

1 AN ACT concerning government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Coroner Training Board Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Board" means the Coroner Training Board.

8 "Coroner" means coroners and deputy coroners.

9 "Coroner training school" means any school located within
10 or outside the State of Illinois whether privately or publicly
11 owned which offers a course in coroner training and has been
12 approved by the Board.

13 "Forensic pathologist" means a board certified pathologist
14 by the American Board of Pathology.

15 "Local governmental agency" means any local governmental
16 unit or municipal corporation in this State. It does not
17 include the State of Illinois or any office, officer,
18 department, division, bureau, board, commission, or agency of
19 the State.

20 Section 10. Board; composition; appointments; tenure;
21 vacancies. The Board shall be composed of 5 members who shall
22 be appointed by the Governor as follows: 2 coroners, one

1 forensic pathologist from the Cook County Medical Examiner's
2 Office, one forensic pathologist from a county other than Cook
3 County, and one citizen of Illinois who is not currently or was
4 a coroner or forensic pathologist. The initial appointments by
5 the Governor shall be made on the first Monday of August in
6 2016 and the initial appointments' terms shall be as follows:
7 one coroner and one forensic pathologist shall be for a period
8 of one year, the second coroner and the second forensic
9 pathologist for 3 years, and the citizen for a period of 3
10 years. Their successors shall be appointed in like manner for
11 terms to expire the first Monday of August each 3 years
12 thereafter. All members shall serve until their respective
13 successors are appointed and qualify. Vacancies shall be filled
14 by the Governor for the unexpired terms.

15 Section 15. Initial board meeting; election of officers.
16 The initial meeting of the Board shall be held no later than
17 August 31, 2016. The Board shall elect from its number a
18 Chairman and Vice-Chairman, adopt rules of procedure, and shall
19 meet at least 4 times each year.

20 The Board may employ an Executive Director and other
21 necessary clerical and technical personnel. Special meetings
22 of the Board may be called at any time by the Chairman or upon
23 the request of any 2 members. The members of the Board shall
24 serve without compensation but shall be entitled to
25 reimbursement for their actual expenses in attending meetings

1 and in the performance of their duties hereunder from funds
2 appropriated for that purpose.

3 Section 20. Powers of the Board. The Board has the
4 following powers and duties:

5 (a) To require units of local government to furnish such
6 reports and information as the Board deems necessary to fully
7 implement this Act.

8 (b) To establish by rule appropriate mandatory minimum
9 standards relating to the training of coroners, including, but
10 not limited to, Part 1760 of Chapter V of Title 20 of the
11 Illinois Administrative Code. The Board shall consult with the
12 Illinois Coroners and Medical Examiners Association when
13 adopting mandatory minimum standards.

14 (c) To provide appropriate certification to those coroners
15 who successfully complete the prescribed minimum standard
16 basic training course.

17 (d) To review and approve annual training curriculum for
18 coroners.

19 (e) To review and approve applicants to ensure no applicant
20 is admitted to a coroner training school unless the applicant
21 is a person of good character and has not been convicted of a
22 felony offense, any of the misdemeanors in Sections 11-1.50,
23 11-6, 11-9.1, 11-14, 11-17, 11-19, 12-2, 12-15, 16-1, 17-1,
24 17-2, 28-3, 29-1, 31-1, 31-6, 31-7, 32-4a, or 32-7 of the
25 Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012, subdivision

1 (a) (1) or (a) (2) (C) of Section 11-14.3 of the Criminal Code of
2 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012, or subsection (a) of Section
3 17-32 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of
4 2012, or Section 5 or 5.2 of the Cannabis Control Act, or a
5 crime involving moral turpitude under the laws of this State or
6 any other state which if committed in this State would be
7 punishable as a felony or a crime of moral turpitude. The Board
8 may appoint investigators who shall enforce the duties
9 conferred upon the Board by this Act.

