



VALERIE CAYLOR CCP, FP-C
Lincoln County Coroner

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📍 801 N Sales Street
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September 2023 Statistical Report

Reported Deaths – 34

Formal Death investigations – 6

Suicides – 0

Autopsies - 0

Accidental – 1

Cremation Permits Issued – 19

Death Certificates signed – 5

Cases with fees waived due to indigent/special status – 0

Total estimated hours worked – 39

Total number of hours on call - 680

Miles Traveled –111.8

Revenue:

Cremation Permits = \$1,900

Death Certificates = \$375

Total Revenue = \$2,275



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October 2023

Reported Deaths – 24

Formal Death investigations – 6

Suicide – 0

Covid - 1

Accidental – 1

Autopsies - 0

Cremation Permits Issued – 17

Death Certificates signed – 6

Cases with fees waived due to indigent status – 2

Total estimated hours worked – 47

Miles Traveled – 101.6

Revenue:

Cremation Permits: \$1,500

Death Certificates: \$375

Total: \$1,875



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October 2023

This past month I finished teaching the deputies, detectives and command staff my class on basic death investigations. I taught this same class to Merrill PD staff this spring. These classes allow me to explain to them my techniques and requirements for deaths. In the past, deaths outside of the hospital would be handled based upon who was working for law enforcement. Now we have a rigorous process that they are supposed to follow so all stakeholders are involved and on the same page. MPD actually redesigned the death packets that their officers carry into scenes to gather information after this training. I would be more than willing to provide an abridged version of this class to this committee some day or to any official. I still remember Paul Proulx remarking on how they were discussing a rather large death investigation in this committee and a member asked him straight up 'oh, you went to that call? I didn't know you did that'. Although I do not intend to have you all certified as death investigators I honestly believe that not many people understand what this office does and the importance of a complete investigation when it comes to families.

The morgue cooler was used again this past month. A male collapsed while visiting a friend's home in the City of Merrill and despite interventions, he was pronounced dead at the scene by myself. MPD attempted to locate family members but that did not happen until the next day when they found a daughter in the far southern US. Once again, I was able to use the van, cot and cooler to store the remains until the daughter made a decision on a funeral home, something that took her an entire weekend to do.

The first meeting of the stakeholders of the death review committee occurred this past month. The meeting was more of a training session offered by the Children's Alliance of Milwaukee Thanks to their guidance we were able to set the parameters of the deaths we will review going forward. We expect this first meeting to be held in January and it likely will be a lengthy event as we will need to look back at all of the deaths that meet our criteria for 2023. Once we get started, I anticipate us meeting quarterly.

There seems to be a sharp contrast between Paul Proulx's tenure in office versus mine. It seemed whenever Paul left town a large number of deaths would occur and in some case some very high profile incidents. I am happy to say our community stayed healthy and safe while I was gone to Italy, with only one scene death investigation happening. Of course, the day after I returned the phone started ringing. Perhaps the county can fund more extensive vacations for me in the future to help keep the community safe. 😊

