anderson Counties, where Dr. Darinka Mileusnic-Polchan serves as Chief Medical Examiner. This report is inclusive of only jurisdictional counties because the RFC feels more able to ensure a thorough investigation of these possible drug overdose deaths which enables a greater confidence that they have been properly evaluated.

The Drug Related Death Report provides data on the number of drug deaths, demographics about decedents, the location of injury and/or death and the drugs involved therein. It also provides an overview of emerging drug trends.

For a copy of the most recent report, visit the Knox County Regional Forensic Center website at <https://knoxcounty.org/rfc/reports.php>.

Community Involvement

The RFC prides itself in regular interaction with the local community and tries to assure staff is well integrated into its service communities.

In 2019, the RFC completed the following community or service activities:

- Presenting college-level lectures to Roane State Community College paramedic and nursing students, University of Tennessee students and students from Lincoln Memorial University School of Osteopathic Medicine;
- Hosting pathology residents from the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine and forensic dentistry fellows from the Department of General Dentistry's Forensic Odontology program, graduate students and PhD candidates from the University of Tennessee's Forensic Anthropology program and medical students seeking their Master of Science and Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from Lincoln Memorial University;
- Hosting and providing tours to numerous high school and home school groups;
- Presenting on medico-legal death investigation at educational conferences for regional medical examiners, medico-legal death investigators, law enforcement and emergency response personnel and others involved in death investigation;
- Hosting conferences in conjunction with the National Forensics Academy that focus on providing training to law enforcement on death scene investigation, autopsy techniques and fingerprinting decedents;
- Serving on the Knox County Child/Infant Fatality Death Review Team, the Anderson County Child/Infant Fatality Death Review Team, the Elder Abuse Coordinated Community Response Committee, the Metro Drug Coalition and consulting for the East Tennessee District's

Child/Infant Fatality Death Review Teams and the Tennessee State Medical Examiner Advisory Council;

- Sharing lectures about RFC operations and death investigation processes with groups that include Knox County Emergency Management Agency and funeral home director groups, among others;
- Participating on committees with multiple governmental and non-governmental agencies focused on emergency preparedness and community development; and
- Serving with the 17 county Knox/East Tennessee Healthcare Coalition that includes hospitals, emergency management agencies and public health agencies and healthcare organizations to address emergency and medical management and healthcare planning within the region by holding tabletop and full-scale emergency preparedness exercises and training opportunities as well as working to seek grant opportunities for funding of regional and organizational needs.

Community Care

One of the most important interactions in which the RFC staff participates is when Medical Examiners/Pathologists meet with family members to review autopsy findings. This is often a sensitive, but important, part of the family's grieving process. (Staff is also available to consult with local physicians and hospitals, as needed, to discuss autopsy findings.)

Coverage

In 2019, RFC staff provided services—including personally requested private autopsies—to its two jurisdictional counties (Knox and Anderson) and 21 non-jurisdictional counties that include: Blount, Bradley, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Cumberland, Fentress, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Loudon, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Polk, Rhea, Roane, Scott, Sevier and Union.

Jurisdictional counties (green on the map below) are those where Dr. Darinka Mileusnic is the Medical Examiner and the RFC is the primary medico-legal death investigator. Non-jurisdictional counties (blue on the map below) are those where there is an appointed Medical Examiner—not Dr. Mileusnic or one of the other RFC Deputy/Assistant Medical Examiners—who is a Tennessee-licensed physician responsible for conducting medico-legal investigative activities. These Medical Examiners may or may not also have Medico-legal Death Investigators working for them in their counties.



It is important to note that many cases come to Knox County from non-jurisdictional counties because of the Level 1 Trauma Center and referral hospitals located in the community. When this happens, the Knox County RFC coordinates activities with the Medical Examiner from the county in which the incident occurred.

Staffing

There are 30 full-time staff at the Regional Forensic Center including the Chief Medical Examiner, the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, two Assistant Medical Examiners/Forensic Pathologists, the Chief Administrative Officer, two Forensic Clerks, a manager for the eight Medico-legal Death Investigators, a manager for the ten Autopsy Technicians, a Physician's Administrative Assistant and an Administrative Assistant. A part-time Forensic Anthropologist is also contracted.

Medical Examiners/Forensic Pathologist

All Medical Examiners/Forensic Pathologists, of which there are four, are board-certified by the American Board of Pathology in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology and the American Board of Pathology Certification in Forensic Pathology. They also all hold appointments as either Associate or Assistant Professors with the University of Tennessee and an affiliation with the board-certified Forensic Odonatologist. They also assist with the University of Tennessee's Department of Pathology Resident Graduate Medical Education.

These staff members are responsible for the professional, medical-legal death investigation and determination of the cause and manner of death for cases handled at the RFC. They are experts in the evaluation of sudden unexpected natural deaths and unnatural deaths such as those caused by firearms, sharp and blunt force trauma, among others. They are frequently called to testify on cause of death and share their medical findings and interpretations, particularly in homicide cases. These individuals consult in forensic neuropathology, odontology, anthropology and other disciplines to assist in their evaluations of cases.

Forensic Pathologists complete Death Certificates for cases in Knox and Anderson Counties. At the request of the County Medical Examiner, they will also complete Death Certificates on certain cases sent to the RFC from other counties. When physicians in Knox and Anderson Counties refuse to sign a Death Certificate on their patient, Forensic Pathologists will also complete Death Certificates for those cases, in order to ensure that the final act of patient/victim care is completed for the decedent and their family.

Medico-legal Death Investigators (MDI)

The Medico-legal Death Investigators are required to become certified by the American Board of Medico-legal Death Investigators; four of the local investigators are Diplomats with the organization and five are in the process of earning certification.

These staff members have an initial responsibility for accepting or declining jurisdiction for death cases reported to the RFC. If jurisdiction is accepted, MDIs are responsible for a variety of activities to guarantee the case is properly investigated.

