

Preapproved
8 hrs

CORONERS' EDUCATION BOARD
PROPOSAL FOR COURSE APPROVAL

To be ratified
9/23
2026-60

NAME OF COURSE: ANNUAL CORONER, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMS
CONTINUING EDUCATION DAY

TOTAL HOURS: 8

COST: \$75

LOCATION (ADDRESS): 144 WEST THIRD ST.
WILLIAMSPORT, WILLIAMSPORT 17701

DATE(S) OF COURSE: NOVEMBER 20, 2026

PRESENTER: CHARLES KIESSLING

ADDRESS: 3341 WAHOO DR.
WILLIAMSPORT, WILLIAMSPORT 17701

CONTACT PERSON TO ENROLL IN COURSE: CHARLES KIESSLING

TELEPHONE NO OF CONTACT PERSON: (570) 327-2305

SUBMITTED BY: CHARLES KIESSLING

EMAIL ADDRESS: CKIESSLING@LYCO.ORG

TELEPHONE NO: (570) 327-2305

DATE: 9/9/26

Who should attend:
 Coroners, Deputy Coroners,
 Law Enforcement, Domestic
 Violence Prevention
 Professionals, Nurses
 Paramedics, EMTs, Fire, and
 Injury Prevention
 Professionals.



Approved for ?? hrs.
 of Coroner, EMS
 Nursing and Attorney
 Continuing Education
 Hours

Annual Coroner / Law Enforcement / EMS Continuing Education Day

DATE Friday, November 20, 2026

TIME 8 00 AM – 5 30 PM

PLACE Trade and Transit Center II, 144 West Third Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

Agenda

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Registration
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Jeremy Reese and John Harahus - Infectious Disease Handling
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Dan Buglio, Lehigh County Coroner - The Role of the Coroner: Then, Now and Tomorrow
12:00 PM – 12:30 PM	Lunch
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Christina VandePol, M.D. - Sudden, Unexpected, Unattended: Investigating Complex Natural Deaths
1:30 PM – 2:00 PM	Susan Shanaman, Esq. – Legal Next of Kin and Who Receives Death Notification
2:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Corporal Eileen McDermott, Pennsylvania State Police - Rapid DNA
2:30 PM – 2:45 PM	Break
2:45 PM – 5:15 PM	Corporal Eileen McDermott, Trooper Steven T. Schramm and Coroner Charles Kiessling - Death Scene Do's and Don'ts
5:15 PM – 5:30 PM	Coroner Charles Kiessling - Closing Remarks and Comments

"This course has been approved for eight (??) hours of continuing education by the Pennsylvania Coroners' Education Board under the provisions of Act 22 of 1988 "

"This activity has been submitted to Pennsylvania State Nurses Association for approval to award contact hours. Pennsylvania State Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation "

Registration Form on the Back

Registration Form- Please Print- Due back no later than November 6, 2026

Name _____ **FEE: \$75.00 Includes Lunch/Breaks**
Title. _____ Agency/Company: _____
Address _____
City/ State/ Zip. _____ Phone Number: _____
Email Address _____

Please send checks and completed form to: **Lycoming County Law Enforcement Association,
Charles Kiessler, Treasurer
3341 Wahoo Drive
Williamsport, PA 17701**

Parking is included in the registration price Please park in the Third St Parking Garage, located off Third St near the Residence Inn,
across from the Trade and Transit Center II Please take a ticket as prompted when you enter the garage

Speaker bios

Jeremy Reese, EMT, CHEP, CHEC

Title: Infectious Disease Handling

System Emergency Preparedness Coordinator – Geisinger Health

Jeremy Reese, CHEP, EMT, is a System Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for Geisinger Health and the Coroner in Columbia County. Jeremy's public safety career began in 1996 and includes the Volunteer Fire Service, EMS, 911 and private sector public safety telecommunications, Municipal and Healthcare Emergency Management. Jeremy also serves on the PSCA Coroner Education Committee and Disaster Committee and is an instructor for the PSCA Basic Coroner Education program

John Harahus RN

Mr. Harahus's background experience consists of a Associates degree in Nursing. Mr. Harahus is currently attending Jacksonville State University. He has been a nurse since 2009. Since 2013, he has continued to work as a flight nurse. Since 2021, he has continued to work as an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator at Geisinger. He also serves as a Project Manager for Geisinger's Level 2 Special Pathogens Treatment Facility.

Mr. Harahus has experience in pre-hospital and hospital careers with background knowledge of HICS and ICS. Mr. Harahus is a PA Pre-Hospital Registered Nurse, Associate - Infection Prevention and Control, Certified Emergency Nurse, Certified Flight Registered Nurse, National Healthcare Disaster Professional – Board Certified, and Certified Hospital Emergency Coordinator.

Daniel A. Buglio, D-ABMDI

Title: The Role of the Coroner, Then, Now and Tomorrow

Coroner Buglio was appointed as Lehigh County Coroner in April 2022 and was elected to the position in November 2023. He has dedicated much of his professional career to serving the residents of Lehigh County and brings decades of experience in both law enforcement and medicolegal death investigation. He has been with the Lehigh County Coroner's Office & Forensic Center since 1999, when he first began serving as a Deputy Coroner. Over the years, he advanced through the ranks, later serving as First Deputy Coroner and Operations Manager before assuming his current role as Coroner.

In addition to his work with the Coroner's Office, Coroner Buglio has served as a police officer since 1993, giving him more than 30 years of experience in public safety, investigations, and service to the community. His education and professional training include studies at Lehigh Carbon Community College, Mercyhurst University, Penn State University, and Saint Louis University School of Medicine, along with extensive specialized training through a number of forensic and medicolegal organizations. He is certified by the Pennsylvania Coroner's Education Board and nationally certified as a Diplomate of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators.

Coroner Buglio is also an active member of the International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners and serves on both the Lehigh County Child Death Review Team and the Lehigh County Elder Abuse Task Force.

Christina VandePol, M.D.

Title: Sudden, unexpected, unattended: investigating complex natural deaths

Description: Which presumed natural cases require more than just a review of the medical record? When is an autopsy warranted? When the cause of death isn't obvious, even after autopsy, what other resources are available? We'll look at several cases and explore these questions.

Bio. Christina VandePol, M.D., F-ABMDI (ret) is an internist, endocrinologist, and the former Chester County coroner. Her forthcoming book is *Madam Coroner: A Memoir of Death and Politics in Suburbia*. Website: christinavandepol.com

Christina VandePol, M.D. is a writer, physician, and former elected coroner. Her memoir, *Madam Coroner: A Memoir of Death and Politics in Suburbia*, is forthcoming from Exposit Books, a McFarland imprint. *Madam Coroner* won the Killer Nashville 2025 award for best unpublished nonfiction. Christina's creative nonfiction essays have been published in *The Sun*, *Killer Nashville Magazine*, *The Rumpus*, and *Months to Years*.

Christina was the first woman and first Democrat to be elected coroner of suburban Chester County, Pennsylvania in over two centuries. During four stormy years (2018-2022), she steered her office through both the opioid epidemic and the COVID-19 pandemic, overseeing 5,697 death investigations and achieving the advanced level of national certification as a medicolegal death investigator.

Recognized as an expert on coroners and death investigation, Christina has been interviewed and quoted by the *Washington Post*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *CNN*, *NBC News*, the *LA Times*, and multiple regional and local media outlets on topics including drug deaths, unclaimed bodies, the COVID-19 pandemic, deaths in custody, and climate-related deaths.

Christina has been a speaker for the Delaware Valley Chapter of Sisters in Crime, the Pennsylvania Sierra Club, and the Killer Nashville International Writers' Conference, among others. She is a member of the Nonfiction Authors Association, Sisters in Crime, and the Authors Guild. Christina was also a long-time Officer and Board Member of the Chester County Medical Society.

Born in the Netherlands, Christina emigrated to the United States when she was four and became the first in her family to attend college. A graduate of the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Christina is board-certified in internal medicine and endocrinology. Before her election as Coroner of Chester County, PA, she worked as an internist, rural emergency-room doctor, clinical researcher, educator, and medical writer. Christina co-authored an academic study titled *Coroner/Medical Examiner Services in Pennsylvania*, and is the creator of *Cause & Manner*, a *Medicolegal Death Investigation Blog*. After completing her term as coroner, Christina returned to medicine, volunteering at a free clinic. She lives in southeastern Pennsylvania where she writes, tends a wild garden, and supports the election of other progressive women to public office.

SUSAN SHANAMAN

Attorney

Government Relations Consultant

Title: Legal Next of Kin and Who Receives Death Notification

B.A. Psychology Lebanon Valley College

J.D. Penn State Dickinson School of Law

Coroner Education Certification

Counsel to PA Public Utility Commission 1971 - 1974

Counsel to Senate Republicans 1974 – 1979 and 1984 - 1989

Chairman PA Public Utility Commission 1979 - 1982

1984 Republican Auditor General Candidate

Since 1989 have provided government relations consulting, including having been Solicitor to the PA State Coroners Association for more than three decades and currently provide legal services to several coroners, and provide legislative monitoring for the PA Recorder of Deeds Association.

I am about to launch a new website for the discussion of information on death investigation, various drugs, and pertinent legal opinions and legislation.

Currently serve on the Cemetery Board of the Mount Zion Church in Churchtown.

Have been voted, as the first non-coroner, an Honorary Member of the PA State Coroner Association. Member Lawyers of Distinction since 2022.

Corporal Eileen McDermott

Pennsylvania State Police

Troop F Montoursville

Forensic Services Unit Supervisor

Title: Pennsylvania State Police Rapid DNA and Death Scene Do's and Don'ts

Corporal McDermott earned a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and Sociology from the University of Scranton in 2010. Shortly after graduation, she began her career at the Lackawanna County Prison, where she served as a correctional officer. While working at the prison, she pursued further education and obtained a Master of Science in Administration of Justice and Security from the University of Phoenix in 2013.

In 2013, Corporal McDermott joined the Pennsylvania State Police as a member of the 137th Cadet Class. Upon graduation from the academy, she was assigned to the Troop M Bethlehem Patrol Unit and later transferred to the Troop F Milton Patrol Unit.

In 2017, while still serving in a patrol capacity, Corporal McDermott was designated as an alternate member of the Troop F Forensic Services Unit and began assisting with forensic duties. In 2019, she transitioned into a full-time position with the Troop F Forensic Services Unit.

In 2023, she was promoted to the rank of Corporal and currently serves as the Supervisor of the Troop F Forensic Services Unit. In this role, Corporal McDermott has contributed to the investigation and processing of a wide range of crime scenes, including homicides, officer-involved shootings, burglaries, robberies, sexual assaults, child deaths, drug investigations, missing persons, non-traffic deaths, body dumps, cold cases, and motor vehicle collisions.

Corporal McDermott brings specialized expertise in crime scene photography, evidence documentation, and the collection and preservation of physical and biological evidence.

Her commitment to public service and meticulous investigative work makes her a respected leader in the field of forensic science and criminal justice

TROOPER STEVEN T. SCHRAMM

Stephen T. Schramm brings more than two decades of public safety experience spanning law enforcement, fire investigation, firefighting, and Emergency Medical Services. He currently serves as a Pennsylvania State Trooper and Fire Marshal, where his responsibilities include investigating fires and explosions, determining origin and cause, documenting complex scenes, and working alongside local, state, and county agencies during incidents involving serious injury and loss of life. Schramm also serves as Deputy Fire Chief with the Montoursville Fire Department, where he has been involved in the fire service since 2004. His operational experience includes structural firefighting, technical and vehicle rescue, emergency medical response, incident command, and the management of complex emergency scenes. His experience across law enforcement and the fire service has provided him with a unique perspective on incidents where criminal investigation, fire investigation, emergency response, and medicolegal death investigation intersect. He places a strong emphasis on interagency cooperation, thorough scene documentation, evidence preservation, and ensuring that each discipline's responsibilities are coordinated effectively during complex and fatal incidents.

Charles E. Kiessling Jr., BSN, RN, PHRN, CEN, CFRN Lycoming County Coroner

Charles E. "Chuck" Kiessling Jr. is the long-serving **Coroner of Lycoming County, Pennsylvania**, having held the office continuously since January 1, 2000. Born and raised in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Kiessling has dedicated his entire professional career to healthcare, public safety, and community advocacy.

Background and Education

Kiessling's interest in medicine began early, leading him to work as an orderly at Williamsport Hospital and briefly study pre-med at Lycoming College. Seeking a more active, hands-on path, he enrolled in nursing school and graduated from the former **Williamsport Hospital School of Nursing** as a Registered Nurse (RN) in 1984. He later returned to school to complete a **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)** from Lycoming College in 1997.

Medical & Public Safety Career

Beyond his role as coroner, Kiessling has extensive experience in emergency medical services (EMS) and critical care:

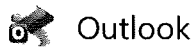
- **Flight Nurse:** Since May 2005, he has served as a flight nurse for the **Geisinger Health System**, transporting critically ill and injured patients from rural accident scenes to trauma centers.
- **Emergency Nursing & EMS:** He worked as an emergency room nurse, an EMT, and a state-certified Pre-Hospital Registered Nurse (PHRN). He also spent many years volunteering and serving in leadership positions alongside local first responders at the Old Lycoming Township Volunteer Fire Department

Tenure as Lycoming County Coroner

Kiessling is responsible for investigating the cause and manner of sudden, unexplained, or violent deaths across the county.

He views his role as going beyond post-mortem logistics, focusing heavily on public safety and death prevention. Key highlights of his ongoing service include:

- **Community Advocacy:** He serves as the Chair of the Lycoming County Child Death Review Team and Chair of PA Safe Kids Lycoming County Partner with the goal of prevent youth injuries and fatalities. He is also actively involved with the DUI Advisory Board, PennDOT Highway Safety, and SADD.
- **Leadership Roles:** Kiessling is a prominent member of the Pennsylvania State Coroners' Association (PSCA) and served as the organization's president from 2016 to 2021.
- **Office Modernization:** After advocating for more space and updated medical infrastructure for over 14 years, Kiessling successfully collaborated with county commissioners to open a new, state-of-the-art coroner facility featuring non-invasive CAT scan technology and professional autopsy capabilities.



Outlook

OAG Coroners' Education Board Proposal For Course Approval Submission

From PA Office of Attorney General <no-reply@attorneygeneral.gov>

Date Wed 9/9/2026 3:39 PM

To Jury, Ali R <ajury@attorneygeneral.gov>

 3 attachments (152 KB)

2026-ceb-annual-coroner-law-enforcement-and-ems-continuing-education-day-speaker-bios.docx, 2026-ceb-annual-coroner-law-enforcement-and-ems-continuing-education-day-new-2026-coroner-law-enforcement-and-ems-ce-agenda.docx, coroner-course-application-Kiessling.pdf,

Name of Course

Annual Coroner, Law Enforcement and EMS Continuing Education Day

Total Hours

8

Cost

\$75

Address

144 West Third St
Williamsport, PA 17701
United States
[Map It](#)

Date(s) of Course

November 20, 2026

Presenter Name

Charles Kiessling

Address

3341 Wahoo Dr
Williamsport, PA 17701
United States
[Map It](#)

Contact Person to enroll in course

Charles Kiessling

Telephone Number of Contact Person

(570) 327-2305

Submitted by:

Charles Kiessling

Email Address

ckiessling@lyco.org

Date

9/9/26

Telephone Number

(570) 327-2305