

April 2009 Wisconsin Updates....interesting cases involving Wisconsin's death investigators.....

- In Dane County, a 24-year-old man was arrested in connection with the death of a 31-year-old man, whose body was found in a parking lot of an apartment complex. Police responded to an ambulance request for the 24-year-old, and while he was being treated for a hand injury, a neighbor alerted police about the body lying in the parking lot. The man then confessed to police that he had killed him. The family of the man killed said he died of stab wounds in an “unprovoked attack.”
- In Milwaukee County, a 3-year-old died of injuries attributed to abuse two days after being taken to a hospital. The boy's father was arrested in the case.
- In Racine County, a 20-year-old female incarcerated in the county jail gave birth to a premature infant; the baby died a short time later at a hospital. Officials were investigating reports that authorities didn't respond to the woman's request for help for 4 hours, which jail officials denied.
- In Marathon County, a \$2.5 million settlement was reached with the family of a 13-year-old boy who was run over by a school bus and killed in 2005. The investigation found that the boy was trying to get on the bus when it pulled away and turned, running over the boy.
- In Milwaukee County, the death of a two-month-old boy was attributed to being shaken, and a homicide investigation is underway.
- In Racine County, a 16-year-old male was charged in the shooting death of a 26-year-old man.
- The NTSB issued a report stating “a crew member may have accidentally put a medical plane into autopilot shortly before a 2007 crash into Lake Michigan that killed both pilots and a four-member organ transplant team” from the University of Michigan Survival Flight that had just taken off from Milwaukee's Mitchell Field. The crew flew a Cessna Citation to harvest organs for transplant. The intended organ recipient received other organs two days after the crash.
- In Wood County, a 36-year-old DNR pilot died when he crashed the Cessna Skymaster 337 into a field near Marshfield. The pilot was spotting grass fires. This was the first fatality of a DNR air attack pilot in the line of duty.
- In Winnebago County, a 19-year-old man was charged with the fatal stabbing of a 35-year-old man who was dating the accused's mother.
- In Marathon County, a judge ruled that blood test results were admissible in a trial that killed a 37-year-old woman last December. A 26-year-old man charged with homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle was unconscious after the crash; the man's attorney argued the arresting officer “did not have a legal basis for drawing blood.”
- In Dodge County, charges have been filed against a Waupun prison inmate accused of helping his cellmate commit suicide in January. The man hanged himself with bedsheets. Both men were 20. The man who committed suicide had murdered a well-known Madison activist.
- In Milwaukee County, a 4-month-old boy died after being left in a day care provider's van for possibly as long as five hours.

- In Poynette (Columbia County), voters re-elected a dead man to the village board. The 45-year-old man had died two days before the election.
- In Rochester (Racine County), a 58-year-old man who died on election day of cancer, was also elected to the village board, on which he had served for 8 years.
- In Washburn County, a 45-year-old man was found 4 days after he disappeared, apparently after kayaking. His body was found in the Namekagon River.
- In Waukesha County, a 56-year-old former physician charged with driving intoxicated and killing a pregnant 39-year-old woman, her fetus and her daughter last April has now been charged with violating his bail conditions after he allegedly received prescription medications in the mail and having firearms in his possession.
- In Milwaukee County, a medical condition may have contributed to the death of a 71-year-old man who struck a 47-year-old physician who was walking his dog. Both men and the dog died in the accident.
- In Brown County, a 46-year-old bicyclist died after falling off his bike and then being struck by a car.
- In Dane County, a 36-year-old man awaiting trial for allegedly supplying heroin that killed a woman in 2007 was found dead in his home.
- In Portage County, a 24-year-old man was charged with first-degree reckless homicide of his 5-week-old son, who died in January after being taken off life-support.
- In Sawyer County, a 44-year-old man fell out of a boat while fishing; his death is believed to be the first spearfishing-related drowning ever in Wisconsin.
- In Outagamie County, a 38-year-old Appleton fire fighter was charged with first-degree homicide and attempted first-degree homicide after he allegedly shot and killed his 39-year-old wife and wounded his mother-in-law in a driveway of his home.
- In Marinette County, three people died in a two-vehicle, head-on crash where one vehicle crossed the center line.
- In Dodge County, a 49-year-old man died of accidental carbon monoxide poisoning after being found inside his burning home. Investigators feel the man had been overcome by fumes from several cooking pots holding burning charcoal briquettes and died before the house started on fire.
- In Dane County, a 39-year-old woman was charged with child neglect resulting in the February death of her 3-year-old granddaughter from an overdose of oxycodone. The complaint stated the woman was an abuser of prescription medications. The child was found unresponsive at 7:15 a.m., but 911 wasn't called until 1:00 p.m. The woman charged reportedly drove friends to work and watched "The Young and the Restless" on TV before summoning help.
- In St. Croix County, a 33-year-old construction worker was killed while using a saw to cut a pipe in a trench; the saw kicked back and struck him in the neck. OSHA is investigating the excavating company the man worked for. In February, the same company received 11 citations from OSHA for "life-threatening violations involving a trench project in Weston last September."

- In Waukesha County, a 64-year-old former pastor died when he passed another car, bypassed railroad crossing gates and was hit by a train. His former church was destroyed in a natural gas explosion last year.
- In Milwaukee County, a fourth death of an infant in just a few weeks was attributed to co-sleeping, the same week that a campaign was started to promote public awareness of the dangers of babies co-sleeping with adults.
- In Outagamie County, a 42-year-old man was killed in a six-vehicle chain reaction crash on Hy. 41. Three people were airlifted from the scene with serious injuries; a 37-year-old woman died of her injuries the next day. The accident likely was due to excessive speeds as traffic slowed due to a construction zone.
- In Sheboygan County, a 47-year-old man died after he was thrown from his ATV as it rolled over; he was riding in a parking lot of a park.
- In Portage County, a 62-year-old man died when the motorcycle he was operating failed to negotiate a curve. The man reportedly was en route to scatter his deceased son's ashes at his favorite fishing spot.
- In Waukesha County, a judge dismissed a civil rights suite filed by the family of a 29-year-old man who died after police officers used a Taser multiple times (6) to subdue the man.
- In Dodge County, a dead baby believed to have been born a short time earlier was found inside a trash bag in the woods.
- In Portage County, a 30-year-old woman and her two young children were found dead, and a man and an infant were alive but suffering from fume exposure inside the gasoline-soaked home. The man, 36, was jailed in connections to the deaths, which were described as "violent."
- In Dodge County, a 55-year-old man confined to a wheel chair was convicted under the Len Bias Law of supplying methadone which killed his friend.