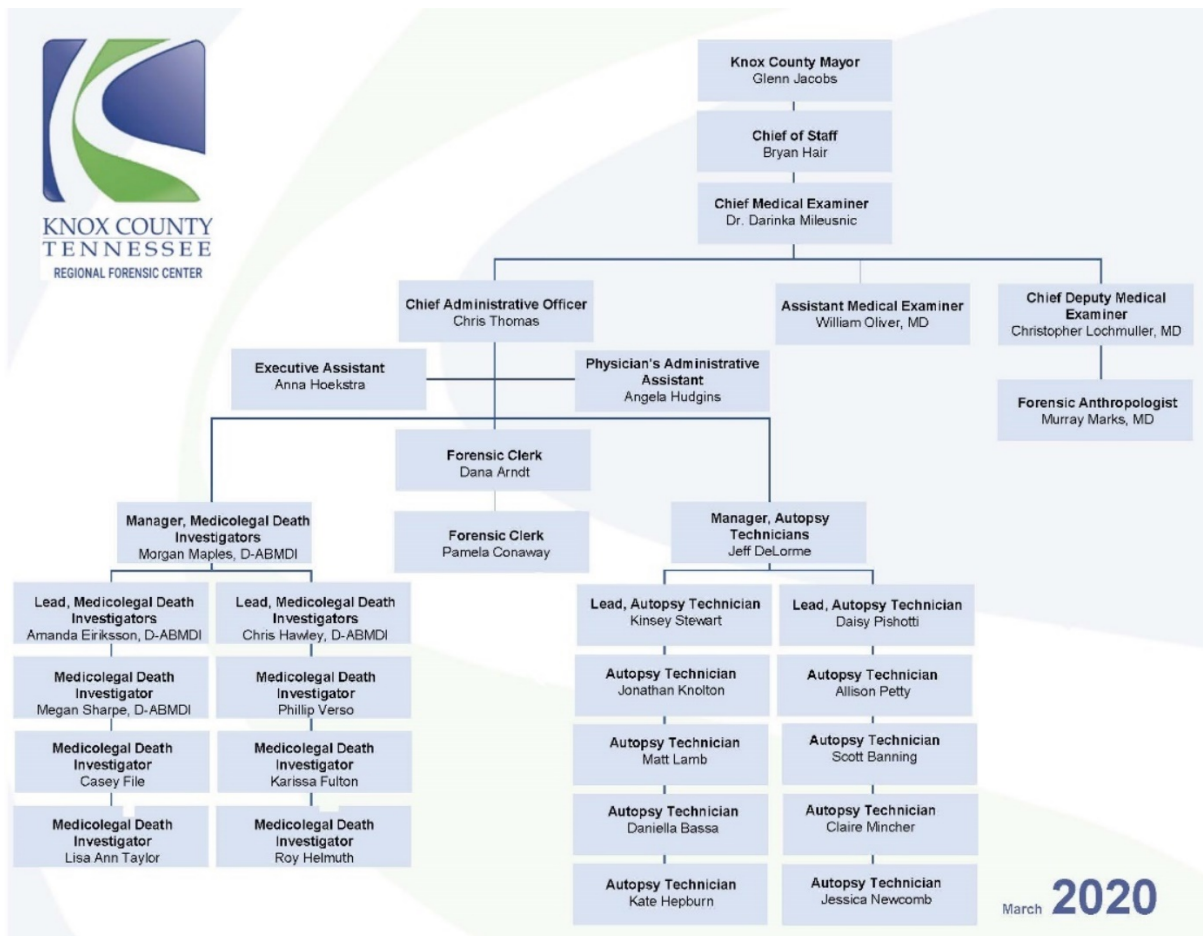
Autopsy Technicians

The Autopsy Technician staffers are responsible for coordinating anthropology assignments, X-rays, lab testing and other activities for the decedent and receiving/releasing them from the RFC; assisting Forensic Pathologists in conducting autopsies and external examinations; and working with funeral homes to transition the decedent for their final disposition and assist in finger printing and evidence processing for law enforcement.

Forensic Clerks

The Forensic Clerk staffers are responsible for coordinating Forensic Pathologists' schedules for depositions and court testimony, medical billing, tracking death certifications, completing open records requests, assuring proper case closure and coordinating indigent internment, among other activities. They work with funeral homes, law enforcement, District Attorney's, lawyers, families, media and others to ensure requested information is provided in a timely manner. Forensic Clerks are also responsible for coordinating proper Death Certificate actions between the State of Tennessee Department of Vital Records, Funeral Homes and the Regional Forensic Center.

The Center's organizational structure is as follows.



National Association of Medical Examiners Accreditation

The National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) is the national professional organization of forensic pathologists, physician medical examiners, medical death investigators, death investigation system administrators and consultants who perform the official duties of medico-legal investigation of deaths of public interest in the United States.

Accreditation is a rigorous process and requires a lengthy inspection by an independent Medical Examiner appointed by NAME. The accreditation requirements are extensive and include more than 360 items covering diverse points of quality ranging from how specimens are labeled to the professional qualifications/certifications of staff members.

The Knox County Regional Forensic Center achieved the distinction of Accreditation by the National Association of Medical Examiners in May 2010 and has maintained accreditation since that date. The Center undergoes an annual review of accreditation standards and an on-site inspection every five years. Receiving full accreditation with no deficiencies in June 2019 marked 10 years of continuous accreditation for the RFC. The next on-site accreditation visit for the office will be in the summer of 2020.

Below is a table outlining the essential NAME data collected in 2019. For clarification, “in jurisdiction” references Anderson and Knox Counties; “non-jurisdiction” refers to the other 21 service/referral counties the RFC serves. A “full autopsy” is classified as a complete external and internal examination of a decedent. An “external examination” is one focusing on the exterior of the decedent. A “limited examination” is one focused on a specific organ or region of the body (these can include external examination).

Measure	2019 Number
Deaths in jurisdiction (all deaths including non-ME/C cases)	7,862
Deaths reported to the office	5,890
Deaths investigated (certified)	5,890
Scenes investigated by ME/C staff	1,274
Bodies brought to the facility	1,971
Bodies transported to the facility which were paid for or transported by the ME/C	0
Inspections (External examinations)	943
Autopsies performed in jurisdiction	440
Autopsies performed outside jurisdiction	579
Partial autopsies	5
Toxicology only	2
Microscopic studies	726
Formal neuropathic studies	3
Formal cardiac pathologic studies	0
Deaths certified as homicide	73
Homicides autopsied	72
Death certified as suicide	200
Suicides autopsied	107
Non MVA-Accident deaths certified	800
Non MVA-Accident deaths autopsied	440
MVA Accidental deaths certified	167
MVA-Accidental deaths autopsied	66
Deaths certified as natural	751
Natural deaths autopsied	301
Death certified as undetermined or unclassified	42
Undetermined autopsied	41
Unidentified bodies	2
Unidentified bodies autopsied	2
Organ donations	60
Corneal and other tissue donations	77
Average number of bodies in storage at the facility per day	48

Regional Forensic Center Cases in 2019

Based on the latest United States Census Bureau data, the approximate combined population of Knox and Anderson Counties is 545,609. According to the reported provisional data from Tennessee Vital Statistics, 7,862 deaths occurred in the two counties in 2019, or 1.44 percent of the population. Of these deaths, 4,908, or 62.4 percent, were reported to the Medical Examiner.

