MDI FIC Awardee Spotlight: Jefferson County Alabama Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office FHIR Interoperability Use Case

Medicolegal Death Investigation Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Implementation Collaborative (MDI FIC):

The MDI FIC is a collaborative learning environment where MDI offices, data sharing partners, vendors, and FHIR subject matter experts can work together to modernize MDI data practices and work towards interoperability. The goal of this collaborative is to create reusable tools and approaches that will reduce data entry efforts, reduce efforts exchanging data with others and increase access to information for office functioning. This project is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) overall data modernization initiative ([COMEC - Modernizing Medical Examiner and Coroner Data Systems (cdc.gov)](https://www.cdc.gov)). The funding for MDI offices to participate in the MDI FIC was provided through a cooperative agreement between CDC and CDC Foundation.

Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office:

- Alabama elects coroners for each county (the exception is JCCMEO, which is the sole Medical Examiner county).

- Autopsies are performed onsite.

- JCCMEO serves a population of approximately 668,000 residents, which is roughly 13% of the state's population.

Contacts:

- Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office (https://www.jccal.org/Default.asp?ID=236)

- CDC Collaborating Office for Medical Examiner's and Coroners (COMEC) (MDI@cdc.gov)

- CDC Foundation (mdi_datasystems@cdcfoundation.org)

Description of Use Case:

The goal of the project is to create a data bridge (bi-directional with FHIR/API specifications) between the databases of the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office (JCDA) and Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office (JCCMEO). This bridge will allow transmission at predefined intervals of relevant case information from JCCMEO to the JCDA and relevant court information from the JCDA back to JCCMEO. This will allow more streamlined and timely communication of status updates, subpoena delivery and report delivery between offices.

Name of Case Management System (CMS) Vendor: FileMaker and Acoer Inc (Acoer is a software development company that FHIR enables CMS data)

Brief Description of CMS Vendor Tasks/Activities: Acoer will assist in creating a data bridge between JCCMEO and JCDA FileMaker databases.

Name of Data Sharing Partner: Jefferson County District Attorney's Office (JCDA)

Name of Data Sharing Partner Vendor: FileMaker

Brief Description of Data Sharing Partner Tasks/Activities: The JCDA will provide data elements and help build a data map for the project. They may also utilize their FileMaker vendor.