

641—127.4(331,691) Fees.**127.4(1) *Payment of fee and expenses.***

a. A medical examiner receives from the county of appointment or the county of the decedent's residence a fee for each preliminary investigation and report submitted in a case in which a death affects the public interest. A county medical examiner shall also receive from the county of appointment or the county of the decedent's residence the examiner's actual expenses. The fee and expenses are submitted by the county medical examiner to the county of appointment, which may immediately pay the invoice or forward the invoice to the county of the decedent's residence for payment to the county medical examiner. If the county medical examiner does not receive payment from the county of the decedent's residence within 60 days of receiving the invoice, the county of appointment shall pay the invoice.

b. A pathologist or other physician who performs an autopsy under medical examiner authorization shall be paid for the services by the county of appointment.

c. Invoices produced for services performed by a county medical examiner, deputy county medical examiner or county medical examiner investigator must be submitted as a joint invoice to the county of appointment when services were rendered in a case by multiple county medical examiner staff.

127.4(2) *Reimbursement.*

a. *County of residence different from county of appointment—Iowa resident.* The county of the decedent's residence shall reimburse the county of appointment for the fee and expenses paid by the county of appointment.

b. *Death caused by criminal defendant.* If the person's death is caused by a criminal defendant who has been convicted and sentenced for murder, voluntary manslaughter, involuntary manslaughter, or homicide by vehicle, the county of the person's residence may recover from the defendant the fee and expenses.

c. *Out-of-state resident—law enforcement involvement.* The fee and expenses of a county medical examiner who performs an investigation or autopsy of a person who dies after being brought into the state for emergency medical treatment by or at the direction of an out-of-state law enforcement officer or public authority will be paid by the state. A claim for payment shall be filed with the state appeal board.

d. *Out-of-state resident—no law enforcement involvement.* The fee and expenses of a county medical examiner who performs an investigation or autopsy of an out-of-state resident shall be paid by the county of appointment.

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