Based on analysis of the circumstances, and scenes, of these reported deaths and the medical history of the decedents, the Regional Forensic Center performed autopsy exams on 1,762 of these reported deaths equating to 35.9 percent of all deaths within the RFC jurisdiction.

Referrals

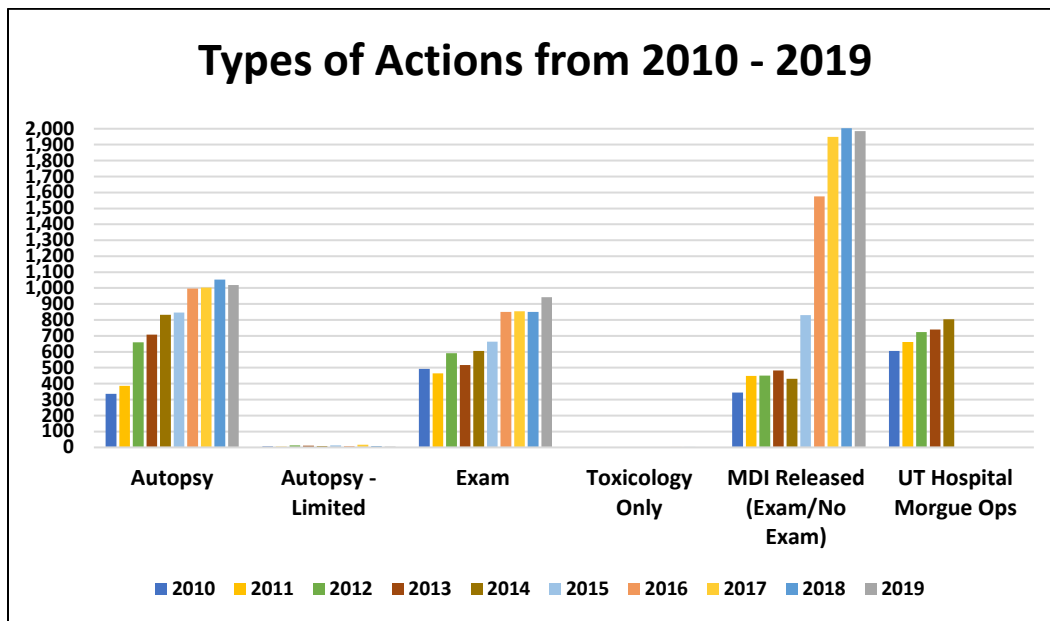
Every referral requires a preliminary screening by the RFC medical death investigation staff to determine if the case falls within the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner. There were deaths reported to the Medical Examiner in which jurisdiction was released to another county.

Data

The number of deaths reported to the Regional Forensic Center is growing each year. The following graphics will illustrate the progression of that growth; it will also depict an increase in the number of procedures completed at the Regional Forensic Center. The data comprising the charts that follow represents a mix of jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional cases where Knox County provided autopsy or consulting services or completed work prior to a decedent being cremated. Note that a case can have more than one activity depicted in the charts.

Number and Type of Actions Completed by the RFC Over 10 Years

These charts depict the amount and types of some of the activities handled by the RFC over a 10-year period.

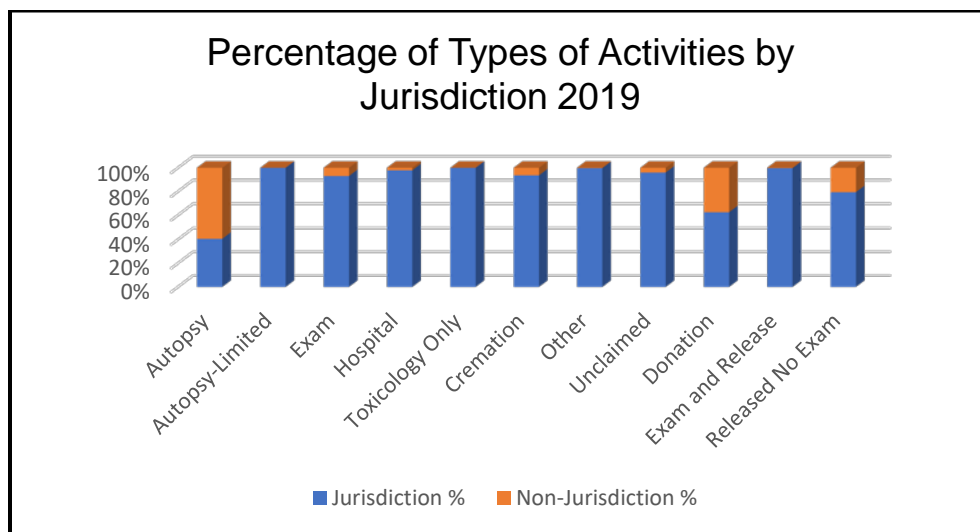


Types of Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Autopsy (1)	336	387	659	708	833	846	996	1,003	1,054	1,019
Autopsy - Limited	7	5	13	11	9	12	8	17	8	5
Exam	493	464	592	516	605	663	850	855	850	943
Toxicology Only	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	2
MDI Released (Exam/No Exam)	344	448	451	482	431	830	1,575	1,948	2,003	1,987
UT Hospital Morgue Ops (2)	606	662	723	740	804	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,786	1,966	2,438	2,457	2,682	2,351	3,429	3,826	3,918	3,956

Deaths Reported to the RFC

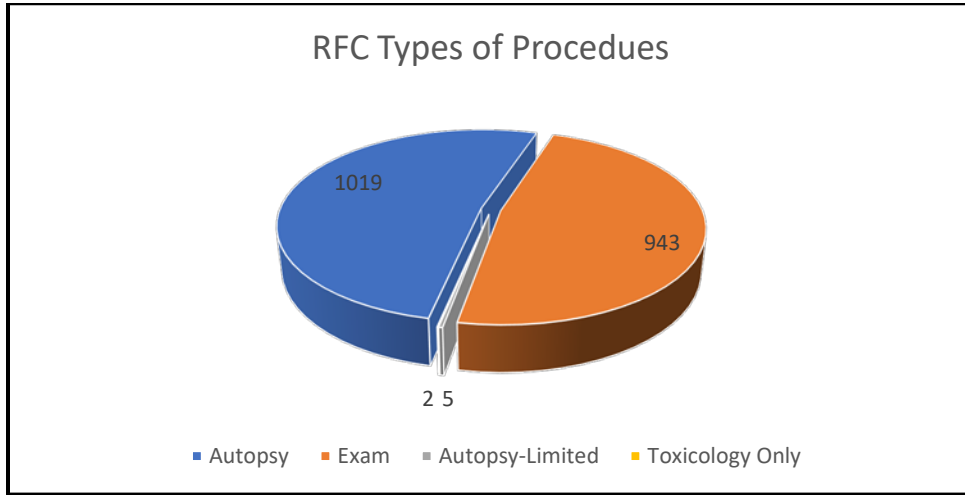
The chart and graph that follow depict the amount/percentage and types of cases handled by the RFC in 2019 and denote how each case was jurisdictionally classified.

