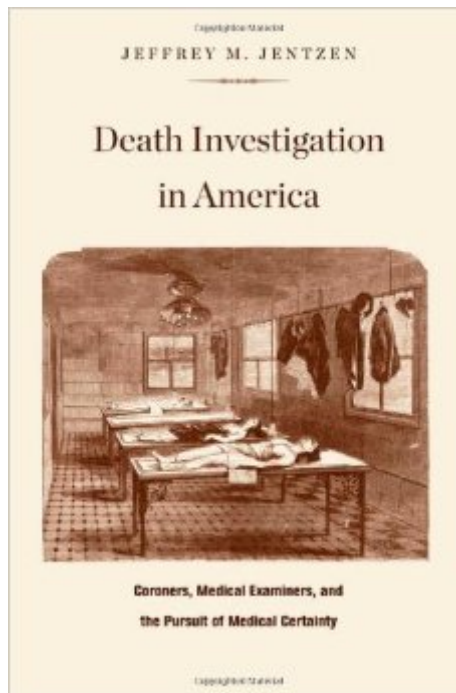


The book was found

# Death Investigation In America: Coroners, Medical Examiners, And The Pursuit Of Medical Certainty



## Synopsis

A death occurs at home, in a hospital, on a street: why? As Jeffrey Jentzen reveals, we often never know. Why is the American system of death investigation so inconsistent and inadequate? What can the events of the assassination of President Kennedy, killing of Bobby Kennedy, and Chappaquiddick reveal about the state of death investigation? If communities in early America had a coroner at all, he was politically appointed and poorly trained. As medicine became more sophisticated and the medical profession more confident, physicians struggled to establish a professionalized, physician-led system of death investigation. The conflict between them and the coroners, as well as politicians and law enforcement agencies, led to the patchwork of local laws and practices that persist to this day. In this unique political and cultural history, Jentzen draws on archives, interviews, and his own career as a medical examiner to look at the way that a long-standing professional and political rivalry controls public medical knowledge and public health.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 300 pages

Publisher: Harvard University Press; 1 edition (October 30, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0674034538

ISBN-13: 978-0674034532

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.9 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,600,513 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #258 in [Books > Law > Health & Medical Law > Health Law](#) #346 in [Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Medicine > Clinical > Forensic Medicine](#) #669 in [Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Internal Medicine > Pathology > Forensic Medicine](#)

## Customer Reviews

Forensic medicine is a fascinating field, but one that is often shielded from the public. Most people know nothing about it other than what they see on television. This book gives the reader a real insider's perspective on this very unique and sometimes mysterious profession. As a lawyer, I often work with medical examiners on legal issues. However, I knew very little of the development of their field or their craft. I found this book very informative and surprisingly entertaining. Dr. Jentzen went one step further - he made me realize what an extremely humane profession forensic medicine

really is.

I got this book because I was doing a comparison of the US and Scottish death investigation systems. It's a great resource with a lot of history in it but it was a bit dry and I had a hard time focusing while trying to read it.

This is a must read book for Pathology residents going into or thinking about entering the field of Forensic Pathology. I found it hard to stop in the middle, and read from cover to cover within two days. Let alone Forensic Pathology itself, the county level politics a Medical Examiner had to deal with is shockingly intricate. Are you ready for it, my dear Pathology resident?

There is no other book that directly deals with the history of medicolegal death investigation, including both coroners and medical examiners, in the United States. Dr. Jentzen is to be commended for his insightful and comprehensive study. It is exceptionally meaningful to those of us in the field. For those outside, it may be somewhat dry and arcane. It does document the struggle our society has in overcoming basic tradition to bring to bear appropriate scientific and medical professional expertise to death investigation.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Death Investigation in America: Coroners, Medical Examiners, and the Pursuit of Medical Certainty  
Postmortem: How Medical Examiners Explain Suspicious Deaths (Fieldwork Encounters and Discoveries)  
Evidence in Traffic Crash Investigation And Reconstruction: Identification, Interpretation And Analysis of Evidence, And the Traffic Crash Investigation And Reconstruction Process  
Contested Federalism: Certainty and Ambiguity in the Canadian Federation  
The Idolatry of God: Breaking Our Addiction to Certainty and Satisfaction  
Certainty: A Novel  
The Later Works of John Dewey, Volume 4, 1925 - 1953: 1929: The Quest for Certainty (Collected Works of John Dewey)  
The End of Certainty  
DYING TO REALLY LIVE: Finally, an After Death Survivor returns from deeply into life after death (NDEs - Life After Death? Series Book 1)  
Perfecting Ourselves to Death: The Pursuit of Excellence and the Perils of Perfectionism  
The Death of Innocence : The Untold Story of JonBenet's Murder and How Its Exploitation Compromised the Pursuit of Truth  
Sex-Related Homicide and Death Investigation: Practical and Clinical Perspectives, Second Edition (Practical Aspects of Criminal and Forensic Investigations)  
Medical Terminology: Medical Terminology Made Easy: Breakdown the Language of Medicine and Quickly Build Your Medical Vocabulary (Medical Terminology, Nursing School, Medical Books)  
Death Investigation: An

Introduction to Forensic Pathology for the Nonscientist  
Life After Life: The Bestselling Original Investigation That Revealed "Near-Death Experiences"  
In Pursuit of Equity: Women, Men, and the Quest for Economic Citizenship in 20th-Century America  
The Unhealthy Truth: One Mother's Shocking Investigation into the Dangers of America's Food Supply-- and What Every Family Can Do to Protect Itself  
American Medical Association Complete Medical Encyclopedia (American Medical Association (Ama) Complete Medical Encyclopedia)  
Death and Bereavement around the World: Major Religious Traditions: Volume 1 (Death, Value and Meaning) (v. 1)  
Between Death and Life - Conversations with a Spirit: An internationally acclaimed hypnotherapist's guide to past lives, guardian angels and the death experience

[Dmca](#)