

NEWS RELEASE: May 7, 2009

**Greene County contracts with MU for medical examiner services**

Greene County has finalized a contract with the University of Missouri to provide medical examiner services to the county.

On Feb. 20, the Greene County Commission named Dr. Carl Christopher Stacy, Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology with the MU Department of Pathology and Anatomical Sciences, as the Greene County Medical Examiner. The 12-month renewable contract formalizes Greene County's agreement with MU and Stacy, as well as outlines details for support staff, facilities and other terms.

Stacy replaced Dr. Doug Anderson, who had served as Interim Medical Examiner since October, 2006.

Greene County began discussions with MU after a two-year nationwide search for a full-time medical examiner. Greene County found the job market for certified forensic pathologists to be extremely competitive, and was unsuccessful in hiring for the position.

In addition to Greene County, Stacy currently serves as medical examiner for Boone and Calloway counties.

"Dr. Stacy has a proven record in forensic pathology," said Greene County Presiding Commissioner Dave Coonrod. "The Greene County Commission is pleased to have him serving as our Medical Examiner. Our contract with Dr. Stacy also allows Greene County to access the expertise of his entire department at the University of Missouri."

For the time being, Stacy will conduct routine autopsies at the MU anatomy morgue, located in the university's medical school in Columbia. However, if a homicide investigation or other circumstances dictate an autopsy must be conducted locally, the procedure may be conducted at Cox South, which has provided morgue space to the Greene County Medical Examiner's Office for many years.

Within the year, Greene County hopes to begin construction on a new morgue facility in the building housing the Missouri State Highway Patrol Crime Lab in downtown Springfield. When complete, all Greene County autopsies will be conducted there. Coonrod said the planned morgue may also be available to other counties.

"The services we will provide in the new morgue ultimately have the potential to offer an option for medical examiner services beyond Greene County," said Coonrod.

To view the MU School of Medicine news release on this topic, visit <http://som.missouri.edu/Alumni/News.aspx>

For more information, contact the Greene County Commission at 417-868-4112, or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-379-5713.

###