

1985

ANNUAL REPORT

BEXAR COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE

VINCENT J.M. DI MAIO, M.D.  
CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER  
DIRECTOR, CRIME LABORATORY  
BEXAR COUNTY  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

BEXAR COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE  
STAFF-1985

Dr. Vincent J.M. DiMaio	Chief Medical Examiner
Dr. Suzanna E. Dana	Deputy Chief Medical Examiner
Dr. Robert C. Bux	Medical Examiner

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Louise F. Parsons	Administrator
Rosemarie Mueller	Statistician/Narc. Clerk
Dora Martinez	Medical Secretary
Priscilla Fragoso	Medical Secretary
Karen Munro	Receptionist/Admin. Clerk

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Dr. James C. Garriott	Chief Toxicologist
Joe L. Castorena	Assistant Chief Tox.
James E. Bousser	Toxicological Chemist I
Loretta A. Rosales	Toxicological Chemist I
Robert G. Rodriguez	Toxicological Chemist II
Lisa M. Simmons	Toxicological Chemist II
Marie McQueen	Secretary-Toxicology
Juan Rodriguez	Glassware Attendant (Part-time)

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John Raymond	Autopsy Laboratory Supervisor
Danny Guzman	Diener
Martin Castillo	Diener
Gilbert Escalona	Diener
Manuel Cantu	Histologist (Part-time)

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Frank Castillon

Chief Medical  
Investigator  
Medical Investigator

Don Bias

Medical Investigator

Gary Biggs

Medical Investigator

Joseph A. Rosales

Medical Investigator

Roy Aguilar

Medical Investigator

Frank Tovar, Jr.

Medical Investigator

Eva Hickman

\*\*\*\*\*

Jane Nellis

Serologist

Richard Stengel

Firearms Examiner

Allen Southmayd

Document Examiner

ANNUAL REPORT 1983-1984-1985  
BEXAR COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES INVESTIGATED.....	3501	3909	4021
JURISDICTION WAIVED.....	1901	2331	2388
CASES ACCEPTED.....	1600	1578	1633
ME CASES BROUGHT INTO OFFICE.....	1543	1530	1596
DEATH CERTIFICATES ONLY.....	57	48	37
TOTAL	<u>1600</u>	<u>1578</u>	<u>1633</u>
AUTOPSIES.....	909	964	1061
INSPECTIONS.....	634	566	535
DEATH CERTIFICATES ONLY.....	57	48	37
TOTAL	<u>1600</u>	<u>1578</u>	<u>1633</u>
SCENE INVESTIGATIONS.....	330	355	364
CREMATION CERTIFICATES ISSUED.....	427	496	547
STORAGE CASES.....	42	41	55
TOTAL X-RAYS TAKEN.....	--	--	976

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES

1985

	<u>Total cases</u>	<u>Number Autopsied</u>	<u>Percentage Autopsied (%)</u>
Homicides	301 (18.4%)	300	99
Suicides	163 (10.0%)	122	76
Accident	419 (25.7%)	344	82
Natural	719 (44.0%)	267	37
Undetermined	30 (1.8%)	27	90
Unclassified	<u>1 (0.1%)</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>100</u>
TOTAL	1633 100%	1061	65%

1984

Homicides	259 (16.4%)	259	100
Suicides	164 (10.4%)	112	68
Accident	374 (23.7%)	282	76
Natural	753 (47.7%)	285	38
Undetermined	24 (1.5%)	23	96
Unclassified	<u>4 (0.4%)</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>75</u>
TOTAL	1578 100%	964	61%

1983

Homicides	253 (15.8%)	253	100
Suicides	176 (11.0%)	109	62
Accident	384 (24.0%)	274	71
Natural	751 (46.9%)	240	32
Undetermined	30 (1.9%)	29	97
Unclassified	<u>6 (0.4%)</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>67</u>
TOTAL	1600 100%	909	57%

MANNER OF DEATH IN "DEATH CERTIFICATE ONLY" CASES \*

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Accidents.....	32	34	26
Naturals.....	22	13	10
Undetermined.....	2	0	1
Unclassified.....	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	57	48	37

\*These are medical examiner cases which were not reported to this office but were only detected when the death certificates were filed with the bureau of vital statistics.

