

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

- In Sheboygan County, a 17-year-old male student at Sheboygan North High School died after shooting himself in the parking lot at the school.
- In Milwaukee County, a 23-year-old man died after he jumped into the Milwaukee River while fleeing police officers.
- In Portage County, a 47-year-old man will spend three months in jail and then be on electronic monitoring for his connection with a July 2008 case that left a man dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to his abdomen in the backseat of a car. The man charged apparently was very intoxicated and drove from place to place, asking for help for the passenger, who "wasn't feeling well." When he finally drove to a hospital, the passenger was already dead.
- In Marathon County, an 18-year-old high school student was murdered at an apartment she shared with her boyfriend and his brother. The woman was a student at D.C. Everest High School. A 22-year-old male who worked at the same restaurant as the decedent was arrested and charged; the man is an illegal immigrant. Police found the woman's cell phone and items of clothing in a plastic bag in a dumpster outside the restaurant.
- In Brown County, the body of a 50-year-old man was found on the sidewalk below a Green Bay parking ramp. His death was ruled a suicide.
- In Pierce County, a 55-year-old man driving a motorcycle was killed when he stuck a digger that was being pulled by a tractor along the shoulder of a road. The tractor driver was a 15-year-old boy. Authorities said the cyclist likely was blinded by the sun when he crested a hill.
- In Kenosha County, a 27-year-old male inmate died after hanging himself with bed sheets at the County Jail.
- In Portage County, a 91-year-old man died after suffering burns while tending a brush fire.
- In Langlade County, a 50-year-old man was killed when he was struck and run over by a potato planter while working in a field.
- In Sawyer County, authorities suspect homicide in the death of a 93-year-old woman. A 27-year-old man and a 15-year-old boy are in custody. Authorities say the woman, who was in bed at the time she was attacked, was stabbed 15 times. Authorities also reported the two suspects had targeted a couple to kill, but were scared off when a motion light went on at the couple's home.
- In Polk County, two men died when their boat capsized about midnight.
- In Rock County, a 19-year-old Illinois man pled guilty to manufacturing and delivering heroin that he sold. He is one of four teens charged in the November death of an 18-year-old man.
- In Brown County, a 27-year-old man was sentenced to seven years in prison for allowing his girlfriend's 13-month-old son to drown after leaving him unattended in a bathtub.
- In Dane County, a 54-year-old woman died after attempting to swallow two baggies that contained an unidentified substance during a traffic stop. The woman had struggled with drug abuse.

- In Monroe County, a 52-year-old man was killed when he was run over by a tractor. 59-year-old woman was backing the tractor up to attach a piece of equipment when the accident happened.
- In Winnebago County, the body of a 55-year-old man was pulled from the Fox River. The man had been missing for almost two weeks. His vehicle was found parked near the river. His wife believes the man “sleep drove” from his residence, then “sleep walked” into the river as a result of taking Ambien CR, a sleeping medication.
- In Pierce County, a 29-year-old man died after a trailer he was helping move collapsed on top of him. He was moving the trailer off blocks.
- In Outagamie County, a 38-year-old former Appleton fire fighter was ruled to be mentally competent to stand trial in a case where he is charged with murdering his estranged wife and wounding his mother-in-law in April.
- In Wood County, the remains of a 21-year-old woman were released by the FBI Lab in Quantico, VA., to her family, almost three years after her death. She was last seen alive in a tavern in June 2006; her remains were found by hunters that November in Crawford County.
- In Dodge County, a 50-year-old body shop owner was killed when a race car he was working on rolled off weight monitors and crushed him.
- In Milwaukee County, a 62-year-old woman was sentenced to 10 years in prison for being intoxicated when she struck and killed a 55-year-old motorcyclist last August. The man was in town for Harley-Davidson’s 105th anniversary celebration. The woman ran a red light, drove onto the sidewalk, then struck the cyclist when she got back on the street.
- In Brown County, a 46-year-old woman was sentenced to 80 years in prison on multiple charges as a result of being drunk when she struck and killed two teenage girls last June. The woman’s Porsche broadsided the girl’s car, and was traveling in excess of 80 mph on a city street. The woman claimed she was reaching to pick up her dog off the floor of the car when her foot accidentally stepped down on the accelerator.
- In Portage County, a 53-year-old inmate died in the county jail.
- In Milwaukee County, the body of a 28-year-old woman washed up on the Lake Michigan shoreline; an autopsy revealed multiple gun shot wounds. A male suspect was taken into custody regarding her death.
- In Crawford County, the body of a man who died at his home nearly four years ago was exhumed and taken for a second autopsy. Crawford County authorities also reopened another “suspicious death” case involving a 30-year-old man whose body was found on an island on the Mississippi River on Memorial Day 1994. That man was the son of the Clayton County, Iowa sheriff.
- On Friday May 15, Wisconsin cops from Kenosha to Marinette wrote 126 citations for speeding and 33 for seat-belt violations as part of a joint effort to crack down on dangerous driving on U.S. 41. At least 21 law enforcement agencies participated.
- In Dane County, a 47-year-old woman died after being shot, allegedly by her ex-husband; their divorce was finalized a few days earlier. His body was found in a local park a few days later. He died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

