

“Dr. G”: Chief Medical Examiner Goes Green

LEED certified building, cutting-edge lights help solve forensic mysteries



CHARLESTON, S.C., Sept. 23, 2009 – One of the nation’s leading forensic pathologists has brand new LEED-certified facilities, including state-of-the-art lighting, to continue to solve medical mysteries in an environmentally-friendly space.

The District Nine Medical Examiner’s Office—an office within Orange County’s Health & Family Services Department—was expanded from 18,000-square-feet to 40,000-square-feet and includes a brand new morgue, administrative offices, storage space, as well as separate facilities for decomposition rooms.

The facilities have earned a silver LEED-certification.

Jan Garavaglia, M.D., (aka “Dr. G”) is the chief medical examiner for District Nine (Orange-Osceola Medical Examiner’s Office) in Florida and returns to Discovery Health Channel in October to explain to viewers how people can die suddenly and unexpectedly.

Medical manufacturer, BERCHTOLD Corporation, learned of the LEED certification project and hosted Dr. G during an all-day site visit to its North American headquarters in

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Charleston. Because Dr. G was interested in building a “green” morgue, she toured the facilities to learn about the different lighting technologies BERCHTOLD has to offer, as well as the benefits and features of each. Additionally, she spent the day meeting with staff – and even signed autographs before she left –becoming an honorary member of the BERCHTOLD family.

According to Garavaglia, looking at the body is everything when performing an autopsy. With high-quality, energy efficient lighting in the morgue, she can examine the different colors and intimate details of the body, as well as body and oral cavities with much more precision.

For more information, visi health.discovery.com [1] and www.berchtold.biz [2]

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