Types of Activities	Within Jurisdiction	Out of Jurisdiction	Total
Autopsy-Full	394	578	972
Autopsy - Limited	5	0	5
Exam	877	66	943
Hospital/Private Autopsy	46	1	47
Toxicology Only	2	0	2
Cremation	3,390	231	3,621
Other	1,929	5	1,934
Unclaimed/Public Fiduciary	48	2	50
Donation	5	3	8
Exam and Released	392	1	393
Released No Exam	1,266	328	1,594
Total	8,302	1,214	9,516

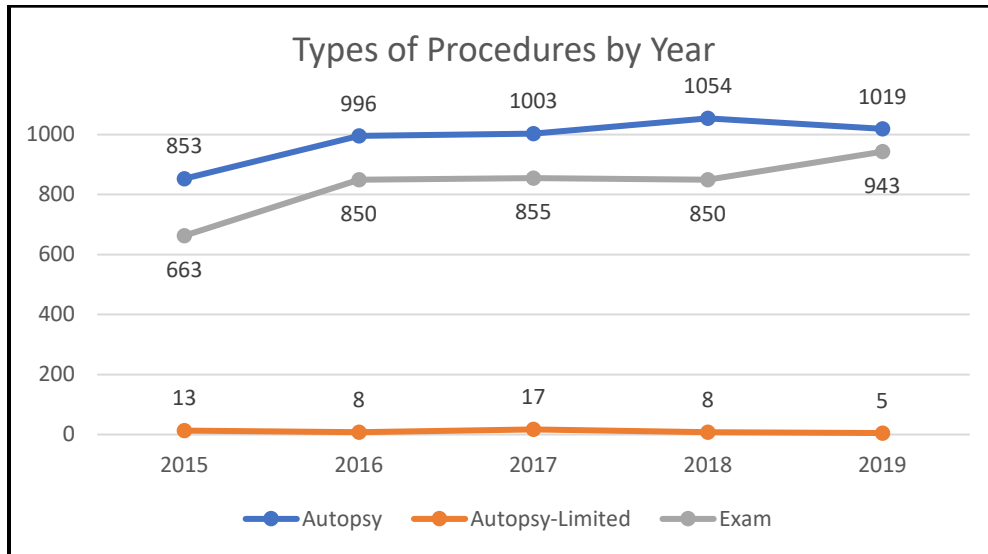


Exam Types

These next charts and graphs depict the types of procedures completed by RFC Medical Examiners/Pathologists in 2019.

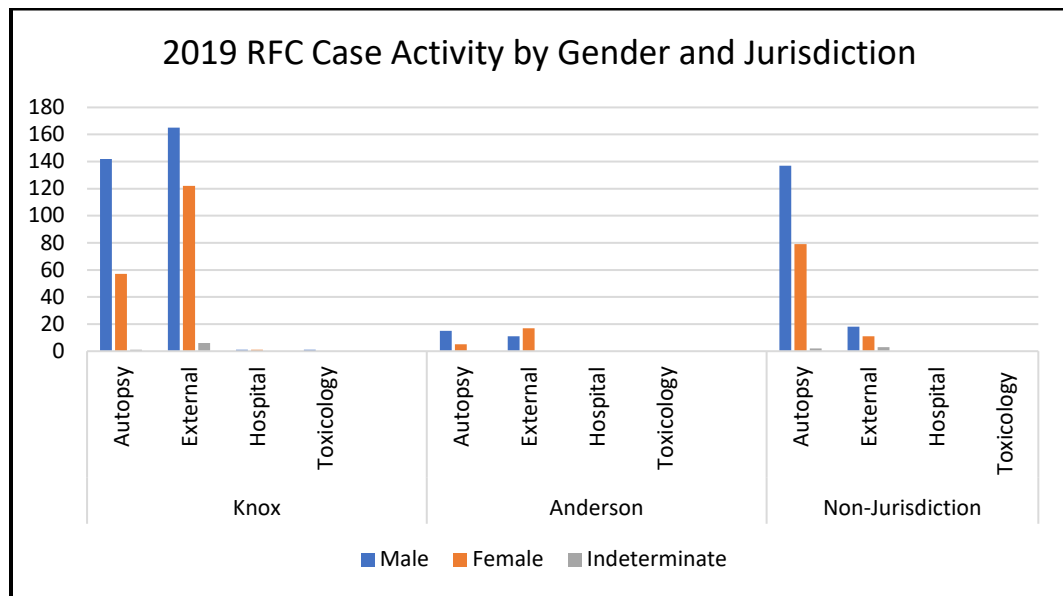
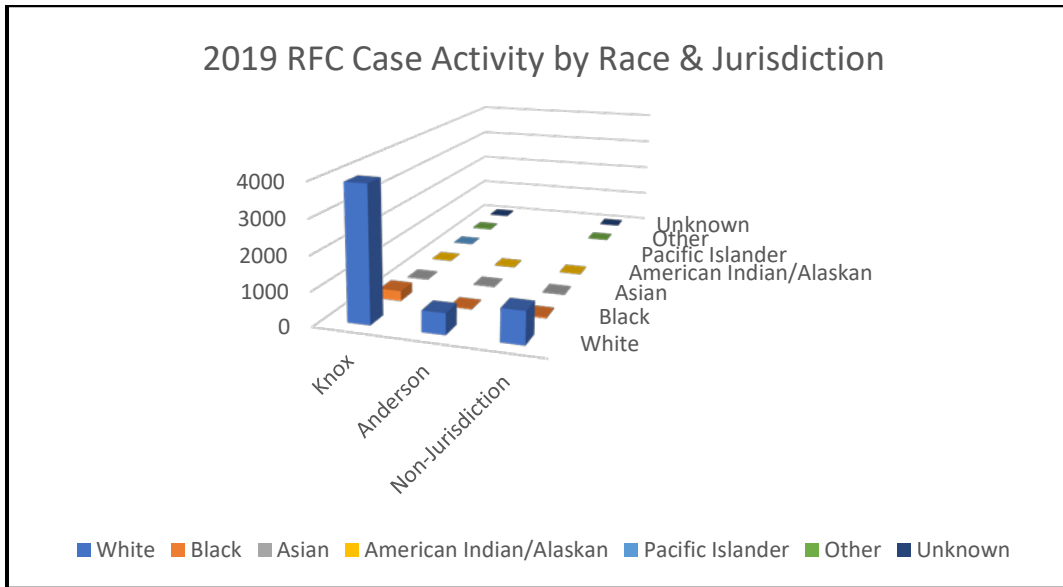