- In Milwaukee County, authorities were investigating their 5th co-sleeping death within a 10-week period.
- In Milwaukee County, authorities have linked 7 deaths to the same person by DNA evidence. The suspected serial killer has murdered the women over a period of 21 years, the most recent in 2007. The possibility of more victims related to the murderer is being investigated. Some people wondered if the race (black) of the women, all prostitutes, delayed attention of the police in working to solve the crimes.
- In Wood County, the woman who was burning debris when the fire got out of control and burned two acres will not face criminal charges, but she did get a citation for burning without a permit. A state-owned DNR plane crashed, killing the 36-year-old pilot, while responding to the fire in April.
- In Wood County, a 26-year-old man pled guilty to a felony charge of intoxicated use of a vehicle for the December 2008 crash which killed a 37-year-old school teacher. The man, an illegal immigrant, crossed the center line and hit the car of the third-grade teacher. Her own four children were in the car and survived the crash.
- In Oconto County, the deaths of two siblings, a 32-year-old woman and a 21-year-old man were ruled homicides. Both victims had been shot to death.
- In Oconto County, authorities ruled the death of a 40-year-old woman found when her house was on fire was dead before the fire started.
- According to a survey released by GMAC Insurance, Wisconsin driver's rank No. 1 nationally in knowing the rules of the road. More than 5000 drivers from across the county were tested on knowing their state's rules of the road. Wisconsin's drivers scored 80.6%; the national average was 76.6%. Wisconsin tied with Idaho, with Kansas finishing next. Minnesota tied for 8th, Michigan ranked 22nd and Illinois 29th. Overall drivers in the Midwest scored well, with drivers in the northeast scoring the worst. The lowest overall state was New York.
- In Racine County, four men, all in their twenties, were charged with fatally injuring a 12-year-old boy during a drive-by shooting in April 2007. Three other people were injured in the shooting.
- In Marinette County, the 38-year-old Michigan man who killed three teenagers in a shooting rampage in July 2008 was sentenced to life in prison without parole. The man had sexually assaulted a 24-year-old woman near the shooting site the day earlier, and knew the police would be coming to look for him. He felt he "had nothing to lose or live for," so he plotted to kill the swimmers. He also told authorities he had planned to shoot responding police officers, but "couldn't find a clean shot."
- In Kenosha County, a man has pleaded not guilty to charges that accuse him of killing his wife after she refused to have sex. The 64-year-old woman died after being shot and stabbed. She identified her husband, also 64, as the attacker.
- In Waupaca County, a 55-year-old man died in a mobile home fire.
- In Kenosha County, a 50-year-old man died after being injured in a bicycle race at the Washington Park Velodrome.

