

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: April 17, 2020

To: Supervisor James “Luigi” Schmitt, Chair, Committee on Finance & Audit
Supervisor Anthony Staskunas, Chair, Committee on Judiciary, Safety & General Services

From: Jennifer L. Folliard, Director of Audits

Subject: Status Report – Medical Examiner’s Office Audit (File No. 19-348)

At their April 2019 meetings, the Committees on Finance & Audit and Judiciary, Safety and General Services reviewed our audit report “Milwaukee County Autopsies have Increased 7.8% Since 2013, Autopsies for Referral Counties Increased 111.7%. A lack of Contracts for Most of the Referral Counties is a Concern,” and adopted a resolution indicating County Board concurrence with the report recommendations.

A copy of the audit report can be accessed on the Comptroller’s website through the following link:

<https://county.milwaukee.gov/files/county/comptroller/Audit/Audit-Reports1/2019/UpdatedMedicalExaminerReport01-16-20201.pdf>

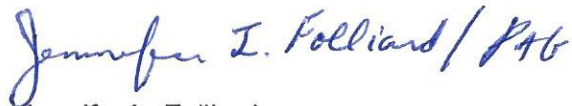
Attached is a copy of the executive summary page from the audit report for your reference.

Also attached is the Medical Examiner’s second status report communicating its progress toward implementation of the audit report recommendations. Based on information provided in the status report, we have concluded that three of the seven recommendations remain to be implemented. While we recommended closure of recommendations 1 and 2, we encourage the County Board to continue to request updates from the Medical Examiner to monitor the number of referral autopsies performed by the Medical Examiner’s Office.

The Medical Examiner’s Office indicates it is working with the Department of Administrative Services on the calculation of an appropriate fee schedule. Our recommendations regarding the fee, including an adjustment should the Medical Examiner’s Office be relocated, continue to remain open. Recommendation 4 regarding the execution of contracts or letters of engagement is on hold pending the completion of the fee schedule. Finally, the Medical Examiner is awaiting the new ERP system to finalize Recommendation 6 regarding their accounts payable system.

This status report is informational and due to the remaining efforts required to fully implement the three outstanding recommendations we will facilitate the submission of the Medical Examiner’s next status report for the October 2020 committee meeting cycle.

Supervisor James "Luigi" Schmitt, Chair, Committee on Finance & Audit
Supervisor Anthony Staskunas, Chair, Committee on Judiciary, Safety & General Services
April 17, 2020
Paget Two



Jennifer L. Folliard

JLF/PAG/cah

Attachments

cc: Scott B. Manske, CPA, Milwaukee County Comptroller
Finance and Audit Committee Members
Judiciary, Safety & General Services Committee Members
Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive
Teig Whaley-Smith, Director, Department of Administrative Services
Brian Peterson, M.D., Medical Examiner
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board Staff
Steve Cady, Research & Policy Director, Office of the Comptroller
Janelle Jensen, Manager, Legislative Services Division
Shanin Brown, Committee Coordinator, Finance & Audit Committee
Allyson Smith, Committee Coordinator, Judiciary, Safety & General Services
Committee