

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1998 SESSION

CHAPTER 217

An Act to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-277 and 32.1-281 of the Code of Virginia, relating to postmortem examinations; personnel.

[S 378]

Approved April 2, 1998

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 32.1-277 and 32.1-281 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 32.1-277. Central and district offices and facilities.

The Commissioner shall establish and maintain, for medicolegal investigation of deaths and postmortem examinations, a central office and facilities in the City of Richmond and such district offices and facilities in such localities in the Commonwealth as are necessary. Each such office and facility shall have adequate professional ~~and~~, technical *and medical investigative* personnel and physical facilities for the conduct of such examinations and investigations as may be authorized or required by law.

§ 32.1-281. Commissioner may obtain additional services and facilities.

In the investigation of any death or for the performance of any autopsy authorized or required pursuant to this article, the Commissioner may, in addition to the central and district office personnel *and medical investigators*, employ and pay, out of funds appropriated for such purpose, a qualified pathologist, designated by the Chief Medical Examiner, to perform such autopsy or to make such pathological studies and investigations as may be deemed necessary or advisable by the Chief Medical Examiner and may arrange for the use of mortuary facilities.