

# SOMDI Society of Medicolegal Death Investigators, Inc.™

## OVERVIEW OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The Society of Medicolegal Death Investigators (SOMDI) is a professional association that has been created exclusively for medicolegal death investigators (MLDI) who conduct investigations to assist in the determination of an individual's cause and manner of death in violent, suspicious, sudden and/or unexpected deaths. Eligible for membership are investigators employed by medicolegal jurisdictions. Also eligible are current certificants in good standing with the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI).

**MEMBERSHIP CLASS:** There is one class of membership: **Individual**

### **APPLICATION FEE AND ANNUAL DUES :**

**SOMDI does not pro-rated membership dues. SOMDI's Annual Membership Dues will be invoiced December 15 for the upcoming year.**

**APPLICATION FEE:** There is a **non-refundable** application fee of \$75.00 USD

The required \$75.00 USD application fee must be paid at the time of the application submission. The application fee is a one-time fee.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE:** Annual membership fee is \$75.00

**Please read the Application Instructions & Requirements carefully to avoid a delay in the processing and review.**

**SOMDI is a GREEN organization.** *An average American creates about 4.5 pounds of trash per person, per day, and 30% of that is paper. In addition to the environmental benefits of using less paper and less energy to transport it all, going paperless will save time and clutter.*

**The SOMDI application, payment process and SOMDI communication are all on-line.**

Applications are reviewed for acceptance once all the required documentation has been received.

You will need the following information to complete your on-line application for **NON-ABMDI** Certificants:

- Personal Data
- Employment Data: current employer
- Educational Data
- Upload: 1 Letter of support from either: Chief Medical Examiner / Coroner or Supervisor  
-(File Format: either Word or PDF)
- 2 References: Current Supervisor & Current or Past Death Investigator

If you are in good standing with The American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI) you will not be required to provide SOMDI with a letter of support or the 2 references.

## **FINISH & PAY:**

**All payments (Application and Membership Fees) must be made via [Paypal.com](https://www.paypal.com)**

Once the membership application is complete, you will automatically be directed to pay your application fee via <http://paypal.com/>

- It's **FREE** to sign up for a PayPal account. PayPal does not charge any fees when you pay for goods and services within the US using your account.
- You do not have to create a permanent PayPal account to pay your SOMDI Application Fee or Annual Membership Fee. You can opt to use a credit card to pay the SOMDI Application Fee or Annual Membership Fee as a **PayPal Guest**.

**Your completed application, including reference forms, resume/CV, and application fee must be received in order for the membership approval process to be acted upon.** If your application is found to be incomplete at the time of review, you will be notified via email. If your application is found to be complete, it will be reviewed by the membership committee. Once the membership committee has completed its review, you will be notified via email of the outcome.

**Once your membership application is approved, you will receive an email notification from SOMDI. This email notification will provide you with:**

- SOMDI site User Name and Temporary Password to log into the SOMDI.org website. Please log onto the website immediately, you will have the opportunity to change your password if you so desire.
- Please be advised that you will be subject to an annual membership fee if your application is approved.
- **SOMDI annual membership dues notice will be sent out via email annually the 1<sup>st</sup> of December with SOMDI annual membership dues payments due by March 31** of each calendar year. SOMDI is incorporated in Missouri as a not-for-profit Corporation.

## **SOMDI Site navigation:**

- Log in at [somdi.org](https://www.somdi.org) using your user name and password
- Under your name in the left menu, you will see a payment notification in **RED** directing you pay your annual membership fee via [PayPal.com](https://www.paypal.com).

**For Questions:** [support@somdi.org](mailto:support@somdi.org)

## **DUES OBLIGATION OF MEMBERS**

The annual dues period shall be the calendar year January 1 to December 31. Members whose annual membership fees are not paid prior to April 1 of each year shall be dropped from the rolls for non-payment of annual membership fee. Members who have been dropped from the rolls may renew their membership prior to the end of the calendar year in which they were dropped. They may be required to submit a new application, including an application fee, and pay all

monies in arrears in accordance with rules noted In the Policy and Procedure Manual. Annual membership fee obligations shall be as determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

## **HOLD HARMLESS**

An applicant shall hold free SOMDI, its officers, board and committee members, staff, servants and agents from any claim, damage or liability by reason of action, they or any of them may take in respect to this membership application, including but not limited to, the failure of SOMDI to accept his/her application or revoke his/her SOMDI membership.

## **WHAT WOULD YOU GAIN FROM JOINING SOMDI?**

- You will gain access to state of the art, practical medicolegal death investigator training and educational opportunities via courses, meetings and distance learning programs designed to deal specifically with topics that are frequently encountered by MLDIs
- Membership would provide you with the opportunity to assist in the development of MLDI practice standards and input to the current national guidelines
- A SOMDI LinkedIn group has been created so that you will be able to share ideas, ask questions, discuss issues affecting MLDIs, assist others by providing them with your experiences and provide you with information regarding current job openings in our field
- By joining, you may become an active participant in this new movement to further improve death investigator capability and upgrade our professional status
- SOMDI will become an influential MLDI advocate to local, state and federal agencies for professional training, educational and certification funding. SOMDI will not function as a collective bargaining unit
- SOMDI will afford you the opportunity to play an integral part in the first professional organization designed to include all medicolegal death investigators in Coroner and Medical Examiner systems
- SOMDI will provide you with educational events where you can acquire continuing education credits for your recertification with ABMDI.

SOMDI began operations in March 2011 and is has a principal address in St. Louis, MO and a satellite office in Big Rapids, MI. It has been created by highly experienced, veteran medicolegal death investigators who recognize the need for medicolegal death investigators to establish an organization tasked to train, educate, represent, monitor and advocate for our profession.

**For Questions:** [support@somdi.org](mailto:support@somdi.org)