

From the Medical Examiner, Office of the Medical Examiner, Petition for Waiver Request of Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances Section 9.05(3)(a) for Three Former Forensic Investigators, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office (MCMEO) has the statutory obligation to investigate all deaths under its jurisdiction in Milwaukee County (the County); and

WHEREAS, Forensic Investigators are the frontline responders who respond 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, to all reportable deaths in the County; and

WHEREAS, Forensic Investigators Amy Michalak and Genevieve Penn are retiring from County employment in 2023, and Madeline Baumeister is resigning from County employment in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the imminent departure of three Forensic Investigators will have an immediate negative impact, resulting in increased staff burnout and reduced response times to reportable deaths; and

WHEREAS, MCMEO believes the best solution is for Amy Michalak, Genevieve Penn, and Madeline Baumeister to be allowed to be hired as contractors within MCMEO, so they can continue to apply their specialized knowledge on various processes and procedures that they have gained during their tenure as Forensic Investigators while new employees are on-boarded; and

WHEREAS, Section 9.05(3)(a) of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances authorizes the Committee on Finance (Finance) the authority to grant exemptions to the 12-month prohibition of former employees serving as contractual help, if the employee is critical to County operations, such as Amy Michalak, Genevieve Penn, and Madeline Baumeister are; and

WHEREAS, Finance, at its meeting of January 26, 2023, recommended adoption of File No. 23-242 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

39 BE IT RESOLVED, the Committee on Finance hereby grants a waiver of the
40 prohibition found in Section 9.05(3)(a) of the Milwaukee County Code of General
41 Ordinances, to allow the Interim Chief Medical Examiner, Office of the Medical
42 Examiner, to retain the services of Amy Michalak, Genevieve Penn, and Madeline
43 Baumeister, as contractors through a temporary staffing agency within 12 months of
44 leaving Milwaukee County employment.
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50 Forensic Investigators.docx