- In Marathon County, a 41-year-old woman was convicted of second-degree reckless homicide after choosing to pray rather than seek medical care for her 11-year-old daughter, who died of complications of untreated diabetes.
- In Dane County, authorities reported cheap, potent heroin was responsible for 8 deaths in 2007 and 14 in 2008. Heroin is now cheaper than cocaine and prescription drugs.
- In La Crosse County, a 24-year-old man shot and killed his 22-year-old wife before committing suicide. The married couple was estranged.
- In Outagamie County, officials were investigating the suspicious death of a 10-week-old male infant. An autopsy revealed multiple traumatic injuries.
- In Dunn County, a 64-year-old man was killed when the tractor he was driving overturned, trapping him underneath.
- In Sheboygan County, a 77-year-old man was found inside his minivan, which was found submerged in Lake Michigan in about 10 feet of water.
- In St. Croix County, a 56-year old pastor died after falling off a ladder while trimming a tree in preparation for his daughter's wedding.
- In Dodge County, a man died after rolling his pickup truck on Hy. 151, crossing the median, and then was struck by a semi in the opposite lane.
- In Waukesha County, a 29-year-old man pled guilty to two counts of reckless homicide in two overdose deaths involving heroin.
- In Waukesha County, the state Court of Appeals ruled a man can sue Waukesha Memorial Hospital for damages in the alleged wrongful death of his wife after she was able to bring a gun into a locked facility and kill herself. The woman was not searched by hospital staff after returning from a five-hour pass in February, 2009. She had been undergoing treatment in the mental health unit.
- In Oneida County, a 10-month-old girl died after her father let her overdose on morphine, according to prosecutors. Her 22-year-old father has been charged with first-degree reckless homicide, and faces 60 years in prison if convicted.
- In Milwaukee County, a 44-year-old day care worker entered a guilty plea in connection with the death of a 4-month-old baby he left strapped in an infant seat of a van in April. Although the temperature outside never rose above 60 degrees, the temperature inside the van climbed to 104 degrees after 40 minutes, according to test results.
- In Milwaukee County, a woman was jailed after her 90-year-old mother was found dead at their home. Police found the woman dead, for perhaps 7-10 days, with a plastic bag over her head and pantyhose around her neck.
- Wisconsin inmates may soon be playing cards with a deck of "cold case" unsolved homicides featuring 52 Wisconsin cases. The hope is that some inmates will discuss their involvement with other inmates; one Fond du Lac County detective was quoted as saying, "Some guys just love to talk, boys like to brag."
- In Milwaukee County, police responded to a traffic accident, and found that a 23-year-old man had died after being shot in the head.
- In Racine County, a 20-year-old woman who delivered a baby prematurely in the county jail that eventually died plans to sue the county; county officials claim the

woman had been seen doing handstands and punching herself in the stomach prior to the delivery.

- In Milwaukee County, a 35-year-old man has been charged with killing a woman and injuring a teenage boy during a child custody dispute at a Memorial Day family gathering. A 37-year-old woman died after being shot in the chest; a 17-year-old male was shot in the arm.
- In Dane County, a 15-year-old girl was killed and two other teens critically injured in a two-vehicle crash in Madison. A stolen car, driven by a 15-year-old male was struck by an SUV; the 40-year-old male driver of the SUV was found to be intoxicated. The teen's vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed, and police reported "the driver and the front-seat passenger (a 14-year-old boy) were fighting for control of the steering wheel."
- At the State Capitol, the Assembly Public Safety Committee unanimously endorsed a bill requiring devices in the cars of repeat drunken drivers to prevent their cars from starting unless their breath is free of alcohol. Assembly Bill 17 also would require the devices in the vehicles of first-time drunken drivers with blood-alcohol levels of 0.15% or more.