

## **Judy Melinek, M.D.**

PathologyExpert, Inc.  
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### **EDUCATION**

**Harvard University:** Cambridge, MA 1987 – 1991

B.A. in Biology *magna cum laude*, June 1991. John Harvard Scholarship, 1989-90. Harvard College Scholarship, 1988-89. Elizabeth Cary Agassiz Certificate of Merit, 1987-88.

**UCLA School of Medicine:** Los Angeles, CA 1991 – 1996

M.D. with honors, May 1996. Dean's Scholar for outstanding thesis, Edith and Carl Lasky Memorial Award for research achievement, Viola G. Hyde Scholarship for excellence in surgery.

**Armed Forces Institute of Pathology:** Bethesda, MD 2001, 2003

Basic Forensic Pathology Course, 2001; Neuropathology Course, 2003

**Imaging Forensics:** San Francisco, CA June 2010

Digital Forensics Photography Class with George Reis; San Francisco Police Department Training

### **EXPERIENCE**

**Communio LTD, New Zealand** August 2020 – Present

Coronial and forensic pathologist for Wellington area (population 500K) with on-call coverage for Rotorua, Hamilton, and Dunedin. Clinical Senior Lecturer at the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine, Otago University School of Medicine

**PathologyExpert Inc., San Francisco** 2004 – Present

Contract with Alameda County Sheriff Coroner's Office May 2013 - June 2020. Interim Chief Forensic Pathologist during COVID-19 Pandemic, 2020. Associate Clinical Professor, UCSF Dept. of Pathology, 2013-2015. Research Associate, UC Davis Department of Environmental Toxicology, 2015 - 2020. Honorary Lecturer in the Centre for Clinical Pharmacology within the William Harvey Research Institute, Queen Mary University of London 2019-2022, and Clinical Senior Lecturer at the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine, Otago University School of Medicine, 2020-present.

**Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, San Francisco** July 2004 – April 2013

Assistant Medical Examiner. Assistant Clinical Professor, UCSF (2004-2013). Teaching award 2007-2008. Trained UCSF pathology residents, Medical Examiner Investigators and Technicians.

**Santa Clara County Office of Medical Examiner-Coroner** July 2003 – June 2004

Assistant Medical Examiner – Coroner. Adjunct Clinical Instructor, Stanford University Medical Center. Senior forensic pathologist directing a staff of 17 for ten months following resignation of the Chief Medical Examiner. Revised death certification, identification and evidence protocols. Child death review team.

**Office of Chief Medical Examiner, City of New York**

July 2001 – June 2003

Clinical Instructor in Forensic Medicine, New York University. Forensic Neuropathology Fellowship. Examined remains from World Trade Center (9/01-8/02) and American Airlines Flight 587 crash (11/01).

**Department of Pathology, UCLA**

July 1993-June 1994; July 1997 – June 2001

Pathology Post Sophomore Fellowship; Pathology Residency and Chief Resident.

**Beth Israel-Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA**

July 1996 – Dec 1996

Department of General Surgery - Internship. Primary surgeon in 61 operations.

**RESEARCH**

**Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston**

Summer 1988, January 1990 – May 1991

Center for Neurological Diseases – Undergraduate Biology thesis, "Protein Kinase C Activity Correlates with Memory T-Cell Function" presented at FASEB conference in Atlanta, GA in April, 1991.

**Department of Neurology, UCLA**

Summer 1992

With Jean Merrill, Ph.D. and Nobel laureate Louis J. Ignarro, Ph.D., researched NO synthesis in Multiple Sclerosis.

**Department of Transplantation, UCLA**

Dec 1993-March 1996, Nov 1998 – 2001

Liver Transplant Program – Pathology consultant for research investigating rejection, ischemia-reperfusion injury and Hepatitis C recurrence. Assisted in over 100 liver procurements & transplants.

