

December 7, 2021 SESSION

LOCAL LAW

- a. A Local Law Relating to Certain Fees Collected by the Onondaga County Health Department and the Center for Forensic Sciences for Medical Examiner and Forensic Laboratory Services, and Further Amending Local Law No. 5-2019
(Sponsored by Ms. Abbott)

LOCAL LAW _____ - 2021

A LOCAL LAW RELATING TO CERTAIN FEES COLLECTED BY THE ONONDAGA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE CENTER FOR FORENSIC SCIENCES FOR MEDICAL EXAMINER AND FORENSIC LABORATORY SERVICES, AND FURTHER AMENDING LOCAL LAW NO. 5-2019

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Collection Authorized.

Local Law No. 13-2016, amended by Local Law No. 10-2017; Local Law No. 6 – 2018; and Local Law No. 5 – 2019, established a fee schedule for services performed through the Center for Forensic Sciences, collected by the Onondaga County Commissioner of Health, and it is necessary to empower the Commissioner to collect fees imposed by local law, including those authorized herein. The procedures for the collection of such fees shall be as prescribed by applicable laws, as may be amended, or as otherwise determined by the Commissioner.

Section 2. Fees to be Collected.

CENTER FOR FORENSIC SCIENCES - OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER

EXAMINATIONS

Autopsy Examination	\$2,990/case
External Examination	\$1,855/case
Special Cases (listed below)	\$4,015/case
Bariatric (BMI greater than or equal to 40) Autopsy Examination	
Homicide	
Initially Pending Manner of Death (age less than or equal to 3 years)	
Exhumations	
Repeat Autopsies	
Suspected Hazardous Material	
Infectious Biohazard	
Skeletal Examinations	
Human Remains	\$3,090/case
Non-Human Remains	\$310/case
Prisoner/Inmate Autopsy Examinations	\$4,635/case

MEDICAL EXAMINER CASE REVIEW / DEATH CERTIFICATION ONLY \$1,000/case

NON-MEDICAL EXAMINER / CASE REVIEW \$415/case

On-call service \$825

* On-call service may be requested when an outside county coroner/medical examiner is unable to cover death notifications. The OCMEO will receive all death notifications directly from law enforcement and other agencies to establish jurisdiction on behalf of the county requesting the service. Each date scheduled, regardless of the number of hours covered, will be charged at the flat rate above.

Case Review/Consultation

Initial Forensic Pathologist Case Review/Consultation*	\$925/case
Forensic Pathologist Case Review/Consultation, additional hours	\$465/hour
Forensic Investigator-Case Review/Consultation	\$310/hour
Forensic Chemist Case Review/Consultation	\$360/hour
Toxicologist Case Review/Consultation	\$410/hour

* Initial case review requires written authorization from the legal next of kin and a \$925, non-refundable payment at the time of consultation payable to the Onondaga County Health Department Fiscal Officer. Initial payment includes up to two (2) hours case review/consultation. Additional time is billed at the current hourly rate.

For all instances listed below in which there is an hourly fee, the amount of time spent on a particular service shall be billed to the client in half-hour increments.

Criminal Testimony

Forensic Pathologist Testimony/Deposition	\$310/hour
Forensic Investigator or Forensic Autopsy Technician Testimony/Deposition	\$155/hour
Toxicologist Testimony/Deposition	\$260/hour
Forensic Chemist Testimony/Deposition	\$205/hour
Non-CFS Consultants	Direct invoice to District Attorney/Other Attorney

Civil Testimony

Forensic Pathologist Testimony/Deposition	\$465/hour
Forensic Investigator or Forensic Autopsy Technician Testimony/Deposition	\$310/hour
Toxicologist Testimony/Deposition	\$410/hour
Forensic Chemist Testimony/Deposition	\$360/hour
Non-CFS Consultants	Direct invoice to District Attorney/Other Attorney

SCENE INVESTIGATION

Forensic Investigator Scene Response	\$260/hour
Forensic Pathologist and Forensic Investigator Scene Response	\$465/hour

TRAVEL EXPENSES

Travel Time (portal to portal)	\$155/hour
Mileage (current IRS rate), parking, tolls, meals, lodging	Actual cost and per diem expenses

IMAGING/ HISTOLOGY/ X-RAYS

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TOXICOLOGY

Driving Under Influence - Alcohol & Drugs	\$410/case
Driving Under Influence – Alcohol	\$155/case
Driving Under Influence – Drugs	\$360/case
Comprehensive Drug-Facilitated Sexual Crimes	\$400/case
Postmortem Toxicology*(without pathology examination)	\$465/case
Postmortem Toxicology (with pathology examination)	included in the exam fee

*Analyses performed by reference laboratories, including any related discovery fees will be billed at actual cost.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS-PERMITS

Environmental Health

Late Fee - Temporary permits \$30.00 / permit

CLINIC FEES

Bureau for Disease Control

Established Patient - Physician and Nurse Practitioner Visit

Level 1	\$30
Level 2	\$55
Level 3	\$90
Level 4	\$130
Level 5	\$180

Counseling Visits

Level 1	\$45
Level 2	\$75
Level 3	\$100
Level 4	\$125

Section 3. Effect on Prior Legislation.

In all other respects, Local Law Nos. 13-2016; 10 – 2017; 6-2018; and 5-2019 and any additional local law regarding fees for the Health Department and Center For Forensic Sciences shall remain in full force and effect except as specifically amended herein.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This Local Law shall take effect on January 1, 2022, and shall be filed consistent with provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law.