



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service  
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## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** November 28, 2023

**DATE:** October 25, 2023

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Justin Norton, Operations Manager, Regional Medical Examiner's Office  
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**THROUGH:** Dr. Laura D. Knight, Chief Medical Examiner & Coroner

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve agreements between Washoe County and Alpine County, Carson City, Churchill County, Douglas County, Esmeralda County, Eureka County, Humboldt County, Lander County, Lassen County, Modoc County, Nye County, and Plumas County for forensic pathology services provided by the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office for a period of up to five years effective retroactively on July 1, 2023 with an estimated annual revenue of [\$1.6 million] (All Commission Districts.)

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### **SUMMARY**

The Regional Medical Examiner's Office requests that the Board approve the agreements between Washoe County and Alpine County, