

Forensic Odontologist and the importance in human identification: general situation in the official organs of expertise, Brazil

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ABSTRACT

In Brazil, the Forensic Odontologist is a professional with a degree in Dentistry which has your work regulated by Federal Law 5081/1966 and by the Federal Council of Dentistry, guaranteeing the right to work in the criminal, civil, labor and administrative areas. Regarding the criminal scope, it is usually included in the official institutes of expertise, exemplified by the Institute of Legal Medicine (IML), Institute of Criminology (IC) or General Institute of Expertise (IGP), where they are extremely important for being the only true experts in the area and being able to develop human identification, anthropological exams, analysis of injury and stains, age determination, determination of alcoholic intoxication and other tests. In this context, the objective of this study was to perform a survey and analysis of the scenario of the Forensic Odontologist in the Brazilian states, in order to define the presence of these professionals in the human identification cases, as well as the states that have this professional career established. For this purpose, descriptive research was used with the electronic sites of the Civil Police, Technical-Scientific Police or General Institute of Expertise of each federative unit. After analyzing the survey data, it was concluded that in spite of the present regulations in 17 states, only 12 have the participation of the Forensic Odontologist in identification cases, being in the other states performed by dentists as criminal expert or other professionals.