



## WHAT IS FORENSIC NURSING?

Forensic nursing is the specialty practice of nursing at the intersection of the health-care system and the legal system.

## WHAT DOES A FORENSIC NURSE (FN) DO?

The FN cares for and treats individuals, families, and communities that experience intentional and unintentional injury.

## WHO CAN BE AN FN DI?

To become an FN DI, a registered nurse (RN) completes specific education and clinical preparation for conducting death investigations and forensic evaluations.

## CONTACT US

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## ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

The International Association of Forensic Nurses is a professional specialty organization comprised of FNs and other forensic professionals worldwide.

Our mission is to provide leadership in forensic nursing practice by developing, promoting, and disseminating information internationally about forensic nursing science.

The Association establishes the guidelines for FN DI education and provides resources, networking, and educational opportunities.

## RESOURCES

[ForensicNurses.org](http://ForensicNurses.org)

*Forensic Nurse Death Investigator (FN DI) Education Guidelines* — [iafn.org/shop](http://iafn.org/shop)

*American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigator Certification* — [abmdi.org](http://abmdi.org)

*International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners* — [theiacme.com](http://theiacme.com)

National Research Council, *Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward* — [nap.edu](http://nap.edu)

# [FN DI]

# FORENSIC NURSE DEATH INVESTIGATOR

LEADING THE NURSING RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE

## The Nurse's Role in Death Investigation

The Forensic Nurse Death Investigator (FN DI) has expertise in performing forensic evaluations and death scene investigations.

The FN DI uses nursing knowledge and the nursing process in all aspects of death investigation—from assessment of the scene to collection and evaluation of the evidence to care of the deceased and his or her survivors.

Although many professionals are involved in death investigation, the FN DI brings a holistic bio-psychosocial-spiritual approach to caring for the deceased and those connected to him or her, including establishing relationships with surviving

family members and others during an investigation.

Using the outcomes of death, the FN DI has an obligation to consider health promotion beyond the present investigation. The three critical components of any death investigation are medical/social history, examination of the body, and scene investigation. The presence or absence of specific signs, symptoms, medications, and treatments can speak volumes to investigators.

The FN DI ensures that dignity, caring, and the preservation and protection of human rights extend beyond death.

