


# Memorandum



**Date:** August 23, 2021

**To:** Honorable Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava  
Mayor 

**Subject:** Mayoral Appointment – Interim Director of the Medical Examiner Department

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Pursuant to the authority vested in me under Section 2.02(C) of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, I hereby appoint Kenneth D. Hutchins, M.D. to the position of Director of the Medical Examiner Department, effective September 1, 2021. Dr. Hutchins will serve in this interim capacity until the permanent director is selected.

Dr. Hutchins has dedicated the past 26 years to the Forensic Pathology profession. He joined the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner in 2001 and was promoted to Deputy Chief Medical Examiner in 2020. As Deputy Chief, Dr. Hutchins has provided sound leadership to the department and counsel to the Chief Medical Examiner. His work during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the Surfside building collapse honored the department’s mission to provide accurate, timely, dignified, and compassionate professional death investigative services for the residents of Miami-Dade County. Dr. Hutchins is not only a trained Forensic Pathologist. He is also Board Certified in Anatomic Pathology, Forensic Pathology, and Neuropathology, and uses this knowledge to train Forensic Pathology Fellows and Associate Medical Examiners for senior forensic pathologist positions throughout the country.

Dr. Hutchins holds a Medical Degree from the University of Pennsylvania. His resume is attached for your reference.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Hutchins on this appointment and in thanking him for his years of service to Miami-Dade County.

I would also like to thank Dr. Emma Lew for her 30 years of outstanding County service, and most recently for her tireless work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and Surfside building collapse, and wish her all the best in her retirement.

## Attachment

c: Honorable Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk of the Courts  
Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney  
Gerald Sanchez, First Assistant County Attorney  
Jess McCarty, Executive Assistant County Attorney  
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff  
Department Directors  
Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor  
Jennifer Moon, Chief, Office of Policy and Budgetary Affairs  
Melissa Adames, Director, Clerk of the Board  
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**KENNETH D. HUTCHINS, M.D.**  
**DEPUTY CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER**  
**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER DEPARTMENT**  
**NUMBER ONE ON BOB HOPE ROAD**  
**MIAMI FLORIDA 33136**  
**(305) 545-2400**

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**EDUCATION:**

- B.A. - 1980 Swarthmore College
- M.D. - 1984 University of Pennsylvania

**ADDITIONAL EDUCATION:**

1994-95                      Student, Temple University Law School (Fall Semester)

**TRAINING:**

1984-85                      Internship, General Surgery, SUNY Health Science Center, Syracuse

1985-87                      Fellow, National Institute of Health, Neurosurgery, SUNY Health Science Center, Syracuse

1987-88                      Resident, Neurosurgery, SUNY Health Science Center, Syracuse

1988-89                      Fellow, National Institute of Health, Neuropathology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York

1989-90                      Resident, General Pathology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York

1990-92                      Resident, Neuropathology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York

1992-93                      Resident, General Pathology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York

1993-94                      Research Fellow, Neuropathology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York

1995-96                      Fellow, Forensic Pathology Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, State of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

2020-Present: Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County, Miami, Florida  
2001-2020: Associate Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County, Miami, Florida  
1996-2001: Associate Medical Examiner, Regional Medical Examiner Office, Newark, New Jersey

**CERTIFICATION:**

Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology - Certified in Anatomic Pathology  
Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology - Certified in Forensic Pathology  
Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology - Certified in Neuropathology

**LICENSURE:**

New York: #170013 (inactive)  
Pennsylvania: MD#-52340L (inactive)  
New Jersey: #64477 (inactive)  
Florida: #ME 82184 (active)

**ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP:**

Reviewer: Oakstone Publishing, Practical Reviews in Forensic Medicine & Sciences, Forensic Medicine & Sciences Select (2001-2002).  
Miami-Dade County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (2003-present)  
Miami-Dade County Child Abuse Death Review Team (2003-present)

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

National Association of Medical Examiners, Fellow 1999-present  
American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Fellow 1996-present  
Florida Association of Medical Examiners, 2004-present  
American Association of Neuropathologists, 2001-present  
The New York Association of Neuropathologists-Neuroplex, Inc., 2001-present  
American Association for the History of Medicine, Inc., 2001-2012

**GRANTS:**

1986 - National Research Services Award, National Institutes of Health (NRSA Fellowship 08012)

**FACULTY APPOINTMENTS:**

Assistant Professor of Pathology University of Miami School of Medicine (Voluntary Faculty) 2001-2013

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

Course Coordinator Pathology 9014 (Forensic Pathology) New Jersey Medical School 1998-2001  
Instructor, Police Training Commission, State of New Jersey 1997-2000  
Lecturer, New Jersey Medical School, Department of Surgery-Grand Rounds 1997, 1998  
Lecturer, SIDS Center of New Jersey, 11<sup>th</sup> Annual New Jersey SIDS Conference 1998  
Lecturer, New Jersey Medical School, Department of Emergency Medicine-Grand Rounds 2000  
Lecturer, International Association for Identification, New Jersey Division, 2000  
Presenter, Univ of Miami School of Medicine, Trauma Surgery Morbidity & Mortality Conferences 2001  
Lecturer, Police Medicolegal Investigation of Death Course, Miami Dade Medical Examiner Department 2001-present

**HONORS:**

1979 - Swarthmore Richard Humphrie Scholarship  
1988 - Central Neuropsychiatric Association Meningeal Award Honorable Mention  
1989 - Belfer Institute for Advanced Biomedical Sciences Diploma Recipient

**SPECIALTY COURSES:**

Bloodstain Pattern Analysis workshop, February 13-17, 2006 (40 hours)

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

### **ABSTRACTS:**

Boland D, Kahl JH, Gonyea J, Hime GW, Hutchins KD. **Caught looking: A high profile vessel-related fatality in Miami, Florida.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2020) V26; K69:1042

Oldford EJ, Brown TT, Jones Jr. P, Hutchins KD. **Homicidal paraquat-induced respiratory failure: A case report and overview of paraquat testing in forensic setting.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2020) V26; K68:1041

Stroberg ED, Hutchins KD, Lew EO. **A rare presentation of Alexander Disease.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2018) V24; H1:169.

Hutchins KD, Shuman MJ. **Delayed post-hypoxic leukoencephalopathy (DPHL)** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2017) V23;H119:259

Mathis B, Hutchins KD. **Pneumococcal meningitis associated with phlegmonous gastritis and HIV/AIDS.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2017) V23;H12:244.

Hutchins KD, Garavan G, Kenerson KL, Lew EO, Rapkiewicz AV. **Fatal complications of aesthetic techniques: Gluteal liposculpture.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2017) V23;H101:257.

Hutchins KD, Shuman MJ. **Severe retinal hemorrhages with retinoschisis are not pathognomonic for abusive head trauma.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2016) V22; H24:731

Rapkiewicz A, Hood B, Hutchins KD. **Fatal case of hydrophilic polymer emboli.** J Forensic Sci (2015) Accepted for publication.

Mathis B, Hutchins KD. **Adolescent Suicide: A 30 year retrospective review.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2014) V20; G43:341.

Hutchins KD, Barnhart EA, Walter BV. **Fatal pulmonary fat emboli following first trimester elective abortion: Is this amniotic fluid embolism.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2012) V18; G6:279.

Rapkiewicz A, Shuman MJ, Hutchins KD. **Fatal wounds sustained from falling bullets: Maintaining a high index of suspicion in a forensic setting.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2012) V18; D4:187-88.

Thomas KM, Hutchins KD, Shuman MJ. **Retinal and optic nerve sheath hemorrhages associated with non-traumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage: Two cases of Terson Syndrome in young children.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2012) V18; G87:325.

Hutchins K, Nunez M, Petit C. **Causes of death and neuropathology in autism spectrum disorder: A medical examiner perspective.** J Neuropathol Exp Neurol (2010) 69:547-548.

*Publications/Abstracts (cont.)*

Hutchins KD, Perez LE. **Acute hemorrhagic leukoencephalopathy (Weston-Hurst Disease): A natural disease presents as head trauma.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2007) V13; G5:258-9.

Hutchins KD, Lin RL, Natarajan GA. **An unusual case of death due to asphyxiation by soap.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2000) VI; G72:203-4.

Hutchins KD, Natarajan GA. **Suicide by Rubber - Novel use of the internet in Forensic Investigations: A case report.** Proc Am Acad Forensic Sci (2000) VI; G79:207-8.

Hutchins KD, Natarajan GA. **Frequency of cardiac rupture in acute myocardial infarction.** Poster Presentation National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico 1998

Hutchins KD, Weidenheim KM, Rashbaum W, Lyman WD. **Characterization of the human fetal basal ganglia.** Brain Pathology (1994) 4:372.

Hutchins KD, Wu E, Kascak R, Dickson DW. **Spongiform change in diffuse Lewy body disease.** J Neuropathol Exp Neuro (1992) 51:327.

Dickson DW, Hutchins KD, Wu E. **Neuropathological study of diffuse Lewy body disease.** Neurosci Lett Supplement (1992) 42:S50.

Hutchins KD, Shoji T, Cho S, Dickson DW. **Immunohistochemical analysis of glial populations in multicystic encephalopathy.** J Neuropathol Exp Neuro (1991) 50:338.

Hutchins KD, Dickson DW, Kress YS, Rashbaum WK, Lyman WD. **Localization of morphologically distinct microglial populations in human fetal central nervous system.** Lab Invest (1990) 62:46A.

Hutchins KD, Dickson DW, Rashbaum WK, Lyman WD. **Characterization of microglia in human fetal spinal cord.** J Neuropathol Exp Neuro (1990) 49:283.

Hutchins KD, Dickson DW, Kure K, Rashbaum, WK, Lyman WD. **Evidence that microglia in the human brain may be derived from neuroectoderm.** J Neuropathol Exp Neurol (1989) 48:342.

Lyman WD, Kress YS, Tanaka KE, Hatch WC, Hutchins KD, Rashbaum WK, Soeiro R. **HIV-1 infection of human fetal central nervous system organotypic cultures via autologous lymphocytes.** Neurosci Abstr (1990) vol. 15.

Hutchins KD, Strick PL. **Origin of corticospinal projections to the ipsilateral spinal cord.** Neurosci Abstr (1987) vol. 13.

## PAPERS:

Barna N, Chapman J, Hutchins K, Garavan F. **Atypical endovascular cells in SARS-CoV-2 pneumonia.** Am J Forensic Med Pathol (2020) 41:61-63.

Rapkiewicz AV, Kenerson KL Hutchins KD, Garavan G, Lew EO, Shuman MJ. **Fatal complications of aesthetic techniques: The Gluteal Region.** J Forensic Sci (2018) 63:1406-1412.

Hutchins KD, Shuman MJ. **Severe retinal hemorrhages with retinoschisis are not pathognomonic for abusive head trauma.** J Forensic Sci (2017) 62:807-811.

Rapkiewicz AV, Shuman MJ, Hutchins KD. **Fatal wounds sustained from falling bullets: Maintaining a high index of suspicion in a forensic setting.** J Forensic Sci (2014). 59:268-270.

Hutchins KD, Menke J, Reichard RR. **The utility of routine brain histology in forensic cases.** Acad For Path (2012) 2 (1):42-45.

Shields LBE, Hunsaker DM, Hunsaker JC, Wetli CV, Hutchins KD, Holmes RM. **Atypical autoerotic death: Part II.** Am J Forensic Med Pathol (2005) 26:53-62.

Hutchins KD, Skurnick J, Lavenhar M, Natarajan GA. **Cardiac rupture in acute myocardial infarction: A reassessment.** Am J Forensic Med Pathol (2002) 23:78-82.

Seigel JH, Smith JA, Tenenbaum N, McCammon L, Siddiqi SQ, Presswalla F, Pierre-Louis P, Williams W, Zaretski L, Hutchins K, Perez L, Shaikh J, Natarajan G. **Deceleration energy and change in velocity on impact: key factors in fatal versus potentially survivable motor vehicle crash (mvc) aortic injuries (A1): the role of associated injuries as determinants of outcome.** Ann Proc, Assoc Advancement Auto Med (2002) 46:315-38.

Siegel JH, Loo G, Dischinger PC, Burgess AR, Wang SC, Schneider LW, Grossman D, Rivara F, Mock C, Natarajan GA, Hutchins KD, Bents FD, McCammon L, Leibivich E, Tenenbaum N. **Factors influencing the patterns of injuries and outcomes in car versus car crashes compared to sport utility, van, or pickup truck versus car crashes: Crash injury research engineering network study.** J Trauma (2001) 51:975-990.

Hutchins KD, Williams AW, Hameed M. **The thymus and childhood sudden death: Status thymicolymphaticus revisited.** ASCP Check Sample (2001) FP 01-5.

Barami K, Hutchins KD, Lyman WD. **Neurotransmitter distribution in the second trimester fetal human corpus striatum.** Neurol Res (2001) 23:16-22.

Hutchins KD, Williams AW, Natarajan GA. **Neck needle foreign bodies: An added risk for autopsy pathologists.** Arch Pathol Lab Medicine (2001) 125:790-792.

Hutchins KD, Ballas SK, Phatak D, Natarajan GA. **Sudden unexpected death in a patient with splenic sequestration and sickle cell  $\beta$  thalassemia syndrome.** J Forensic Sci (2001) 46:412-414.

*Publications/Papers (cont.)*

Hutchins KD, Natarajan GA. **Blunt impact abdominal injury in child abuse.** ASCP Check Sample (2000) FP 00-5.

Hutchins KD, Pierre-Louis PJB, Zaretski L, Williams AW, Lin RL, Natarajan GA. **Heroin body packing: Three fatal cases of intestinal perforation.** J Forensic Sci (2000) 45:42-47.

Hutchins KD, Dickson D, Hameed M, Natarajan GA. **Sudden death in a child due to an intrathoracic paraganglioma.** Am J Forensic Med Pathol (2000) 20:338-342.

Hutchins KD, Dickson DW, Rashbaum WK, Lyman WD. **Localization of microglia in the human fetal cervical spinal cord.** Dev Brain Res (1992) 66:270-273.

Hutchins KD, Dickson DW, Rashbaum WK, Lyman WD. **Localization of morphologically distinct microglial populations in the developing human fetal brain: Implication for ontogeny.** Dev Brain Res (1990) 55:95-102.

Dickson DW, Mattiace LA, Kure K, Hutchins KD, Lyman WD, Brosnan CF. **Biology of disease: Microglia in human disease, with an emphasis on AIDS.** Lab Invest (1990) 64:135-156.

Hutchins KD, Martino J, Strick PL. **Corticospinal projections from the medial wall of the hemisphere.** Exp Brain Res. (1988) 71:667-672.