

New York City Medical Examiner has further delayed a records request until September 2025 and still has not fulfilled a request from December 2023

JESSICA HOCKETT

MAY 5, 2025

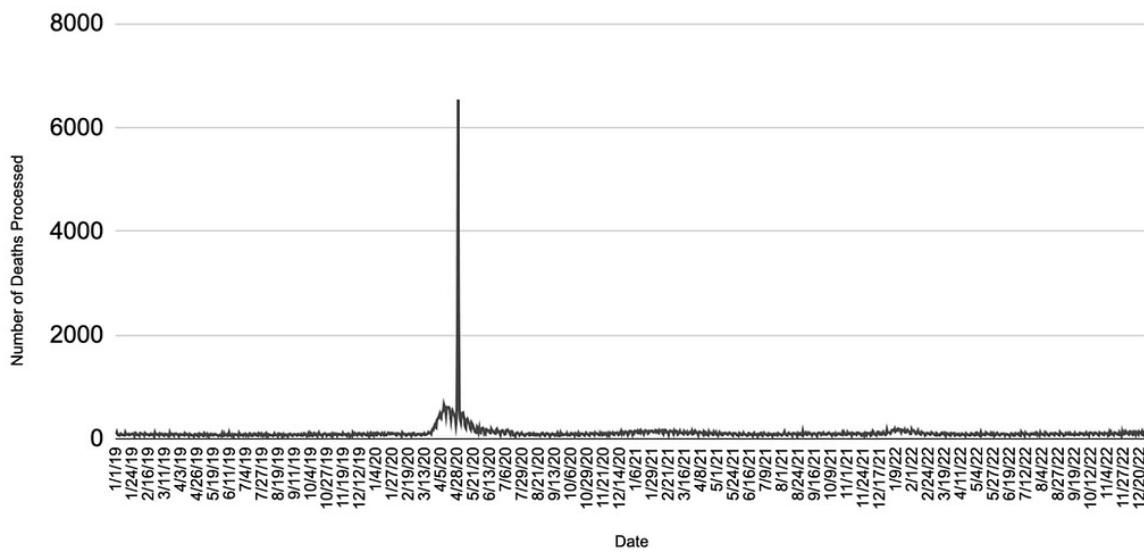


The New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) has again delayed fulfilling a request for records that I submitted in February—and has yet to provide all the documents I requested back in December 2023.

Some of the outstanding records are related to my general effort to verify the city's 27,000-death mass casualty event in the spring of 2020. Others are more specific to OCME data indicating a three-day period at the end of April 2020 during which 11,000 deaths were reportedly processed—an occurrence I find highly suspicious and potentially indicative of fraud.

Deaths Processed Daily by the NYC Office of the Medical Examiner (OCME), 1/1/2019 - 12/31/2022

Data obtained via FOIL request to OCME | Jessica Hockett, PhD



Why Did the New York City Medical Examiner Process 11,000 Deaths in Three Days?

Records requested 4 Feb 2025, delayed until 6 May 2025, and delayed again until 22 Sept 2025)

- Biological Incident Fatality Surge Plan for Managing In and out of Hospital Deaths*
- Daily morgue census reported by all New York City hospitals for as long as the morgue census survey was active [link inserted]. Excel spreadsheet preferred with census reported as frequencies. I assume census includes hospital morgue *and* decedents stored in BCPs. If that is not the case, please state in responsive records. If daily census numbers can be disaggregated into hospital morgues and BCPs at hospitals, please provide the data in that format.

FI

Freedom of Information (OCME)

RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: FOIL For Morgue Census + Fatality Surge Plan

To: Jessica Hockett, Cc: Freedom of Information (OCME)

11:27 AM



[Details](#)

Greetings :

The Office of Chief Medical Examiner is still in the process of reviewing and evaluating your request. Please expect a response by or on **September 22nd, 2025.**

We want to assure you that we are working diligently and actively on your request to ensure the best possible outcome. Our team is fully committed to providing a response, and we sincerely appreciate your understanding during this process.

Sincerely,



Record Access Officer



Records requested 3 December 2023, delayed multiple times, with no fulfillment by anticipated date of 1 May 2025

- Number of cremation permit applications/requests received daily between 1/1/2018 - 12/22/2022
- Number of cremation permit applications/requests approved daily 1/1/2018 - 12/22/2022
- Number of autopsies performed weekly by the OCME between 1/1/2018 and 12/31/2022. Use zero (0) for any weeks in which zero autopsies were conducted
- Underlying cause of death determinations for all deaths OCME determined between 10/1/2019 and 12/31/2022. Provide data as numerical frequencies representing the number of determinations for a particular cause determination, in a weekly format, if possible.
- Dates of death for all deaths processed by OCME, occurring between 1/1/2018 - 12/22/2022
- All directives, orders, reports, memos, emails, and/or presentations that explain or mention the OCME's processing of 12,663 deaths during the week of April 26th, 2020 - May 2, 2020.



Wood House 76

Current List of Submitted & Outstanding FOI Requests to New York City Agencies Related to the Spring 2020 Death Spike (Last Updated 5 May 2025)