

(B) AUTOPSY REQUIRED; EXCEPTION.

(1) IF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER WHO INVESTIGATES A MEDICAL EXAMINER'S CASE CONSIDERS AN AUTOPSY NECESSARY, THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER, THE DEPUTY CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER, AN ASSISTANT MEDICAL EXAMINER, OR A PATHOLOGIST AUTHORIZED BY THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER SHALL PERFORM THE AUTOPSY.

(2) IF THE FAMILY OF THE DECEASED OBJECTS TO AN AUTOPSY ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS, THE AUTOPSY MAY NOT BE PERFORMED UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER OR BY THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER'S DESIGNEE.

(C) AUTOPSY ON FIRE FIGHTER.

(1) AN AUTOPSY OF A FIRE FIGHTER WHO DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY SHALL INCLUDE A TOXICOLOGICAL ANALYSIS FOR TOXIC FUMES.

(2) THE ANALYSIS SHALL BE SUFFICIENT TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS UNDER THE FEDERAL PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFITS ACT OF 1976.

(D) FINDINGS.

THE INDIVIDUAL WHO PERFORMS THE AUTOPSY SHALL PREPARE DETAILED WRITTEN FINDINGS DURING THE PROGRESS OF THE AUTOPSY. THESE FINDINGS AND THE CONCLUSIONS DRAWN FROM THEM SHALL BE FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER FOR THE COUNTY WHERE THE DEATH OCCURRED. THE ORIGINAL COPY OF THE FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS SHALL BE FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER.

(E) FEE FOR PATHOLOGIST.

THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER SHALL SET A REASONABLE FEE FOR PERFORMING AN AUTOPSY BY AN AUTHORIZED PATHOLOGIST.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Article 22, § 7.

As to subsection (a) of this subtitle and a medical examiner's report, see also §§ 5-309(c) and 5-311 of this subtitle. The Commission to Revise the Annotated Code notes, for the consideration of the General Assembly, that a time limit is not imposed as to filing a report if the cause of death is not established.

As to subsection (b)(2) of this section and religious objections to an autopsy, see Snyder v. Holy Cross Hospital, 30 Md. App. 317 (1976), in which the Court of Special Appeals applied Article 22, § 7 before enactment of the law from