



Florida Association of Medical Examiners (FAME) 2026 Educational Conference Program

August 12–14, 2026

Hard Rock Hotel – Daytona Beach, Florida

Meeting Agenda (Schedule)

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

MORNING

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM | **FAME Business Meeting (members only, non-CME)**

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM | **Break (non-CME)**

9:15 AM – 9:30 AM | **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM | **Session 1: Leadership, Operations & Professional Development**

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM | 1.1 So You Want to Be a Chief – Jon Thogmartin, MD

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM | 1.2 The Intersection Between Donation & Death Investigation - Jon Boyd with AlloEd

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM | 1.3 DOH – Violent Death Reporting System (VDRS) – Mary Prim, Alexis DiBlanda, and Blake Scott, Florida DOH

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM | Q&A with Session 1 Speakers

AFTERNOON

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM | **Lunch (non-CME)**

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM | **Session 2: Specialized & Unusual Death Investigations**

1:00 PM - 1:45 PM | 2.1 Forensic Veterinary Medicine – Adam Stern, DVM

1:45 PM - 2:30 PM | 2.2 Introduction to Forensic Anthropology – Heather Walsh-Haney, PhD

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM | **Break (non-CME)**

2:45 PM – 5:00 PM | **Session 3: Injury Mechanisms & Expert Testimony**

2:45 PM - 3:15 PM | 3.1 Neuropathology and Brain Donation for Autism Research; Carolyn Hare, Autism BrainNet

3:15 PM - 4: 00 PM | 3.2 Mechanics of an Officer-Involved Shooting – David Meacham, FDLE

4: 00 PM - 4:45 PM | 3.3 Expert Testimony and High-Quality Trial Preparation - Andrew Urbanak, Esq

4:45 PM - 5:00 PM | Q&A with Session 2 Speakers

Thursday, August 13, 2026

MORNING

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM | **Session 4: Aviation Fatalities**

4.1 How ME Reports Cracked Plane Crash Investigations – Dan Boggs, NTSB

9:30 AM – 9:45 AM | Break (non-CME)

9:45 AM – 11:15 AM | **Session 5: Motorsports & Mass Gathering Safety**

9:45 AM - 10:20 AM | 5.1 Crash Safety at the Speedway: How Cars Are Built – John Patalak, PhD, NASCAR (Virtual)

10:20 AM - 11:05 AM | 5.2 Safety at the Speedway and Role of the ME – Paul Mucciolo, MD, FACEP

11:05 AM - 11:15 AM | Q&A with Session 6 Speakers

11:15 AM – 12:00 PM | **Session 6: Aerospace & Emerging Environments**

6.1 Death Investigation in Space / NASA – Chad Foster, DVD

AFTERNOON

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM | Lunch (non-CME)

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM | **Session 7: Mental Health**

1:00 PM - 1:40 PM | 7.1 Lessons Learned from Tragedy Responses – Amanda Nixon

1:40 PM- 2:15 PM | 7.2 How Certain Crashes Have Impacted Air Travel Safety – Anthony Brickhouse

2:15 PM - 2:30 PM | Q&A with Session 7 Speakers

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM | Break (non-CME)

2:45 PM – 4:00 PM | **Session 8: GBI's Integrated Anthropology & Communication**

2:45 PM - 3:30 PM | 8.1 Practical Applications of Forensic Anthropology to MEs - Brittany Walter, PhD, D-ABFA, RPA

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | 8.2 Communication Skills and Breaking Bad News - Tammie Quest, MD

4:15 PM - 4:30 PM | Q&A with Session 8 Speakers

5:30-7:30 PM- Forensic Pathology Trivia: Board-Style Questions and Evidence-Based Practice - Deanna Oleske, MD

Friday, August 14, 2026

MORNING

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM | **Session 9: Ancient remains and Historic Cemeteries**

9.1 Buried History: The Role of Archaeology in Modern Death Investigation - Patrisha Meyers, M.A.

9:30 AM – 9:45 AM | Break (non-CME)

9:45 AM – 12:15 PM | **Session 10: Traffics, Training & Career Development**

9:45 AM - 10:30 AM | 10.1 Fellowship Roundtable – Mary Ripple, MD and Rachel Geller, MD (GBI)

10:30 AM - 11:20 AM | 10.2 Motor Vehicle Fatalities: Patterns, Mechanisms, and Medicolegal Implications – Jay Radtke, MD

11:20 AM - 12:15 PM | Forensic Anthropology Lab (hands-on training) - Heather Walsh-Haney, PhD

12:15-12:30 PM- Final questions and Closing Remarks