

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT



2013



Dr. Mark Fajardo

Medical Examiner-Coroner

☎ (323) 343-0512
📠 (323) 223-5630
🌐 www.coroner.lacounty.gov

"We look forward to providing quality, compassionate, and timely service to all of our customers."

I, along with my entire Department, look forward to providing quality, compassionate, and timely service to all of its customers, including decedent's loved ones, law enforcement, judges and attorneys in the criminal justice system, funeral directors, foreign consulates and the news media.

We are proud to be a leader in death investigation and we are accredited by many professional organizations, including the National Association of Medical Examiners; the Institute of Medical Quality/California Medical Association for the departments continuing medical education program; the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for the Forensic Pathology Fellowship program; the American Society of Crime Laboratories Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board for our forensic labs; as well as being certified by the Peace Officers Standards and Training of the State of California.

Recently, we are nearing completion on the refurbishment of our biological building, modernizing the autopsy facilities with state-of-the-art equipment, as well as expansion of our refrigeration unit to provide greater capacity, more efficient workflow, and increased safety of our personnel. Other infrastructure improvements include the implementation of a new case management system called "Electronic Case File System or ECFS" which will replace our antiquated programs. This system is designed as the backbone for tracking and documenting all Coroner cases handled by the department and will allow for the efficient inflow and outflow of information as it pertains to our decedents. Our objective to establish a revenue generating DNA laboratory continues to move forward with our final requirement to identify and recruit a DNA lead scientist.

It is with optimism that we move forward, to continue to provide the best service, of the highest quality, to the people of Los Angeles County. None of this would be possible without the dedicated staff and personnel of the Department who consistently go the extra mile to ensure that the work they deliver is effective, timely, and compassionate.

As always, we thank both the Board of Supervisors and the Chief Executive Officer for the consistent, ongoing support received by this office over the years and in the years to come.

Thank you for your time.