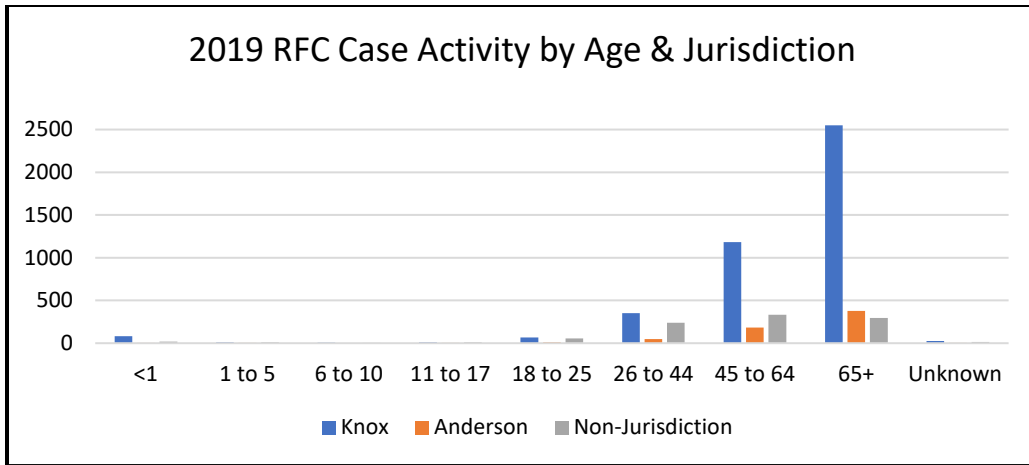
Procedure Type by Jurisdiction				
Procedure	Knox	Anderson	Out of Jurisdiction	Total
Autopsy-Full	393	47	579	1,019
Autopsy – Limited	4	1	0	5
Exam	777	100	66	943
Toxicology Only	2	0	0	2
Total	1,176	148	645	1,969



Case Demographics of RFC Activities

Following are graphs illustrate some of the demographics—including gender, age and race—on various types of activities conducted at the RFC. Demographics are not collected for all activities.



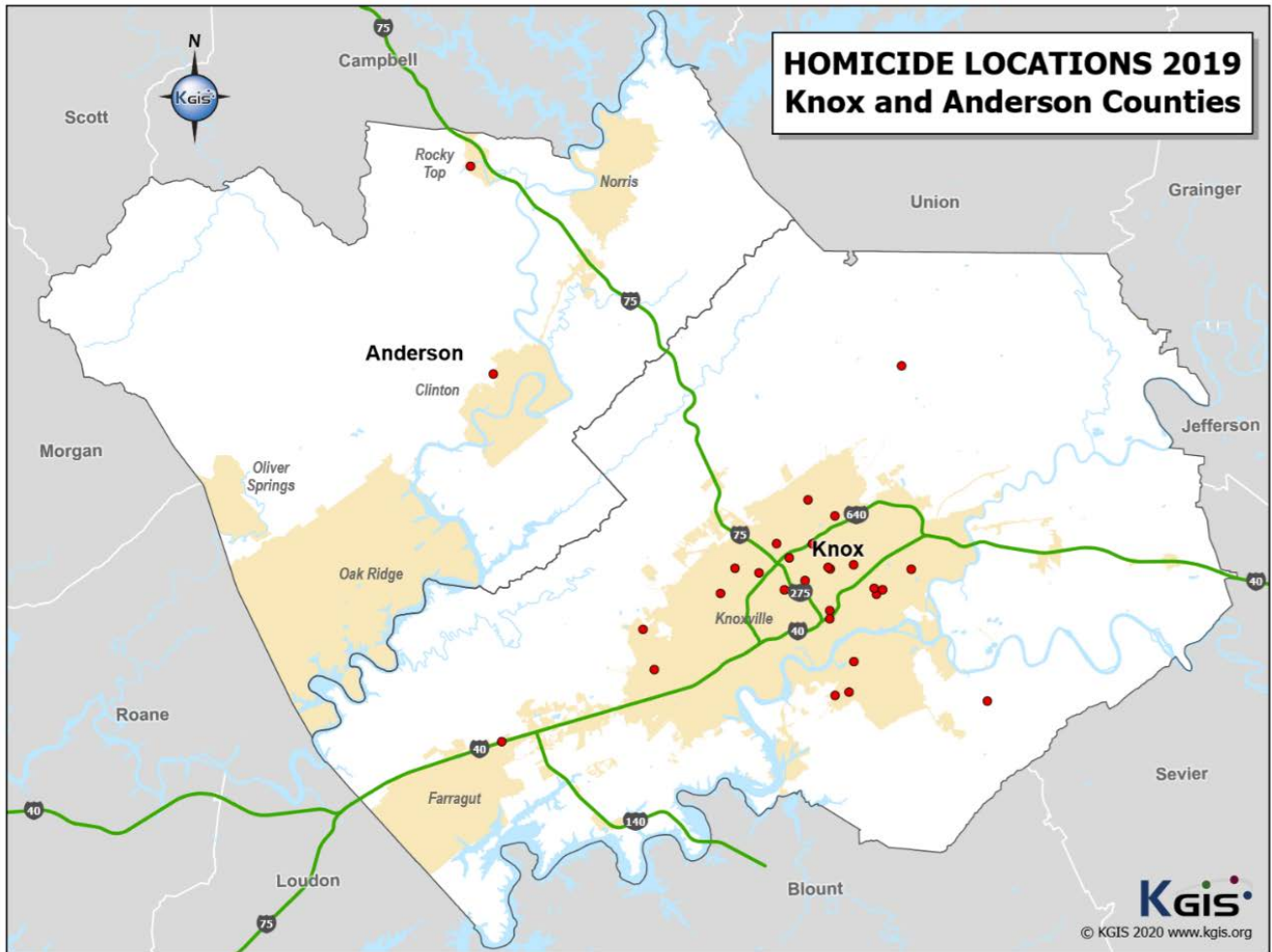
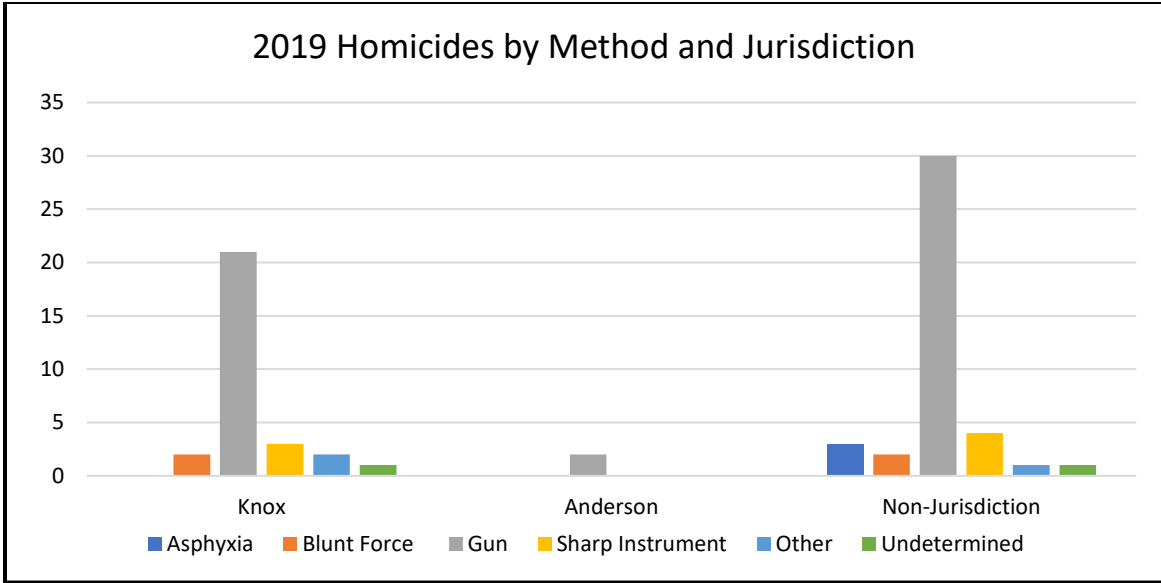


