

APPROVED BY:



**VALERIE CAYLOR CCP, FP-C**  
Lincoln County Coroner

✉ Valerie.Caylor@co.lincoln.wi.us

☎ 715-966-3477

📠 715-539-8432

☎ Dispatch: 715-536-6272

📍 801 N Sales Street  
Merrill, WI 54452

## **January 2024 Statistical Report**

Reported Deaths – 34

Formal Death investigations – 10

Suicide - 3

Accidental – 2

Autopsies - 1

Cremation Permits Issued – 25

Death Certificates signed – 10

Cases with fees waived due to indigent status – 0

Total estimated hours worked – 35.5

On Call Hours: 576

Miles Traveled – 9.96

Revenue:

Cremation Permits = \$2,500

Death Certificates = \$750

Total Revenue = \$3,250



## January 2024

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The month of January 2024 was much like January of 2023 with a sudden rush of deaths to start the month out. In the first seven days of the month, I had eight death notifications. Technically, it will show 2023 as having more death, however this month we had some complex cases that required much more time and study to come to conclusions.

One of the first things I want to point out for concerning news is the amount of suicides this past month. In 2023, my office investigated three suicides for the entire year, which is less than the average per year. In January of 2024, we had three suicides for the month, an alarming number for any month. The only thing these three suicides had in common was, they were men. They ranged in age from 27 to 95 year of age and none of them was a veteran of military service. Our local media and social media does a very good job of promoting the resources available for those who are suffering from mental health emergencies, and it appeared all three of these men had a support network, but as we often see in Lincoln County, once the decision is made that network is the last to know. I will continue to monitor this closely and report on any trends. I hope that it is with positive news.

Another case this month required an autopsy in Madison. The pathologist was not able to pin point a cause of death but it certainly points a certain direction for a natural, sudden death of a person who was quite young. In speaking with the pathologist after my toxicology, reports showed no red flags, she volunteered the services of UW Madison to do very detailed DNA genetic research using fluids we collected from the decedent. It is hoped that we can assist her young children with very important health information that could potentially save their lives. Again, this is being offered at no cost thanks to our positive working relationship with UW.

As I verbally reported last month, we had our first death review committee meeting at the start of last month. I felt it was a very positive meeting as far as information sharing and planning. I did do a press release on the meeting to show the county is being pro-active in our work to prevent deaths. I did get quite a bit of publicity off the amount of deadly falls that happen not only in Wisconsin but also in Lincoln County. Perhaps we can credit that with Lincoln County only have two accidental deaths in January of 2024?

The funeral home in Minnesota that was delinquent in their payment to my office has been made whole. They tried to place blame on the local funeral home saying they billed them for the death certificate when they billed them for the other services they provided locally. Luckily, I was aware and double-checked, this funeral home is meticulous in their billing and no such charge was ever made. I did inform the Minnesota funeral home that I was satisfied it was a bookkeeping error and copied the state of Minnesota Department of Licensing in on the final letter as well.

My morgue had its first family visitors this past month. A sudden death in the Town of Pine River involved a young man whose family was from the Fox Valley. After being informed of the death by law enforcement, they showed up at the service center then reached out to me. They, along with members of their church came to the morgue building where they were able to meet, identify their loved one, pray as a group and eventually meet the funeral home they selected to handle the services. This was not the intention of our morgue, but in a pinch, it was a nice clean professional setting for their reunion, and they were very happy it was able to work out for them to say goodbye.

Still waiting on Corp Counsel to tell you about the price increases for services,

Name: Valerie Caylor

Period: 31-Jan-24

\*\*\*\*\*Any meal reimbursements for same day travel will be considered taxable income and included in your gross wages.\*\*\*\*\*

Account Distribution	Taxable	Nontaxable
		\$ -

Incentive Rate = IRS Standard Rate (currently 0.655/mi)  
Regular Rate = .09 Less Than Incentive (currently 0.565/mi)

	Max Meal Rates	Leave times
Breakfast	\$7.00	lve before 6:30 am
Lunch	\$9.00	lve bef 10:30 aft 2:30
Dinner	\$13.00	return after 6:00 pm

SUMMARY		
1	Mileage	\$ 72.84
2	Meals	\$ -
3	Other	\$ -
	Total Due	<u>\$ 72.84</u>

I certify that this request is true and correct, and that I hold a valid driver's license in the State of Wisconsin and insurance consistent with the reimbursement requested.

GRANT ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES

GRANT NAME/PROJECT:  
GRANT NAME/PROJECT:  
GRANT NAME/PROJECT:  
GRANT NAME/PROJECT:  
GRANT NAME/PROJECT:

COMPLETED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor

Date \_\_\_\_\_