

West's Arkansas Code Annotated
Title 14. Local Government (Refs & Annos)
Subtitle 2. County Government (Chapters 13 to 35)
Chapter 15. Officers (Refs & Annos)
Subchapter 3. County Coroners (Refs & Annos)

A.C.A. § 14-15-308

§ 14-15-308. Training and instruction--Eligibility of deputy coroner

Effective: August 1, 2023

[Currentness](#)

(a) The Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training, in coordination with the Department of Health, shall establish a training curriculum for medicolegal death investigators, coroners, and deputy coroners in Arkansas that consists of no less than sixteen (16) hours nor more than forty (40) hours of instruction, including without limitation courses on:

- (1) Medicolegal death investigation leading to certification as a medicolegal death investigator;
 - (2) Scene investigation;
 - (3) Body recovery;
 - (4) Safety;
 - (5) Statutes and rules;
 - (6) Documentation and reporting;
 - (7) Communication and interviewing; and
 - (8) Proper completion of a death certificate and assignment of cause of death.
- (b) The division shall:
- (1) Issue a certificate of satisfactory participation and completion to a coroner, deputy coroner, or medicolegal death investigator who completes an instructional program required under subsection (a) of this section; and

(2)(A) Administer the funds for the payment and reimbursement for materials, speakers, mileage, lodging, meals, the cost of the certificate, and training equipment that are in addition to compensation allowed under §§ 14-14-1203, 14-14-1204, and 14-14-1206.

(B) The division may receive funding for coroner training through grants-in-aid, donations, and the County Coroners Continuing Education Fund.

(c) The division:

(1) Shall provide death investigation training:

(A) Free of charge to a law enforcement officer, a state death investigator, and an employee of the State Crime Laboratory; and

(B) For a fee under a memorandum of understanding between the division and the Arkansas Coroner's Association, Inc. to coroners and deputy coroners; and

(2) May provide death investigation training remotely through an online program.

(d)(1)(A) Within one (1) year of beginning employment as a deputy coroner, a person employed as a deputy coroner after January 1, 2021, shall complete:

(i) The training required under this section and obtain a certificate under subdivision (b)(1) of this section; or

(ii) A training course in medicolegal death investigation that meets the educational requirements of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigations and present a certificate in medicolegal death investigation from an agency approved by the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators.

(B) A deputy coroner under subdivision (d)(1)(A) of this section who does not comply with this subsection shall not continue employment or activity as a deputy coroner, including without limitation signing death certificates or assisting in death investigations.

(2) Within one (1) year of the date of employment of a deputy coroner, the coroner shall provide the county judge with the deputy coroner's:

(A) Name;

(B) Address;

(C) Starting date of employment; and

(D) Copy of the certificate under subdivision (d)(1)(A) of this section.

(e) A person is not eligible to be a deputy coroner if the person has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or has been found guilty of a felony even if the felony conviction has been sealed, expunged, or pardoned.

Credits

Acts of 2013, Act 551, § 5, eff. Aug. 16, 2013; Acts of 2019, Act 910, §§ 5922 to 5924, eff. July 1, 2019; Acts of 2019, Act 238, § 1, eff. July 24, 2019; Acts of 2021, Act 60, § 1, eff. Feb. 4, 2021; Acts of 2023, Act 33, § 2, eff. Aug. 1, 2023.

A.C.A. § 14-15-308, AR ST § 14-15-308

The constitution and statutes are current through the 2023 Regular Session and the 2023 First Extraordinary Session of the 94th Arkansas General Assembly. Some statute sections may be more current; see credits for details. Also included are changes made by the Arkansas Code Revision Commission received through March 21, 2024.

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