



# E-Forum Newsletter

## Interested in becoming a Medical Examiner?

Recent legal changes now allow dentists to qualify to serve as medical examiners. The Department of Health and Human Services is actively seeking dentists to serve in this vital role, and they have asked the Board to share the following information with you:

**Subject:** Seeking Dentists to be Medical Examiners - \$200/exam

Looking for a new challenge in your healthcare career? Opportunity to serve your community? Consider [applying to become a North Carolina Medical Examiner!](#)

**What is a Medical Examiner (ME)?** MEs are clinical professionals who receive special training. They are on call in their communities to investigate, produce a report and complete death certificates for sudden, unexpected, violent, and suspicious deaths.

**Who is eligible?** North Carolina licensed medical physicians, physician assistants, registered nurses, nurse practitioners, **dentists**, physical therapists, paramedics as well as certified pathology assistants\* and medicolegal death investigators\*\* living in or near the vacant counties.

**What are the requirements?** Ability to serve one or more designated counties, be on-call based on availability, attend a 4-day training course to continue making an impact in our communities across the state.

Current vacancies: We are searching to appoint at least two Medical Examiners in each of the following counties to serve a three-year term:

- Alamance
- Brunswick
- Columbus
- Cumberland
- Durham
- Guilford
- Halifax



# NCDHHS

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### Upcoming Board Meetings

- August 18-19, 2023  
Morrisville, NC
- September 7-8, 2023  
Morrisville, NC
- October 13-14, 2023  
Morrisville, NC
- November 17-18, 2023  
Morrisville, NC
- December 8-9, 2023  
Morrisville, NC

## Interested in becoming a Medical Examiner? (Continued)



# NCDHHS

- Iredell
- Moore
- Northampton
- Rutherford

\*Certified by American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP)

\*\*Certified by American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI)

Although we will accept applications from other counties, those applications will be held until there is a need in that specific county.

Interested in learning more? Check out our Medical Examiner page [here](#).

### Training dates for this year are:

September 18-21 in Wilmington, NC

November 27-30 TBD

### About the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner:

As a healthcare professional, you serve as an integral part of delivering quality care to people across North Carolina. The work you do everyday challenges you to find answers and solutions to ensure people leave with the resources and solutions to positively impact their health. If you want to continue to find and provide answers, care for people and their families, and seek a new challenge, The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner is looking for you to join the team!

The North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner provides the best care to every decedent by conducting accurate, scientific, timely, and compassionate assessments of medical examiner (ME) jurisdiction deaths. MEs take the lead on sudden, unexpected, violent, and suspicious deaths and investigate the death to provide a report and complete death certificates in these cases.

For additional questions, reach out to Patricia Fore at [patricia.fore@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:patricia.fore@dhhs.nc.gov).



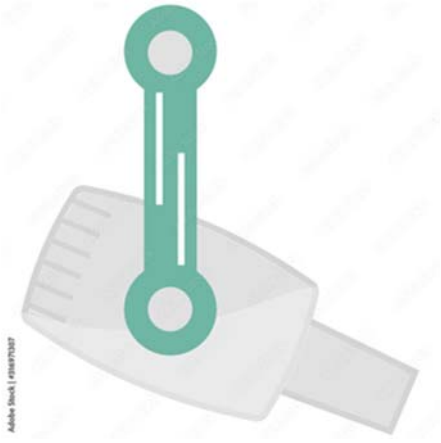
## Interpretive Statements on Anxiolysis

The Dental Board has developed an Interpretive Statements on administering Anxiolytic drugs. Here is a link to the recent statement for Adult/Geriatric patients:

<https://www.ncdentalboard.org/PDF/Anxiolysis%20BODE%20Interpretive%20Statement%203-13-23.pdf>

Here is a link to the recent statement for Pediatric patients:

<https://www.ncdentalboard.org/PDF/2023-05-17%20Pediatric%20Anxiolysis%20Interpretive%20Statement.pdf>



## New Rules in effect for Radiology Courses

### New Rules in effect for Radiology Courses

This new rule provides guidance on what a radiology course must include to be recognized by the Board as satisfying the training requirements of NCGS 90-29(c)(12).

<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2021%20-%20Occupational%20licensing%20boards%20and%20commissions/chapter%2016%20-%20dental%20examiners/subchapter%20h/21%20ncac%2016h%20.0105.pdf>



## New Officers Elected

At its July meeting, Board members elected **Dr. Catherine Watkins** from Winston-Salem to serve as President of the Board, and **Dr. Mark Johnson** from New Bern to serve as Secretary/Treasurer. Drs. Watkins and Johnson will hold these offices from August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024 or until new officers are elected. Current Board members and their terms may be found on page 4 of this publication.

### Meeting Information on our Website

Information on past and future Board meetings may be accessed directly from the Board's website.

The Meeting Announcements link will take you to a page that contains links to all scheduled Board meeting dates for the year. Also listed are links to Meeting Agendas and Meeting Minutes for the past few years.

The Board website address is:

<http://www.ncdentalboard.org>

*The purpose of the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners is to ensure that the dental profession merit and receive the confidence of the public and that only qualified persons be permitted to practice dentistry and dental hygiene in the state of North Carolina.*

## By the Numbers (as of July 1, 2023)

### Dentists:

Licensed by NC	7,337
Licensed and living in NC	6,410
Actively practicing in NC	6,021

### Dental Hygienists

Licensed by NC	8,696
Licensed and living in NC	7,697
Actively practicing in NC	6,626

### North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners

2000 Perimeter Park Drive  
Suite 160  
Morrisville, NC 27560

Phone: 919-678-8223  
Fax: 919-678-8472  
E-mail: [info@ncdentalboard.org](mailto:info@ncdentalboard.org)



### Current Board Members

	Term Expires
Catherine A. Watkins, DDS, President (Winston-Salem)*	2024
Mark W. Johnson, DDS, Secretary/Treasurer (New Bern)	2026
Karen E. Lanier, DDS, Past President (High Point)	2025
Edward J. Clemons, Jr., DDS, Past President (Durham)	2024
William M. Litaker, Jr., DDS (Hickory)	2026
W. Stan Hardesty, DDS (Raleigh)*	2025
Lori Hendrick, RDH (Shelby)*	2026
Dominic Totman, Consumer Member (Raleigh)	2024

\*Eligible to seek a second three-year term