10 Section 25. Selection and certification of schools. The
11 Board shall select and certify coroner training schools within
12 or outside the State of Illinois for the purpose of providing
13 basic training for coroners and of providing advanced or
14 in-service training for coroners, which schools may be either
15 publicly or privately owned and operated.

16 Section 30. Death investigation training; waiver for
17 experience.

18 (a) The Board shall conduct or approve a training program
19 in death investigation for the training of coroners. Only
20 coroners who successfully complete the training program may be
21 assigned as lead investigators in a coroner's investigations.
22 Satisfactory completion of the training program shall be
23 evidenced by a certificate issued to the coroner by the Board.

24 (b) The Board shall develop a process for waiver

1 applications sent from a coroner's office for those coroners
2 whose prior training and experience as a death or homicide
3 investigator may qualify them for a waiver. The Board may issue
4 a waiver at its discretion, based solely on the prior training
5 and experience of a coroner as a death or homicide
6 investigator.

7 Section 35. Acceptance of contributions and gifts. The
8 Board may accept contributions, capital grants, gifts,
9 donations, services or other financial assistance from any
10 individual, association, corporation, the United States of
11 America and any of its agencies or instrumentalities, or any
12 other organization having a legitimate interest in coroner
13 training.

14 Section 40. The Illinois Police Training Act is amended by
15 changing Sections 1 and 10.11 as follows:

16 (50 ILCS 705/1) (from Ch. 85, par. 501)

17 Sec. 1. It is hereby declared as a matter of legislative
18 determination that in order to promote and protect citizen
19 health, safety and welfare, it is necessary and in the public
20 interest to provide for the creation of the Illinois Law
21 Enforcement Training Standards Board for the purpose of
22 encouraging and aiding municipalities, counties, park
23 districts, State controlled universities, colleges, and public

1 community colleges, and other local governmental agencies of
2 this State and participating State agencies in their efforts to
3 raise the level of law enforcement by upgrading and maintaining
4 a high level of training and standards for law enforcement
5 executives and officers, county corrections officers,
6 sheriffs, ~~county coroners,~~ and law enforcement support
7 personnel under this Act. It is declared to be the
8 responsibility of the board to ensure the required
9 participation of the pertinent local governmental units in the
10 programs established under this Act, to encourage the voluntary
11 participation of other local governmental units and
12 participating State agencies, to set standards, develop and
13 provide quality training and education, and to aid in the
14 establishment of adequate training facilities.

15 (Source: P.A. 88-586, eff. 8-12-94.)

16 (50 ILCS 705/10.11)

17 Sec. 10.11. Training; death and homicide investigation.
18 The Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board shall
19 conduct or approve a training program in death and homicide
20 investigation for the training of law enforcement officers of
21 local government agencies ~~and coroners~~. Only law enforcement
22 officers ~~and coroners~~ who successfully complete the training
23 program may be assigned as lead investigators in death and
24 homicide investigations ~~and coroner's investigations,~~
25 ~~respectively~~. Satisfactory completion of the training program

1 shall be evidenced by a certificate issued to the law
2 enforcement officer ~~or coroner~~ by the Illinois Law Enforcement
3 Training and Standards Board.

4 The Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board
5 shall develop a process for waiver applications sent by a local
6 law enforcement agency administrator ~~or from a coroner's office~~
7 for those officers ~~or coroners~~ whose prior training and
8 experience as homicide investigators may qualify them for a
9 waiver. The Board may issue a waiver at its discretion, based
10 solely on the prior training and experience of an officer ~~or a~~
11 ~~coroner~~ as a homicide investigator. This Section does not
12 affect or impede the powers of the office of the coroner to
13 investigate all deaths as provided in Division 3-3 of the
14 Counties Code and the Coroner Training Board Act.

15 (Source: P.A. 96-1111, eff. 1-1-12; 97-553, eff. 1-1-12;
16 97-1009, eff. 1-1-13.)