OUT OF COUNTY CASES - FEE-FOR-SERVICE CASES

	<u>OUT-OF-COUNTY</u>	<u>FEE-FOR-SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>1983</u>	85	5	90
<u>1984</u>	88	7	95
<u>1985</u>	110	6	116

MANNER OF DEATH: (OUT-OF-COUNTY) 1985

Homicide.....	45
Suicide.....	10
Accident.....	26
Natural.....	26
Undetermined.....	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	110

HOMICIDES BY METHOD

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Firearms	143 (56.5%)	131 (50.6%)	169 (56.1%)
Knife	60 (23.7%)	60 (23.2%)	60 (20.0%)
Blunt Force	25 (9.8%)	26 (10.0%)	25 (8.3%)
Hit & Run	14 (5.6%)	29 (11.2%)	32 (10.7%)
Burns (Fire, Scalding)	2 (0.8%)	2 (0.7%)	4 (1.3%)
Asphyxia	6 (2.4%)	8 (3.1%)	9 (3.0%)
Undetermined	0	0	1 (0.3%)
Other**	<u>3 (1.2%)</u>	<u>3 (1.20%)</u>	<u>1 (0.3%)</u>
TOTAL	253 (100%)	259 (100%)	301 (100%)

\*\*In 1983, all were motor vehicle deaths. In 1984, one was due to a heart attack during a robbery, one fresh water drowning, and one malnutrition and dehydration. In 1985, there was an overdose of insulin.

HOMICIDES BY FIREARM: TYPE OF WEAPON

	<u>1983</u>		<u>1984</u>		<u>1985</u>	
Handgun	112	(78.3%)	87	(67.0%)	125	(71.0%)
Rifle						
Centerfire	6	(4.2%)	2	(1.5%)	14	(8.5%)
Rimfire	4	(2.8%)	12	(9.0%)	6	(3.4%)
Shotgun	17	(11.9%)	7	(5.0%)	14	(8.0%)
Unknown	<u>4</u>	<u>(2.8%)</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>(17.5%)</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>(9.1%)</u>
TOTAL	143	(100%)	131	(100%)	175*	(100%)

\*In five cases more than one weapon was used.

CALIBER OF HANDGUNS USED IN HOMICIDE

<u>Caliber</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
.38/.357	52	49	43
.22	30	18	36
.25	13	8	21
.32	6	6	14
9 mm	2	2	5
.45 ACP	3	2	1
.44	2	1	0
.380 ACP	3	1	4
.41	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	112	87	125*

\* More than one handgun was used in several cases.

HOMICIDES BY FIREARM: PLACE OF DEATH

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Residence	45	67
Street/Sidewalk	26	23
Bar/Lounge	8	17
Parking Lot	8	12
Building	10	9
(Rural area) Field	7	17
Inside Vehicle	11	18
Unknown	<u>16</u>	<u>6</u>
TOTAL	131	169

VICTIMS OF HOMICIDES

<u>AGE (Yrs)</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>				<u>NO. OF CASES</u>		
	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>		<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
1	0	0	2				
1	5	4	5				
2 - 5	1	1	6				
6 - 10	0	0	2	Male	215	214	241
11 - 15	2	6	7	Female	<u>38</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>60</u>
16 - 19	18	25	33	TOTAL	253	259	301
20's	88	86	101				
30's	60	69	78				
40's	44	30	35		<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
50's	21	20	18	White	212	225	266
60's	10	7	5	Negro	38	33	34
70's	2	2	6	Oriental	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
80's	2	0	1	TOTAL	253	259	301
90's	0	0	1				
UNKNOWN	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>				
TOTAL	253	259	301				

BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATIONS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS

<u>Blood Alcohol (g/dl)</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>		
	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Negative	99	76	84
.01-.049	19	28	47
.05-.099	22	27	20
.10-.149	23	32	26
.15-.199	36	39	39
.20-.249	29	27	32
.25-.299	11	15	8
.30 & up	<u>14</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
TOTAL	253	250	263

NO. AND PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUALS LEGALLY INTOXICATED

(0.10 g/dl or greater)

1983.....113 (44.6%)  
1984.....119 (45.9%)  
1985.....112 (42.6%)

SUICIDES BY METHOD

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Firearm	98	96	95
Firearm and hanging	0	1	0
Drugs/Chemicals	41	19	21
Hanging	21	30	22
Carbon Monoxide	8	8	12
Jumping	1	1	0
Jumped in front of vehicle	0	1	2
Fire	3	0	3
Plastic bag over head	3	0	0
Train	0	2	1
Knife	0	3	4
Drowning	1	2	1
Electrocution	0	1	0
Asphyxia	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	176	164	163

SUICIDES BY FIREARM: TYPE OF WEAPON

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Handgun	69	80	63
Rifle			
Centerfire	7	1	8
Rimfire	11	7	9
Shotgun	7	9	15
Derringer	0	0	1
Unknown	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	98	97	96*

\*One person used two weapons, a shotgun and a handgun.

