

Roberta Geiselhart

MMIR Office Advisory Council Member

Roberta Geiselhart is a graduate of Merrill (WI) High School in 1976 and University of Wisconsin-Madison with a BSN in Nursing (1981). She also attended the University of Surrey in Surrey, England (1979-80) as a Paul Harris Fellow (Rotary Scholarship) with focus in Human Biology and Anatomy.

Geiselhart as a nurse at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis from 1981-1996 with a focus of Critical Care and Neurology/Neurosurgery. She taught various courses, both at Abbott Northwestern Hospital and for the University of Wisconsin Extension Services, primarily in epilepsy and neuroendocrinology.

Geiselhart started as an on call investigator at the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's Office in 1986 and took a permanent position with that office in 1988. She was promoted to Supervisor of Investigations until her retirement in 2017.

During her employment at the Medical Examiner's office, she became a founding member of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI) and participated in many death investigator trainings nationwide. Geiselhart served in many positions with ABMDI culminating with the presidency from 2007-2010. She also became an affiliate member of the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) and served on many committees, notably Inspections and Accreditation and Organ and Tissue Donation.

During her career in Death Investigation, Geiselhart I participated on the Scientific Working Group for Medicolegal Death Investigators (SWGMDI) as well as the Technical Working Group for Medicolegal Death Investigators (TWGMDI). Highlights of her career include the preparation of the Guidelines for Medicolegal death investigators that is now held by the Office of Justice (OJP); instructor and state mentor for Sudden Unexpected Death in Infants (SUID) Academies; instructor and state mentor for National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NAMUS) Academies; and grant reviewer for DOJ forensics.

Geiselhart also served on various Minnesota state committees notably Infant Mortality and Death Certificate improvement; and participated in various research studies primarily in toxicology.