17 Section 45. The Counties Code is amended by changing
18 Section 3-3001 as follows:

19 (55 ILCS 5/3-3001) (from Ch. 34, par. 3-3001)

20 Sec. 3-3001. Commission; training; duties performed by
21 other county officer.

22 (a) Every coroner shall be commissioned by the Governor,
23 but no commission shall issue except upon the certificate of
24 the county clerk of the proper county of the due election or

1 appointment of the coroner and that the coroner has filed his
2 or her bond and taken the oath of office as provided in this
3 Division.

4 (b) (1) Within 30 days of assuming office, a coroner
5 elected to that office for the first time shall apply for
6 admission to the Coroner Training Board ~~Illinois Law~~
7 ~~Enforcement Training Standards Board~~ coroners training
8 program. Completion of the training program shall be within
9 6 months of application. Any coroner may direct the chief
10 deputy coroner or a deputy coroner, or both, to attend the
11 training program, provided the coroner has completed the
12 training program. Satisfactory completion of the program
13 shall be evidenced by a certificate issued to the coroner
14 by the Coroner Training Board ~~Illinois Law Enforcement~~
15 ~~Training Standards Board~~. All coroners shall complete the
16 training program at least once while serving as coroner.

17 (2) In developing the coroner training program, the
18 Coroner Training Board ~~Illinois Law Enforcement Training~~
19 ~~Standards Board~~ shall consult with the Illinois Coroners
20 and Medical Examiners Association or other organization as
21 approved by the Coroner Training Board ~~and the Illinois~~
22 ~~Necropsy Board~~.

23 (3) The Coroner Training Board ~~Illinois Law~~
24 ~~Enforcement Training Standards Board~~ shall notify the
25 proper county board of the failure by a coroner to
26 successfully complete this training program.

1 (c) Every coroner shall attend at least 24 hours of
2 accredited continuing education for coroners in each calendar
3 year.

4 (d) In all counties that provide by resolution for the
5 elimination of the office of coroner pursuant to a referendum,
6 the resolution may also provide, as part of the same
7 proposition, that the duties of the coroner be taken over by
8 another county officer specified by the resolution and
9 proposition.

10 (Source: P.A. 87-255; 88-586, eff. 8-12-94.)

11 Section 50. The Vital Records Act is amended by changing
12 Section 25.5 as follows:

13 (410 ILCS 535/25.5)

14 Sec. 25.5. Death Certificate Surcharge Fund. The
15 additional \$2 fee for certified copies of death certificates
16 and fetal death certificates must be deposited into the Death
17 Certificate Surcharge Fund, a special fund created in the State
18 treasury. Beginning 30 days after the effective date of this
19 amendatory Act of the 92nd General Assembly and until January
20 1, 2003 and then beginning again on July 1, 2003 and until July
21 1, 2005, moneys in the Fund, subject to appropriation, may be
22 used by the Department for the purpose of implementing an
23 electronic reporting system for death registrations as
24 provided in Section 18.5 of this Act. Before the effective date

1 of this amendatory Act of the 92nd General Assembly, on and
2 after January 1, 2003 and until July 1, 2003, and on and after
3 July 1, 2005, moneys in the Fund, subject to appropriations,
4 may be used as follows: (i) 25% by the Coroner Training Board
5 ~~Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board~~ for the
6 purpose of training coroners, deputy coroners, forensic
7 pathologists, and police officers for death ~~homicide~~
8 investigations and lodging and travel expenses relating to
9 training, (ii) 25% for grants by the Department of Public
10 Health for distribution to all local county coroners and
11 medical examiners or officials charged with the duties set
12 forth under Division 3-3 of the Counties Code, who have a
13 different title, for equipment and lab facilities, (iii) 25% by
14 the Department of Public Health for the purpose of setting up a
15 statewide database of death certificates and implementing an
16 electronic reporting system for death registrations pursuant
17 to Section 18.5, and (iv) 25% for a grant by the Department of
18 Public Health to local registrars.

19 (Source: P.A. 92-16, eff. 6-28-01; 92-141, eff. 7-24-01; 93-45,
20 7-1-03.)