**OTHER EXPERIENCE**

**Peer Reviewer**

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|--|---------------------|
| The American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology                    | Oct. 2009 – Present |
| Forensic Science International Synergy - Editorial Board                   | April 2020          |
| Journal of Forensic Sciences   | Nov. 2014           |
| Academic Forensic Pathology  | Dec. 2012           |
| CDCP Sponsored NAME Toxicology Panel for Opiate Deaths                     | Jan. 2012 – 2013    |
| Electrical Muscular Disruption Device (EMDD) Literature Review Panel – NIJ | 2007 – 2011         |
| Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine – Elsevier Press                    | October 2007        |

**Professional Lectures and Presentations**

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|---|----------------|
| "Forensic Fundamentals" New Zealand Crown Prosecutors, Wellington, NZ   | March 9, 2023  |
| "Working Stiffs: Forensics & Fiction" New Zealand Skeptics Society, Wellington, NZ                                | Nov. 26, 2022  |
| "Working Stiff: Forensics in US and Aotearoa/New Zealand"   | Nov. 4, 2022   |
| New Zealand Embalmers Association Conference, Wellington, NZ  |                |
| "Forensic Fundamentals" New Zealand Coroners Continuing Education, Wellington, NZ                                 | Sept. 2, 2021  |
| "The Working Stiffs: Forensic Science from the U.S. Comes to New Zealand"   | Nov. 13, 2020  |
| Co:Lab meeting, Wellington, NZ  |                |
| "Police-Involved Shootings in the USA" Deaths in Custody 3 –  | Sept. 26, 2020 |
| International Case Studies, virtual conference hosted by Dept. of Pathology, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada |                |
| "In Custody Deaths and Public Relations in a Digital Age" Deaths in Custody 2 –                                   | August 8, 2020 |
| International Case Studies, virtual conference hosted by Dept of Pathology, University of Ottawa,                 |                |

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| Ottawa, Canada   |                   |
| "Forensic Pathology in Homicide Cases" Forensic Training Series, Santa Clara Alternate Defender's Office – Santa Clara, CA   | May 6, 2020       |
| "The Working Stiffs: Get Your Murder Scene Right" NorCal Murder Writers of America - (on line: <a href="https://www.crowdcast.io/e/mwa-norcal-event-get">https://www.crowdcast.io/e/mwa-norcal-event-get</a> )   | April 11, 2020    |
| "The Working Stiffs: Writing and Publishing the Experiences of a Forensic Pathologist in Both Fiction and Non-Fiction" AAFS – Anaheim, CA  | Feb. 18, 2020     |
| "Forensic Pathology in Homicide Cases" California Public Defenders Association – San Diego, CA   | Sept. 14, 2019    |
| José G. Albernaz Golden Apple Distinguished Lecture, East Carolina University  | Aug. 5, 2019      |
| "Current Topics in Emergency and Forensic Medicine," University at Sea   | Mar. 25-30, 2019  |
| "Consulting 101" National Association of Medical Examiners – West Palm Beach, FL   | Oct. 14, 2018     |
| "Pediatric Death Investigation," "Child Abuse & Neglect/NCIP Zavion Johnson" and "Officer Involved Shootings, In-Custody Deaths and High Profile Cases" California Sheriff Coroners Association – Santa Rosa, CA | Sept. 18, 2018    |
| "What Trial Attorneys Need to Know about Forensic Pathology" California Public Defenders Association – Berkeley, CA  | Sept. 15, 2018    |
| "Science Matters: Tapestry of Trials" American Academy of Forensic Sciences – Seattle, WA  | Feb 20, 2018      |
| "Forensic Pathology" Defense Investigator Training Academy, Long Beach, CA   | Oct 23, 2017      |
| "Website Design, Social Media and Marketing," Forensic Expert Witness Association – San Francisco, CA  | May 19, 2017      |
| "Working Stiff: The Real Work of a Forensic Pathologist," Genentech – South San Francisco, CA  | April 18, 2017    |
| "The Forensic Pathologist and Medical-Legal Cases," Bay Area Chapter of Northern California Legal Nurse Consultants – South San Francisco, CA  | April 11, 2017    |
| "Officer-Involved Shooting Incidents" and "Excited Delirium Syndrome," NAME Interim Meeting – New Orleans, LA  | Feb 14, 2017      |
| Medical Examiners Conference – Neenah, WI  |                   |
| "Officer-Related Fatalities" and "High Profile Cases," Wisconsin Coroners and Medical Examiners Conference – Neenah, WI  | Oct 24, 2016      |
| "Blunt and Sharp Trauma," Daytona Beach Death & Crime Scene Investigation Conference – Daytona Beach, FL   | Sept. 14, 2016    |
| "Forensic Training and Public Relations in a Digital Age," American Academy of Forensic Sciences – Las Vegas, NV   | Feb 25, 2016      |
| "Pediatric Death Investigation" and "Officer-Related Fatalities," Alameda County Sheriff and Pleasanton Police Department  | Feb 18, 2016      |
| "How to Retain, Prepare and Present Experts at Trial Ethically and Effectively" Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF)  | Dec 1, 2015       |
| "Officer-Related Fatalities" and "High Profile Cases," Daytona Beach Death & Crime Scene Investigation Conference – Daytona Beach, FL  | Sept 10, 2015     |
| "Advanced Criminal Law: Forensic Pathology," University of San Francisco Law School  | Feb 7, 2015       |
| "Forensic Pathology for the Primary Care Practitioner," University at Sea  | Sept. 21-28, 2014 |
| "Medical Detectives: The Real CSI," UCSF Osher Mini Medical School for the Public  | Feb. 5, 2014      |
| "Advanced Criminal Law: Forensic Pathology," San Francisco Law School  | Feb. 2, 2013      |
| "Science & the Law: Forensic Pathology," UC Hastings College of the Law  | 2012 – 2015       |
| "Introduction to Pre-Health Professions" Recurrent guest lecturer, Science – 235 San Francisco State University.   | 2007 – 2011       |
| "Death Certification" Recurrent guest lecturer, UCSF Resident Orientation  | 2010 – 2011       |
| AACC Outstanding Speaker Award: "Pairing Clinical and Post-Mortem Findings for Interpretative Purposes: The Medical Examiner's Perspective" and Panel Discussion SOFT/TIAFT – San Francisco, CA                  | Sept 27, 2011     |
| "A Facilitated or Unavoidable Fall from a Roof – An Unusual In-Custody Death" National Association of Medical Examiners – Alaska   | Aug 12, 2011      |
| "In-Custody Deaths: An Introduction to the Role of the Medical Examiner"   | Nov 28, 2007      |

