

CORONER OF WAYNE COUNTY

Wayne County Courthouse

925 Court Street, Honesdale, PA 18431

Phone: 570-253-4952

Fax: 570-647-1594

EDWARD R. HOWELL

EDWARD R. HOWELL

Coroner

CAROL R. LIENERT
Deputy & Coroner Emeritus



MARK M. JAMES

Chief Deputy

LAURA WALKER-SWINGLE
Deputy & Death Investigation Supervisor

2020

611 TOTAL CASES REFERRED TO CORONER

DEATHS INVESTIGATED FOR IRREVERSIBLE DISPOSITION (CREMATION/DONATION)	404
DEATHS INVESTIGATED AND CERTIFIED BY CORONER	88
DEATHS INVESTIGATED BY CORONER AND RELEASED TO ATTENDING MEDICAL PROVIDER FOR CERTIFICATION	119
PERMISSION GIVEN TO VITAL RECORDS FOR CERTIFICATE SIGNED BY ATTENDING PHYSICIAN	0
POST MORTEM EXAMINATIONS	40

SUMMARY TO FOLLOW:

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E D W A R D R . H O W E L L

EDWARD R. HOWELL
Coroner

CAROL R. LIENERT
Deputy & Coroner Emeritus

ROBERT MORCOM
Deputy

ETTA DAY
Deputy



MARK M. JAMES
Chief Deputy

LAURA WALKER-SWINGLE
Deputy & Death Investigation Supervisor

AIMEE L. PEARSON
Deputy & Administrative Assistant

2020 DEATHS INVESTIGATED & CERTIFIED BY THE CORONER

43 NATURAL

Acute Myocardial Infarction Complicated by Morbid Obesity, Sleep Apnea, and High Level of Sertraline	1
Acute Myocardial Infarction Complicated by Uncontrolled Hypertension	1
Acute Myocardial Infarction due to Severe Coronary Artery Disease	1
Anoxic Brain Injury due to Cardiorespiratory Arrest due to Ventricular Fibrillation due to Cardiac Disease	1
Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease	4
Carcinoma of the Lung	1
Cardiac Dysrhythmia due to Severe Pulmonary Emphysema, Coronary Artery Disease, and Pulmonary Edema Complicated by the Combined Effects of Tramadol and Cyclobenzaprine	1
Cardiorespiratory Arrest due to Chronic Alcoholism	1
Cardiorespiratory Arrest due to Hypertension	1
Cardiorespiratory Arrest due to Hypertension due to Coronary Artery Disease due to Obesity and Sleep Apnea	1
Cardiovascular Disease	1
Congestive Heart Failure due to Coronary Artery Disease due to Atrial Fibrillation due to Diabetes Mellitus Type II	1
Congestive Heart Failure due to Reduced Mobility due to Right Hip Fracture due to Fall	1
End Stage Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease complicated by Pneumonia due to Coronary Artery Disease	1
Failure to Thrive due to Ascites due to Liver Failure due to Chronic Alcoholism	1
Failure to Thrive due to Major Neurocognitive Disorder	1

Heart Failure due to Metabolic Syndrome, Polycystic Renal Disease, and Morbid Obesity	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Head, Face, and Neck	1
Metastatic Lung Cancer	1
Multiple Myeloma due to Severe Ischemic Cardiomyopathy due to Congestive Heart Failure due to Atherosclerotic Heart Disease	1
Multiple Pulmonary Emboli	1
Multisystem Organ Failure due to Combined Effects of Sepsis due to Severe Dermatitis/Vaginitis, Severe Calcific Coronary Artery Disease, and Aspiration	1
Myocardial Failure	1
Myocardial Insufficiency due to Coronary Artery Disease	1
Myocardial Insufficiency due to Heart Failure	1
Myocardial Insufficiency due to Hypertension due to Hypercholesterolemia due to Chronic Alcohol Use	1
Myocardial Vascular Insufficiency due to Calcific Coronary Artery Disease	1
Pancytopenia due to Myelodysplastic Syndrome due to Exposure to Agent Orange Resulting from Military Service	1
Pulmonary Embolism due to Colonic (Cecal) Carcinoma	1
Pneumonia	1
Ruptured Berry Aneurysm	1
Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome	1
Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome and Combined Effects of Cigarette Smoking and Chronic Alcoholism	1
Sudden Cardiac Arrhythmic Death Complicated by Diabetes Mellitus Type II	1
Sudden Cardiac Death	1
Sudden Cardiac Death due to Hypertension due to Diabetes Mellitus Type II	1
Sudden Cardiac Death due to Hypertension due to Hyperlipidemia	1
Sudden Cardiac Death due to Hypertension due to Peripheral Vascular Disease due to Diabetes Mellitus	1
Sudden Cardiac Death due to Medical Non-Compliance	1
Ulcerative Perianal Carcinoma	1

30 ACCIDENT

Anoxic Brain Injury due to Cardiac Arrest due to Pharmacologic Effects of Fentanyl	1
Asphyxia due to Hanging	1
Blunt Chest Trauma due to Motor Vehicle Accident	1
Blunt Force Head Trauma due to Struck by Tree due to Tree Cutting Accident	1
Blunt Head Trauma due to Tree Fell on Moving Vehicle	1
Combined Effects of Burning and Carbon Monoxide Poisoning due to Car Fire due to Motor Vehicle Accident	1
Combined Pharmacologic Effects of Alcohol and Oxycodone	1
Combined Pharmacologic Effects of Alprazolam and Methadone	1
Combined Pharmacologic Effects of Fentanyl, Cocaine, and Amphetamines	1
Combined Pharmacologic Effects of Fentanyl, Cocaine, and Morphine (Heroin)	1
Combined Pharmacologic Effects of Fentanyl and Gabapentin	1
Drowning	1
Fentanyl and Methamphetamine Toxicity	1
Hypothermia complicated by Chronic and Acute Alcohol Abuse	1
Hypoxia due to Aspiration of Food	1
Multiple Traumatic Injuries due to ATV Accident	1
Multiple Traumatic Injuries due to Motorcycle Accident	1
Multiple Traumatic Injuries due to Motor Vehicle Accident	3
Multiple Traumatic Injuries due to Motor Vehicle Collision	1
Pharmacologic Effects of Difluoroethane due to Huffing	1
Pharmacologic Effects of Fentanyl	4
Pharmacologic Effects of Gabapentin and Quetiapine	1
Pharmacologic Effects of Hydromorphone	1
Respiratory Failure due to Debility and Dysphagia due to Falls with Multiple Rib Fractures	1
Subdural Hematoma due to Fall due to Atrial Fibrillation due to Prior Cerebrovascular Accident	1

11 SUICIDE

Asphyxia due to Hanging	3
Gunshot Wound to the Head	8

0 HOMICIDE

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0 PENDING INVESTIGATION

Pending Investigation	0
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2 COULD NOT BE DETERMINED

Pharmacologic Effects of Diphenhydramine	1
Sudden Unexplained Infant Death While Co-Sleeping	1

NOTE: On 03/06/2020 and 04/03/2020, skeletal remains were identified. The 03/06/2020 case was determined to be archaeological in nature, not forensic. The 04/03/2020 case remains under investigation.