CALIBER OF HANDGUNS USED IN SUICIDES

<u>Caliber</u>	<u>Number of cases</u>		
	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
.38/.357	27	35	30
.22	20	20	17
.32	5	7	5
.25	10	10	8
.44	1	0	2
.45	2	4	0
9mm	3	4	0
.380ACP	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	69	80	63

SUICIDES: (GUNSHOT WOUND CASES)

<u>PLACE OF DEATH</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Residence	77	82
Inside vehicle	9	7
Parking lot	3	1
Rural area (field)	7	4
Building	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	97	95

SUICIDES

Month of Occurrence

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>		<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
JAN	14	16	10	JUL	14	17	19
FEB	13	8	15	AUG	21	11	12
MAR	13	14	12	SEP	11	11	11
APR	15	17	12	OCT	14	16	12
MAY	12	19	14	NOV	19	6	12
JUN	15	17	17	DEC	15	12	17

Cases

<u>AGE</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>		<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
15	1	1	0				
15-19	20	18	8	White	168	156	161
20's	39	44	49	Negro	7	8	1
30's	39	31	36	Oriental	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
40's	16	19	22	TOTAL	176	164	163
50's	20	18	13				
60's	19	20	17				
70's	12	8	14				
80's	10	2	4	Male	138	121	127
90's	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	Female	<u>38</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>36</u>
TOTAL	176	164	163	TOTAL	176	164	163

TEENAGE SUICIDES

Number of Cases

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Firearms	12	9	5
Hanging	6	7	3
Drugs	3	2	0
Drowning	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	21	19	8

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>		<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
White	17	8	Male	16	8
Negro	2	0	Female	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>
Oriental	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	TOTAL	19	8
TOTAL	19	8			

CHILD HOMICIDES: 0-5 YEARS OF AGE

	<u>W/M</u>	<u>W/F</u>	<u>N/M</u>	<u>N/F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>1984</u>	1	1	1	2	5
<u>1985</u>	9	4	0	0	13

CAUSE OF DEATH - CHILD HOMICIDES

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Craniocerebral injuries	0	1
Multiple injuries	0	2
Blunt Force	2	5
Scalding	0	2
Stab wound	0	1
Asphyxia	2	1
Gunshot wound(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	5	13

SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>		<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
WHITE	32	23	MALE	26	16
NEGRO	4	2	FEMALE	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>
ORIENTAL	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	TOTAL	36	25
TOTAL	36	25			

MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITIES - 1985

BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVERS (Total 92)

	<u>NEG.</u>	<u>*ALC.</u>	<u>DRUGS</u>	<u>DRUGS &amp; ALC.</u>	<u>TOTAL TESTED</u>	<u>NOT TESTED</u>	<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Fault	17 (26.9)	33 (52.4)	3 (4.8)	10 (15.9)	63	3	66	50	16
Not at fault	10 (40)	6 (24)	4 (16)	5 (20)	25	1	26	18	8
					<u>88</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>24</u>

MOTORCYCLE DRIVERS (Total 22)

	<u>NEG.</u>	<u>*ALC.</u>	<u>DRUGS.</u>	<u>DRUGS &amp; ALC.</u>	<u>TOTAL TESTED</u>	<u>NOT TESTED</u>	<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Fault	4 (26.7)	7 (46.7)	1 (6.6)	3 (20)	15	2	17	17	0
Not at fault	1 (25)	2 (50)	0	1 (25)	4	1	5	5	0
					<u>19</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>0</u>

PEDESTRIANS (Total 43) (6 under 16 years old)

	<u>NEG.</u>	<u>ALC.</u>	<u>DRUGS</u>	<u>DRUGS &amp; ALC.</u>	<u>TOTAL TESTED</u>	<u>NOT TESTED</u>	<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	17 (42.5)	18 (45)	2 (5)	3 (7.5)	40	3	43	31	12

BICYCLIST (Total 5) (2 under 16 years old)

	<u>NEG.</u>	<u>ALC.</u>	<u>DRUGS</u>	<u>DRUGS &amp; ALC.</u>	<u>TOTAL TESTED</u>	<u>NOT TESTED</u>	<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	2 (40)	3 (60)	0	0	5	0	5	5	0

PASSENGERS (Total 49) (10 under 16 years old)

