



# **International Association of Coroners & Medical Examiners**

*Collaboration · Education · Accreditation*

**Dedicated to the promotion of excellence in medicolegal death investigation through collaboration, education and accreditation.**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

The International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME) announced today they are the seventh forensic science organization to join the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO). The IACME will join forces with the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD), the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME), the American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT), the International Association for Identification (IAI), and the Society of Forensic Toxicologists/ American Board of Forensic Toxicology (SOFT).

IACME President Bobbi Jo O’Neal said, “We are excited to join these powerful forensic science organizations to ensure the medicolegal profession has a voice at all levels of the federal government. The IACME will now have a formal representation to assist our membership in obtaining resources to keep up with the increasing caseload we’ve experienced for the past decade.”

CFSO was established in 2001 at an American Academy of Forensic Sciences annual meeting. “Prior to its creation, each organization representing forensic science practitioners would meet with Congressional policymakers to present the State of Forensic Science. There were a number of Members of Congress, on both sides of the aisle, who were sympathetic to the needs of the forensic community. It was suggested by the Members of Congress, as well as key figures in the White House and the Department of Justice, that the community should coordinate its efforts to ensure that they ‘speak with one voice.’ Barry Fisher, then President of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, working with AAFS, ASCLD, ASCLD/LAB, IAI, and NAME agreed to join the organization.”

IACME and CFSO share many common goals, but of the utmost importance is that they “speak with one voice” by continually advocating the needs of the forensic science community and specifically the medicolegal community.

The IACME’s goal for joining the CFSO is to ensure the coroner, medicolegal death investigators, forensic pathologists, and other medicolegal death investigation professionals are represented and coordinate aggressive lobby efforts at the local, state, and federal levels.

IACME and CFSO are aligned in their goals to promote the advancement of forensic science. The IACME would like to thank CFSO for giving us this wonderful opportunity of successfully becoming a member of their association.