Sudden Death, Excited Delirium & In-Custody Death Conference – Las Vegas, NV  
“Vertebral Artery Dissection Complicating Occipital Injection of Heparin for Treatment of Thoracic Outlet Syndrome” National Association of Medical Examiners – Savannah, GA  
Oct 17, 2007

### **Consulting & Media** (for additional listings see [www.drworkingstiff.com](http://www.drworkingstiff.com))

Curious Life and Death of...: Brittany Murphy, Brain Jones, and Pablo Escobar 2020  
Mythbusters, Discovery Channel, “Bite the Bullet” episode August, 2014  
Forensic pathology consultant, National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children, Inc., Cincinnati OH (*pro-bono*).  
Script and on-set consultant in forensic pathology for NBC television program *E.R.* 2000

### **ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIPS**

Member, International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IAC&ME) 2016 – 2020  
Member, National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) 2000 – Present  
Board of Directors 2016 – 2021  
STAR Award Oct. 2018  
Ad-hoc committee on social media policy 2018 – 2021  
Ad-hoc committee on workforce development 2020 – 2021  
International relations subcommittee 2018 – 2019  
ME/Coroner Media Guidelines Consensus Work Group for SAVE - Suicide Awareness Voices of Education 2018 – 2019  
National Commission on Forensic Science/Medicolegal Death Investigation Subcommittee  
Medicolegal Autonomy & Independence Project Member 2015 – 2017  
CDCP Sponsored NAME Toxicology Panel for Opiate Deaths 2012 – 2013  
NAME Medical Examiner Independence Ad Hoc Committee, Chair 2011 – 2013  
NAME Death Certification Improvement Ad Hoc Committee 2009 – 2010  
NAME Membership Ad Hoc Committee 2006 – 2007  
Member, American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) 2000 – Present  
Member, California Society of Pathologists 2006 – 2007  
Member, College of American Pathologists 1998 – 2002  
Member, American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) 1998 – 2002  
Member at Large (AMA Alternate Delegate), ASCP Resident Physician’s Section 1999 – 2000  
Board of Directors Resident Representative, Los Angeles Society of Pathologists 1998 – 2000  
Student Representative, AMA Advisory Panel on Women Physician Issues 1994 – 1996

### **PROFESSIONAL LICENSES**

American Board of Pathology:  
Board Certified in Anatomic & Clinical Pathology August, 2001  
Board Certified in Forensic Pathology November, 2002  
New York State: Physician, License Number: 220265-1 (*lapsed*) Issued: 1/30/01  
State of California: Physician and Surgeon, License Number: A65951 Issued: 7/3/98  
Medical Council of New Zealand Practicing Certificate, Special Purpose Issued: 8/17/20  
Registration Number: 85445 HPI Number: 27FHQP