

# NEWS RELEASE

**Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## **County Medical Examiner earns national accreditation**

**SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO**—The National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) recently awarded full accreditation to the Summit County Medical Examiner’s Office. This accreditation represents the highest quality of death investigation systems.

The Medical Examiner, a department within the office of the County Executive, serves the residents of Summit County and regional counties by providing quality forensic death investigation services. Medical Examiner staff assists local law enforcement agencies with forensic evaluation of deaths to aid in their investigations and subsequent prosecutions. After initial evaluation by the Medical Examiner's Investigators, the office determines what course of action to take and how to work with law enforcement agencies to move the investigation forward.

“I am very proud of the hard work and leadership demonstrated by Medical Examiner Dr. Lisa Kohler and her staff in attaining this accreditation,” said County Executive Ilene Shapiro. “The work of this office is incredibly important to law enforcement investigations and prosecutions as well as families looking for answers. The NAME designation demonstrates just how seriously we take this responsibility.”

The accreditation process consists of a rigorous inspection of the physical facility and review of the office practices, including the implementation of policies and procedures. The overall objective of the accreditation is to ensure that the application of the standards set forth by NAME will aid in developing and maintaining a high caliber medicolegal death investigation system for the communities in the jurisdiction in which they operate.

“My staff and I are dedicated to operating a well-maintained, reputable death investigation system. Achieving this accreditation is a testament to the rigorous policies and procedures we adhere to each and every day,” said Dr. Kohler.

In addition to NAME accreditation, the Medical Examiner has made news recently for other notable accomplishments. In May 2023, [Dr. Kohler was honored](#) by her peers with the Ohio State Coroners Association’s Samuel R. Gerber Award. The award commends faithful, dedicated public servants who go over and above the ordinary, in a professional and objective manner while promoting a better

understanding of the field. And earlier this year, [staff solved](#) a John Doe case using new fingerprint technology and techniques. The office was able to purchase state-of-the-art fingerprint scanners with a [grant](#) from Ohio State Coroners Association.

For more information about the Medical Examiner, please visit <https://co.summitoh.net/departments/Medical-Examiner.html#nav-about>.

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