

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: June 30, 2022

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

From: Brian L. Peterson, M.D., Medical Examiner

Subject: Report from the Medical Examiner, requesting authorization of a 2023-2027 Agreement to provide autopsy support to Kenosha County Department of Human Services

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 of a contract to provide autopsy support to Kenosha County Department of Human Services.

Background

Milwaukee and Kenosha County each have responsibilities under Chapter 59 and 979 of the Wisconsin Statutes regarding the investigation of deaths occurring in its respective counties. Kenosha County does not employ a board-certified Forensic Pathologist as its Medical Examiner, and has contracted for this service with Milwaukee County since 2011. It will be mutually beneficial to Kenosha County and Milwaukee County to continue to contract autopsy support as the revenue generated by this contract offsets current fixed costs of the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office.

The contract is from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2027. The contract includes an option to terminate with written notice with a minimum of thirty days' notice. Anticipated revenue generated from this contract is approximately \$50,000/year.

Milwaukee County provided similar services to Kenosha County since 2011. The aggregate value of these transactions between the same parties exceeds \$300,000, requiring full County Board authorization.

Recommendation

This Autopsy Agreement is submitted for County Board approval. The revenue generated by this contract is included in the Medical Examiner's 2023 proposed Budget.

Committee Action

This report should be referred to and reviewed by the Committee on Finance for action.

Brian L. Peterson, M.D.

Brian L. Peterson, M.D.
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