Manner of Death Classification for Reported Cases

The charts that follow depict how the RFC classified Manner of Death for cases in 2019.

2019 Manner of Death Summary for All Counties by Jurisdiction				
Manner of Death	Knox	Anderson	Out of Jurisdiction	Total
Accident MVA	104	10	53	167
Accident - Non MVA	497	49	254	800
Suicide	83	24	93	200
Homicide	29	2	42	73
Natural	501	75	175	751
Undetermined	14	1	29	44
Pending	0	0	0	0
Total	1,228	161	646	2,035

2019 Homicides by Method and Jurisdiction				
	Knox	Anderson	Out of Jurisdiction	Total
Asphyxia	0	0	3	3
Blunt Force	2	0	1	3
Gun	22	2	30	54
Sharp Instrument	3	0	4	7
Other	1	0	3	4
Undetermined	1	0	1	2
Total	29	2	42	73

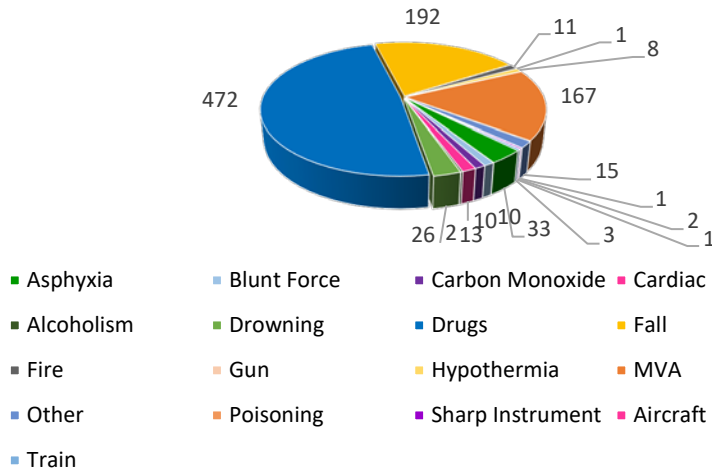


2019 Suicides by Method and Jurisdiction				
	Knox	Anderson	Out of Jurisdiction	Total
Hanging	26	7	27	60
Carbon Monoxide	0	1	3	4
Blunt Force	2	0	0	2
Drowning	0	0	3	3
Gun	43	14	53	110
Overdose	7	2	6	15
Fire	1	0	1	2
Sharp Instrument	4	0	0	4
Total	1,228	161	646	2,035

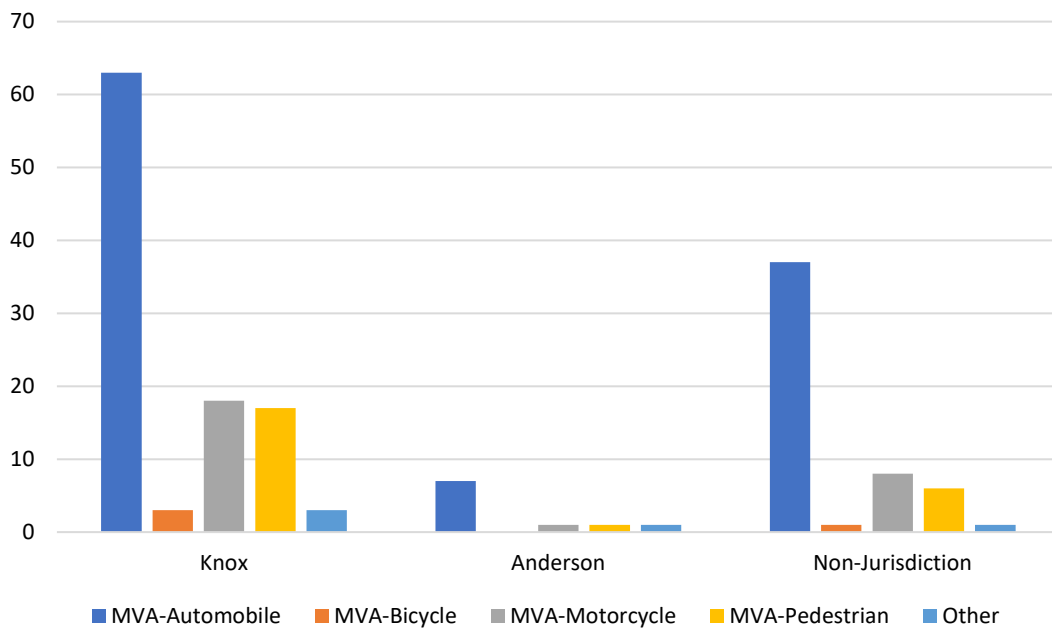
In the chart below, “other” refers to anaphylaxis, diabetes, infection, multi-system, nervous system, pancreatitis, pulmonary, seizure or thromboembolism.