	<u>NEG.</u>	<u>ALC.</u>	<u>DRUGS</u>	<u>DRUGS &amp; ALC.</u>	<u>TOTAL TESTED</u>	<u>NOT TESTED</u>	<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	12 (28.6)	18 (42.8)	5 (11.9)	7 (16.7)	42	7	49	29	20

TOTAL MVA FATALITIES - 211

TOTAL MVA DRIVERS WITH LESS THAN .05 MEAN ALCOHOL - 12  
 TOTAL MVA DRIVERS WITH .05-.099 MEAN ALCOHOL - 3  
 TOTAL MVA DRIVERS WITH .10-.199 MEAN ALCOHOL - 25  
 TOTAL MVA DRIVERS WITH .20-.299 MEAN ALCOHOL - 24  
 TOTAL MVA DRIVERS WITH .30 & UP MEAN ALCOHOL - 3

\*MEAN ALCOHOL IN DRIVERS - 0.191%

MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVERS WEARING SEAT BELTS:	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>UNK.</u>
	7	72	13
MOTORCYCLE DRIVERS WEARING HELMETS:	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>UNK.</u>
	8	14	0

Numbers in parenthesis are percents of total tested.

BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATIONS OF PEDESTRIANS

	<u>ALL PEDESTRIANS</u>			<u>HIT-AND-RUN</u>			<u>NON HIT-AND-RUN</u>		
	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
No analysis performed	7	17	3	0	3	2	7	14	1
Negative	11	18	21	3	5	6	8	13	15
.01-.049	1	4	4	1	2	2	0	2	2
.05-.099	2	4	2	0	2	1	2	2	1
.10-.149	2	8	5	0	3	2	2	5	3
.15-.199	3	6	5	2	3	3	1	3	2
.20-.249	6	4	3	3	1	0	3	3	3
.25-.299	1	3	2	1	2	0	0	1	2
.30 & UP	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	35	66	49	11	23	18	24	43	31

DEATHS DUE TO DRUGS/TOXIC SUBSTANCES

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
HEROIN	8	7	15
NARCOTICS (Other than heroin)	4	1	2
TRICYCLIC Antidepressants	16	6	13
PROPOXYPHENE	9	2	2
MIXED DRUGS	17	7	9
BARBITURATES	4	1	3
COCAINE	2	-	1
ETHYL ALCOHOL	3	2	2
CO	12	9	14
OTHER	<u>9</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>
TOTAL	84	48	73

MEDICAL EXAMINER TOXICOLOGY WORKLOAD

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Tests</u>
<u>1983</u>	1527	7056
<u>1984</u>	1519	7898
<u>1985</u>	1553	8339

INSTRUMENTAL BREAKDOWN OF TESTS

	<u>GC/MS</u>	<u>GC</u>	<u>TLC</u>	<u>UV</u>	<u>FAA</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
<u>1983</u>	675	3106	2503	--	--	772
<u>1984</u>	1131	3257	2601	111	200	598
<u>1985</u>	1216	3497	2860	119	225	422

SPECIFIC TOXICOLOGY TESTS PERFORMED

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Alcohols	1843	1952	2063
Basic Drug Screen	1645	1685	1824
Acid Drug Screen	1301	1351	1423
Neutral Drug Screen	1295	1342	1429
Narcotic Screen	317	481	306
CO	131	125	119
SMA6	119	160	162
Volatiles	43	55	32
THC	85	248	360
Blood Typing	255	229	217
Cultures	--	29	7
GS/Residue	--	200	218
Other	22	41	58

CRIME LABORATORY - 1985

FIREARMS

TEST FIRES.....1464  
COMPARISONS.....206  
SERIAL NUMBER RESTORATIONS.....45

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS\*

TOTAL CASES.....113  
EXHIBITS EXAMINED.....2134

\*This section began functioning April 19, 1985.

SEROLOGY

TOTAL CASES.....1002  
TOTAL ITEMS.....2972  
TOTAL TESTS.....12,138

SEIZED DRUGS IDENTIFICATION

TOTAL CASES.....2353  
TOTAL TESTS.....4356

TOTAL DRUGS DESTROYED.....4048

BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR

<u>1984</u> .....	\$871,481
<u>1985</u> .....	\$1,047,978
<u>1986</u> .....	\$1,184,283

INCOME OF OFFICE

YEAR

<u>1983</u> .....	\$109,863
<u>1984</u> .....	\$128,214
<u>1985</u> .....	\$208,421