

**CHAPTER 140-40
OFFICE OF MEDICAL EXAMINER**

**SUBCHAPTER 140-40.1
INVESTIGATION OF DEATHS AND THE PERFORMANCE OF AUTOPSIES RULES
AND REGULATIONS**

Subchapter Authority: 1 CMC §§ 2603 and 2605; 1 CMC § 2633.

Subchapter History: Proposed 21 Com. Reg. 16425 (Jan. 18, 1999).*

*A notice of adoption for the 1999 proposed amendments was never published.

Commission Comment: PL 1-8, tit. 1, ch. 12, codified as amended at 1 CMC §§ 2601-2633, created the Department of Public Health and Environmental Services (DPHES) within the Commonwealth government. See 1 CMC § 2601. 1 CMC § 2605 directs the Department to adopt rules and regulations regarding those matters over which it has jurisdiction.

1 CMC § 2631 creates an Office of Medical Examiner within the Department of Public Health and Environmental Services. 1 CMC § 2633 authorizes the Medical Examiner to perform autopsies and post-mortem examinations to determine the cause of deaths that cannot be otherwise satisfactorily determined on the recommendation of the Director of DPHES or the Attorney General.

Executive Order 94-3 (effective August 23, 1994) reorganized the Commonwealth government executive branch, changed agency names and official titles, and effected numerous other revisions. According to Executive Order 94-3 § 105:

Section 105. Department of Public Health.

The Department of Public Health and Environmental Services is re-designated the Department of Public Health.

The full text of Executive Order 94-3 is set forth in the commission comment to 1 CMC § 2001.

[Reserved for future adoption of rules and regulations regarding death investigations and autopsies.]