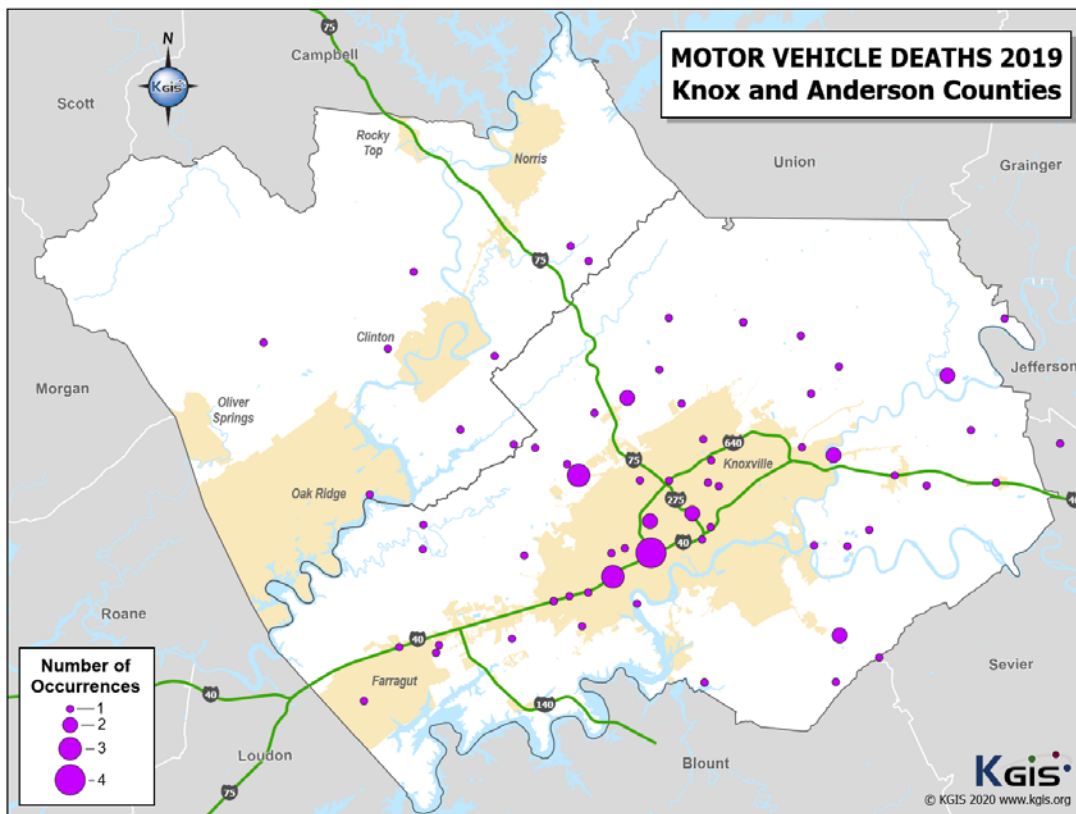
2019 Accidental Deaths by Cause and Jurisdiction				
Cause of Death	Knox	Anderson	Out of Jurisdiction	Total
Asphyxia	16	2	15	33
Blunt Force	8	0	2	10
Carbon Monoxide	4	1	5	10
Cardiac	6	1	6	13
Alcoholism	2	0	0	2
Drowning	9	3	14	26
Drugs	274	23	175	472
Fall	158	14	20	192
Fire	4	2	5	11
Gun	1	0	0	1
Hypothermia	5	1	2	8
MVA	104	10	53	167
Other	5	1	9	15
Poisoning	1	0	0	1
Sharp Instrument	2	0	0	2
Aircraft	0	1	0	1
Train	2	0	1	3
Total	601	59	307	967

2019 Accidental Deaths by Cause



2019 MVA by Type and Jurisdiction

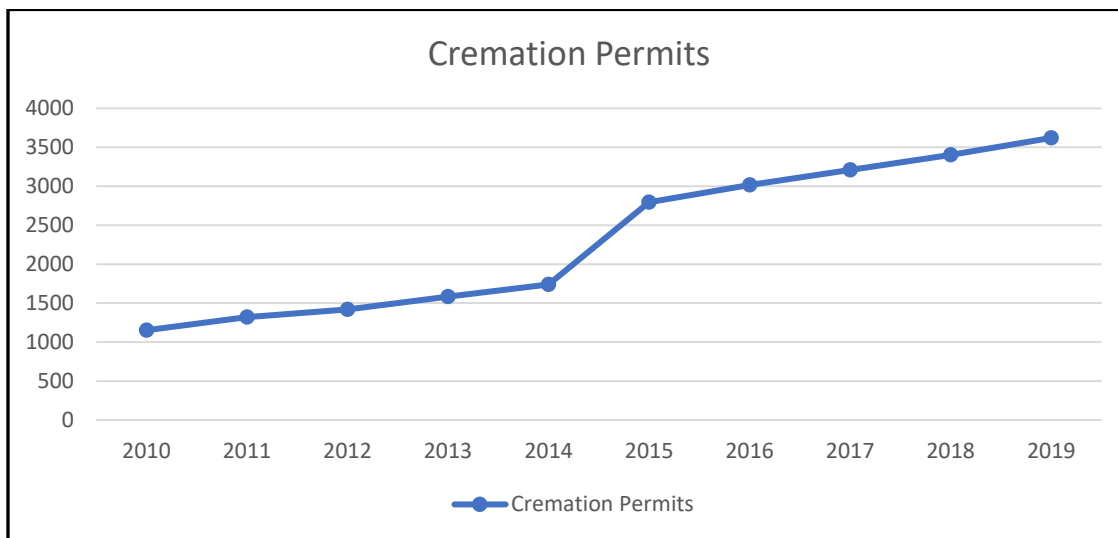




Cremation Authorizations in 2019

The RFC has statutory responsibility to review and sign cremation authorizations prior to a body being cremated which also includes the review of the cremation authorization forms and death certificates of each decedent by a Medical Examiner.

In 2019, RFC Medical Examiners authorized 3,621 cremations. The following chart depicts the 10-year history of cremation authorizations completed.

