

TIOGA COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE

Tioga County Public Safety Building 103 Corporate Drive OWEGO, NY 13827 607-687-8591

Keith Lewis Coroner 607-327-1006

Ryan Kline Coroner Phone 607-761-0036 Robert P. Williams Coroner Phone 607-760-5245

February 18, 2025

2024 Annual Report

The Tioga County Coroner's Office operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by the next available on-call system through the Tioga County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Unit.

The Tioga County Coroner's Office consisted of four elected Coroners. The coroners in office during 2024 were W. Stewart Bennett, Robert Williams, Ryan Kline and Keith Lewis. W. Stewart Bennett was designated by the Tioga County Legislature as the Administrative Coroner. Tioga County Coroner W.S. Bennett resigned effective 12/31/2024.

Highlights

• Report from Tioga County Sheriff's Department involving skeletal remains. It was determined by Binghamton University Anthropology Department to have been buried in a cemetery and unearthed due to animal actions. Remains were re-interred in accordance with NYS law.

Challenges

- Working with only 3 Field Responding Coroners created call coverage difficulties when no coroners were available to respond to death scenes.
- There is no standard Records Management System being utilized by all coroners, making case tracking and locating difficult and accurate statistical reporting is difficult.

The coroner's office handled 116 cases which were classified as:

	Coroner Williams	Coroner Kline	Coroner Lewis
Natural	45	25	17
Accidental	7	4	3
Suicide	9	3	1
Homicide	2	0	0
Undetermined	0	0	0
Pending	0	0	0
	 63	32	21
Autopsies	29	20	7

Cases by location:

	Coroner Williams	Coroner Kline	Coroner Lewis
Town of Barton	5	3	4
Village of Waverly	6	0	1
Town of Berkshire	1	0	0
Town of Candor	4	1	1
Village of Candor	0	0	0
Town of Newark Valley	4	5	1
Village of Newark Valley	1	0	0
Town of Nichols	6	3	3
Village of Nichols	0	0	1
Town of Owego	15	14	7
Village of Owego	8	0	0
Town of Richford	2	0	1
Town of Spencer	1	3	0
Village of Spencer	0	0	0
Town of Tioga	10	3	2
	63	32	21

Respectfully submitted by:

Tioga County Coroners

Goals for 2025

• Continue to work with Tioga County Administrator Jackson Bailey to organize the activities of Coroners and enhance the efficiency of the Coroner's Office.