

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: December 10, 2024

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Wieslawa Tlomak, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner

Subject: Request for authorization for the Medical Examiner to execute an Agreement with the City of Milwaukee Health Department to support the Milwaukee Drug Rapid-Testing and Outreach Program (DROP)

Policy Issue

Per Wis. Stat. §59.52(31), contracts with an aggregate value of more than \$300,000 may take effect only if the contract is approved by a vote of the County Board. In accordance with this statute, the Medical Examiner is requesting County Board approval to execute an Agreement with the City of Milwaukee Health Department for \$726,200 to perform targeted drug analysis to support the Milwaukee Drug Rapid-Testing and Outreach Program (DROP)

Background

The Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) received a federal grant to create a Milwaukee Drug Rapid-Testing and Outreach Program. The Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's office is a sub awardee of this grant and will incur expenses of approximately \$726,200 during the three-year grant award. All expenses incurred by Milwaukee County will be reimbursed by MHD through this Agreement. MCMEO's responsibilities will be to perform comprehensive drug analysis on residue collected by the Milwaukee Police Department. These data can be used to inform others at multiple levels, including public health and community-based harm reduction partners, to arm them with the knowledge about what is currently trending in the drug supply and provide needed information to offer targeted educational materials to various populations. Milwaukee DROP will be the first near-real-time drug checking program in Wisconsin.

Recommendation

This Agreement is submitted for County Board approval. The revenue generated by this contract is included in the Medical Examiner's 2025 Adopted Budget.

Virtual Meeting Invites

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Wieslaw Tlomak, MD

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Chief Medical Examiner

Cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board
David Crowley, County Executive
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, Office of the County Executive
Janelle Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk