



CUYAHOGA COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

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Trace Evidence Department Internship Program

General Information:

The Trace Evidence Section of the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office and the Cuyahoga County Regional Forensic Science Laboratory may allow for one internship opportunity per calendar year. The internship is designed to provide the student with an introduction to Trace Evidence examination and to allow the student to observe the day to day operations of a Trace Evidence Forensic Laboratory. Internship opportunities are unpaid. The time frame of the internship opportunity is negotiable with the student's schedule but will not last longer than one academic semester. Internship hours may be obtained on weekdays during normal business hours.

Internship Acceptance Requirements:

The internship candidate must be currently enrolled in a Forensic Science program at the undergraduate or graduate college or university level. The enrolled student must be in the 4th or last year of an undergraduate Forensic Science program or in the final year of a graduate Forensic Science Program. The internship candidate's education must be geared towards Trace Evidence examination either through chemistry, physics, geology, microscopy, or another closely related science category. Biology students or "DNA track" forensic science students will not be considered.

Description of Program:

Interns will observe the day to day operations of a Trace Evidence Laboratory and will be exposed to various categories of evidence examination including but not limited to; hairs, fibers, paint, pressure sensitive tape, pattern impressions, physical matching, and serology. The intern will have an opportunity to:

- Observe a Trace Evidence Forensic Scientist recognize and collect evidence from deceased individuals.
- Observed a Trace Evidence Forensic Scientist process and examine evidence submitted to the laboratory.

- Utilize laboratory instrumentation such as light microscopes, a Scanning Electron Microscope, a Fourier Transform Infra-red Spectrometer, and a Microspectrophotometer to analyze non-evidence prepared samples.
- Perform research utilizing laboratory instrumentation.

In addition to the academic requirements mandated by the Intern's educational institution, the Intern may be asked to complete a research project and/or presentation.