

Biographical Statement

John C. Hunsaker III, JD, MD

HUN FOREN MEDTOX CONSULTING LLC

Based on the biographical statement updated July 20, 2026.

Dr. Hunsaker, a native of Ashland, KY, graduated from Ela Vernon High School, Lake Zurich, IL, in 1960, as salutatorian, receiving 7 varsity letters, and playing that June in Wrigley Field with another all-star player from the Northwest Suburban Conference in the City-Suburban All-star High School baseball game.

A “professional student,” he was graduated in 1964 from Yale College with a degree in German Language and Literature and was honored as the Most Valuable Player in baseball his senior year.

Attending the University of Kentucky College of Law, he received the Juris Doctor and upon successful completion of the bar examination became a member of the Kentucky Bar Association in 1967.

Drafted as an enlisted member of the United States Army in 1968, he served for nearly two years as legal advisor to the 66th Military Intelligence Group in Munich, West Germany, and received the Army Commendation Medal.

Matriculating at the University of Kentucky Graduate School in German, he was awarded the Master of Arts Degree and then entered the University of Kentucky College of Medicine in 1973.

Upon graduation with conferral of the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1977, Dr. Hunsaker next spent five years in postgraduate education in Pathology. KY medical licensure became effective in 1978. In the early eighties, he was board-certified by the American Board of Pathology in the specialties of Anatomic and Clinical Pathology and the subspecialty of Forensic Pathology.

After duty on the staff at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Washington, D.C. for two years, he was appointed Associate Chief Medical Examiner to the Commonwealth in February 1983. At that time he also was appointed to the faculty of the University of KY College of Medicine in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, subsequently received tenure, and was appointed Professor. He had been the director of the Division of Forensic Pathology since 1996. Other academic appointments at the University of KY included Interdisciplinary Fellow (College of Law), and an adjunct Professorship (Graduate Center for Toxicology). In 1987, he was designated adjunct Professor at the University of Louisville Department of Pathology.

His primary professional responsibilities as a full-time forensic pathologist were to serve as a consultant to Kentucky coroners investigating specified categories of human death defined in Kentucky Revised Statutes Chapter 72. As such he performed over ten thousand autopsies and testified extensively as an expert witness in both criminal and civil courts in and out of Kentucky. His special interests as medical examiner include drug-related deaths, and the pathology of trauma.

Over nearly thirty-five years he had lectured to a variety of students and professionals in health care, death investigation, and law, including a symposium on Collision Dynamics sponsored by KY Association of Trial Attorneys in 1992.

An author of numerous papers and book chapters, Dr. Hunsaker has concentrated his academic research in topics such as sudden infant death and neuropathology associated with organic heart disease. He acted as a co-editor of the chapter on Autopsies in the published 4th ed. of the Lawyers Medical Cyclopedia. He has also contributed to the law literature with the article, "Government Regulations--State and Local Reportable Cases: Communicable, Infectious and Venereal Diseases," appearing in *Medicolegal Primer*, American College of Legal Medicine, 1991. As of 2022 he is the author of 19 book chapters on a variety of forensic topics.

Dr. Hunsaker was active for decades on the editorial boards of the *American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology*, *Forensic Academic Pathology, Inc.*, and is the emeritus North American Editor of *Forensic Science, Medicine, and Pathology*.

Influential in a variety of professional organizations in both medicine and law, he is inter alia an inactive member of the Kentucky Bar Association after 50 years of membership, an active member of the Kentucky Medical Association, a Fellow of the American College of Legal Medicine and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences [AAFS], and a former member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Medical Examiners [NAME]. Elected Vice President of NAME in 2005, he joined the Executive Committee, in 2006 became President of NAME, and Chair of the Board of Directors in 2007. He has also been an officer of the Pathology/Biology Section of AAFS, serving as Secretary in 2003-2004 and Chair in 2004-2005.

The Kentucky Coroners Association honored him with the David Wolf Award for Excellence in 2008. He retired from the Office of the Associate Chief Medical Examiner, Central Laboratory Facility, Frankfort, KY, after more than thirty-two years of service in Kentucky's medical examiner system, including appointments as Associate Chief Medical Examiner and Deputy Medical Examiner.

Currently semi-retired, he is currently engaged as a private expert consultant in Forensic Pathology & Toxicology: HUN FOREN MEDTOX CONSULTING LLC; hunsakerforenmedtox@gmail.com; (502) 321-0238.