Office of Chief Medical Examiner

Indicator name: Median time for scene arrivals by medicolegal investigators (MLIs) (hours)

Description: The time taken for medicolegal investigators (MLIs) to arrive to investigate and make the

preliminary review of OCME cases in the field. MLIs visit about one-third of all cases accepted

by OCME.

Source: IT MEANS System.

Indicator name: Deaths reported

Description: The total number of deaths reported to OCME. OCME is responsible for investigating all deaths

of persons in New York City occurring from criminal violence, by accidents, by suicide, suddenly when in apparent health, or in any unusual or suspicious manner. Deaths that fall into this category are reported to OCME by law enforcement, health care professionals and others.

Source: OCME IT Case Management System.

Indicator name: Cases where Chief Medical Examiner takes jurisdiction

Description: When deaths are reported to OCME, its investigators conduct an initial investigation. If following

that investigation, there's a possibility the death may have resulted from criminal violence, accident, suicide, suddenly when in apparent health, or in any unusual or suspicious manner, OCME will take jurisdiction over the case for further forensic investigation. This investigation may include post-mortem examination/autopsy, laboratory testing and other forensic analyses, as

required, to determine the cause and manner of death.

Source: Records Unit.

Indicator name: Median time to complete autopsy reports (days)

Description: Median time to complete autopsy reports, which detail the cause and manner of death, as well as

other findings, after autopsy completion.

Source: Records Unit.

Indicator name: Total cremation requests received and investigated as requirement of processing

Description: The total number of applications for cremation requests received by OCME, as OCME reviews all

applications for a permit to cremate the body of any person who dies in New York City.

Source: OCME IT Case Management System.

Indicator name: Cremation requests rejected after investigation and turned over to Medical Examiner jurisdiction

Description: The number of cremation requests that, after initial required investigation by OCME investigators,

were not approved for cremation because there was evidence that the death may have occurred in an unusual, suspicious or other manner, bringing it under the jurisdiction of the Medical

Examiner for further investigation.

Source: OCME IT Case Management System.

Indicator name: Median time to certify death certificates after initial receipt of decedents' remains (hours)

Description: The median time OCME takes to certify NYC death certificates after the decedents' remains are

initially received as Medical Examiner's cases within one of its mortuaries. State law mandates that all remains be issued an initial death certificate within 72 hours, and therefore DOHMH

requires of OCME that certification of death certificates be provided within that time.

Source: OCME IT Case Management System.

Indicator name: Decedents' remains transported and stored by OCME

Description: The total number of remains transported and stored by OCME Mortuary Services that do not fall

under Medical Examiner jurisdiction. OCME has a legal mandate to take custody of all unclaimed remains in the five boroughs. OCME transports these remains from healthcare facilities and other locations and stores them in the mortuary. While remains are being stored, OCME performs due

diligence searches to locate the decedent's family and notify them of the death.

Source: OCME IT Case Management System.

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Indicator name: Median time from OCME receipt of decedents' remains to "Ready to Release" status (hours)

Description: The median amount of time that elapses from OCME receipt of decedents' remains in the

mortuary to when all necessary forensic examinations, including autopsies, are completed, quality

assurance reviews conducted and those remains are ready to be released to funeral directors.

Source: OCME IT Case Management System.

Indicator name: Median time to clear and release to third party for final disposition, per case (minutes)

Description: The median amount of turnaround time, from the moment when funeral directors arrive at an

OCME facility and have their paperwork verified by OCME security personnel to when all proper quality assurance procedures are complete and they depart the facility with the correct remains.

Source: OCME IT Case Management System.

Indicator name: Remains recovered following the September 11, 2001 attacks (cumulative)

Description: The cumulative number of human remains recovered following the mass fatality incident of

9/11/2001.

Source: Investigations/Special Operations Unit.

Indicator name: Remains identified following the September 11, 2001 attacks (cumulative)

Description: The cumulative number of human remains recovered from 9/11/2001 disaster site that have been

identified.

Source: Forensic Biology DNA Laboratory/WTC Records Unit.

Indicator name: Median time to complete analysis of a DNA case (days)

Description: The median number of days for the Forensic Biology DNA Laboratory to perform chemical,

immunological, biochemical, and molecular biological analysis on submitted evidence to identify the source of the collected specimens in cases such as homicides, sexual assaults and property

crimes, measured in age from the time OCME receives the case.

Source: Forensic Biology DNA Laboratory.

Indicator name: Median time to complete DNA homicide cases, from evidence submission to report (days)

Description: Median time to complete fatality cases that undergo genetic marker analysis to help identify the

origin of biological specimens using DNA testing, from the time OCME receives the case.

Source: Forensic Biology DNA Laboratory.

Indicator name: Median time to complete DNA sexual assault cases, from evidence submission to report (days)

Description: Median time to complete sexual assault cases analyzed using DNA, from the time OCME

receives the case.

Source: Forensic Biology DNA Laboratory.

Indicator name: Median time to complete DNA property crime cases, from evidence submission to report (days)

Description: Median time to complete property crime cases analyzed using DNA, from the time OCME

receives the case.

Source: Forensic Biology DNA Laboratory.

Indicator name: DNA matches with profiles in database

Description: The number of DNA samples from biological evidence found at crime scenes that match the DNA

profiles stored in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) national database.

Source: Forensic Biology DNA Laboratory.

Indicator name: Median time to complete toxicology cases (days)

Description: The median number of days for the Forensic Toxicology Laboratory to perform analysis on fatality

victims to determine the presence of drugs and other toxic substances in human fluids and tissues, in order to evaluate their role in the cause or manner of death, measured in age from the

time OCME receives the case.

Source: Forensic Toxicology Laboratory.

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Indicator name: Median time to complete toxicology DUI cases (days)

Description: Median time to complete Driving Under the Influence (DUI) cases analyzed to determine the

presence of ethanol and other drugs, from the time OCME receives the case.

Source: Forensic Toxicology Laboratory.

Indicator name: Median time to complete toxicology sexual assault cases (days)

Description: Median time for sexual assault cases to be screened by the Forensic Toxicology Laboratory for

the presence of volatiles, opiates, benzoylecgonine, barbiturates, salicylates, acetaminophen and

basic drugs, from the time OCME receives the case.

Source: Forensic Toxicology Laboratory.

Indicator name: Completed customer requests for interpretation

Description The sum of all requests for interpretation using a language other than English fulfilled by the

agency via telephone (including Language Line, call centers, offices/reception desks and 311 transfer calls) and via face-to-face interaction with bilingual employees or contracted interpreters.

Source: Office of Chief Medical Examiner.

Indicator name: Letters responded to in 14 days (%)

Description: The percentage of letters answered in 14 calendar days or less out of the total number of letters

responded to during the reporting period. Responses are substantive and adequately address the question/issue raised by the customer. However, for complex inquiries that require research and additional action on the part of the agency, an acknowledgement that includes a description of the next step, as well as an estimated time frame for completion, is considered acceptable and is also reported as part of the 14 day response. Agencies track the additional time until a customer has a

complete and full response.

Source: Office of Chief Medical Examiner.

Indicator name: E-mails responded to in 14 days (%)

Description: The percentage of emails answered in 14 calendar days or less out of the total number of e-mails

responded to during the reporting period. Responses are substantive and adequately address the question/issue raised by the customer. However, for complex inquiries that require research and additional action on the part of the agency, an acknowledgement that includes a description of the next step, as well as an estimated time frame for completion, is considered acceptable and is also reported as part of the 14 day response. Agencies track the additional time until a customer has a

complete and full response.

Source: Office of Chief Medical Examiner.