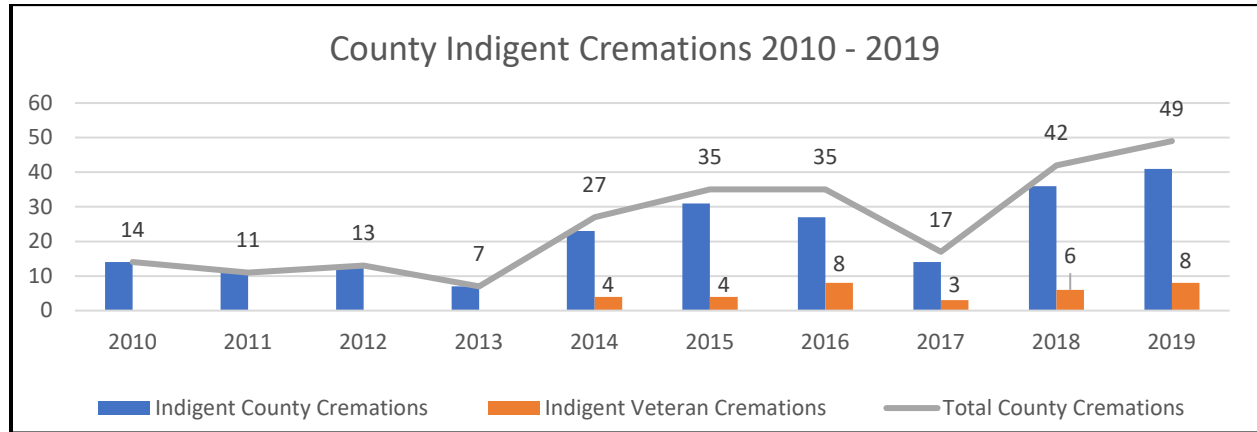


Indigent Cremation

When the body from a Medical Examiner’s case goes unclaimed or remains unidentified, it is declared indigent. In these circumstances, the RFC will cremate and inter the body in Knox County’s mausoleum. This is done only for Medical Examiner cases.

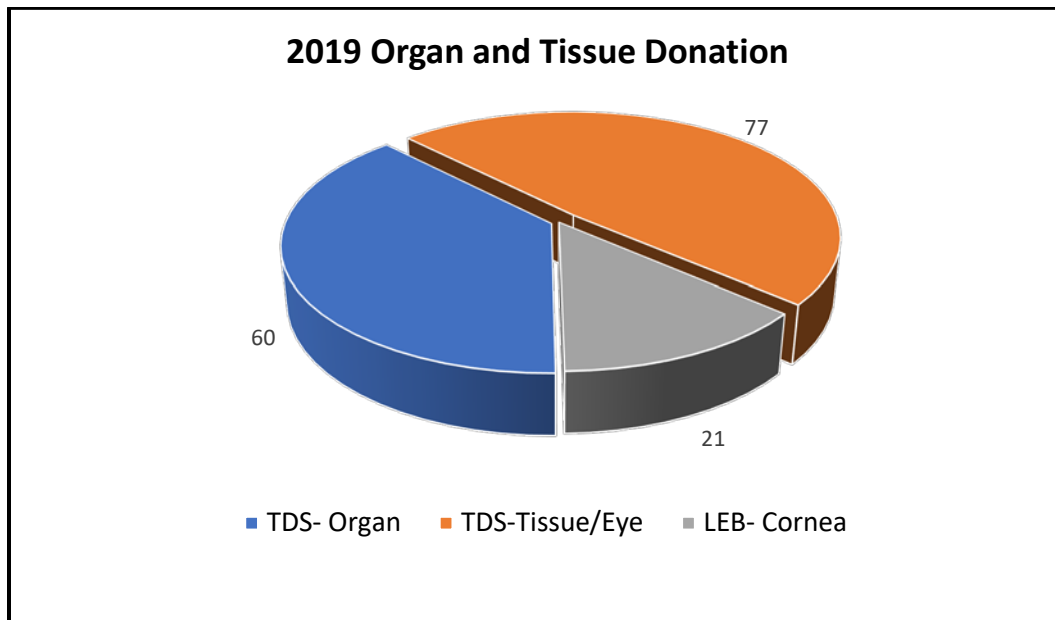
Before moving forward with indigent cremation and internment, the RFC also completes a check for Veteran’s status. If the body is determined to have Veteran’s status, the RFC works with the local Homeless Veteran’s Burial Program to provide a proper military burial.

The following chart demonstrates the 9-year history of indigent cremations processed by the RFC.



Organ and Tissue Donations

The Knox County RFC has statutory responsibility to review cases for tissue and organ donation prior to donation; it must also coordinate with organ donation groups within the Medical Examiner’s jurisdiction. The chart below depicts data provided by Tennessee Donor Services and East Tennessee Lion’s Eye Bank and depicts the number of tissue and organ donations completed in 2019.



Staff-Specific Data

Forensic Pathologists

Below are tables depicting the average turnaround time for case completion by each physician in 2019 and case completion rate by days, number of cases and percentage of complete cases.

2019	#	%
Incomplete	19	.97%
Cases Over 90 Days	24	1.22%
Cases Over 60 Days	94	4.78%
Cases Between 30-60 Days	322	16.87%
Cases Under 30 Days	1,498	76.16%
Total	1,967	100%

Medico-Legal Death Investigations (MDI)

The charts below depict the types of actions completed by MDIs.

Case by Disposition Category in 2019						
Case Administration - Investigator	Jurisdiction Declined- Autopsy	Jurisdiction Declined - No Autopsy	Other	Released to Funeral Home	Sent to Autopsy Facility	Total
Robin Slattery (left)	4	155	40	29	139	267
Casey File	6	65	31	20	65	187
Morgan Maples (Manager)	14	264	60	56	284	687
Amanda Eiriksson	14	316	131	66	499	1026
Megan Sharpe	10	306	154	72	375	917
Lucinda Burnham (left)	1	120	15	22	54	211
Christine Hawley	8	243	57	91	319	718
Karissa Fulton	1	56	21	21	71	170
Lisa Taylor	0	0	11	1	1	13
Phil Verso	3	69	11	15	89	187
Total by Disposition	61	1,594	531	393	1,612	4,383
% of Total Cases by Disposition	1.39%	36.36%	12.11%	8.96%	36.77%	

2019 On-Scene Investigator Visits	
Investigator	Number
Robin Slattery (left)	92
Casey File	54
Morgan Maples	183
Amanda Eiriksson	289
Megan Sharpe	244
Lucinda Burnham (left)	46
Christine Hawley	245
Karissa Fulton	51
Lisa Taylor	1
Phil Verso	60
Total	1,265

Autopsy Technicians

The chart below reports the types of actions completed by the Autopsy Technicians and how quickly autopsy or external examinations were completed once the decedent arrived at the RFC—which impacts how quickly the RFC can release the decedent to the funeral home for final disposition.

2019 Days and Percentage of Cases Where an Autopsy/Exam was Performed from Time of Arrival at RFC		
Within 48 Hours	1832	95.42%
Within 72 Hours	1904	99.17%
Total	1920	

The chart that follows shows how many toxicology tests were performed at the Regional Forensic Center and where they went for testing.

2019 Toxicology Locations		
Location Sent	Number	%
Axis	305	18.99%
TBI	59	3.67%
LabCorp	34	2.12%
NMS	1,208	75.22%
Total	1,606	100%

Forensic Clerks

RFC Forensic Clerks filled over 1,500 open and subpoenaed records requests and coordinated the completion of 1,862 Death Certificates in 2019.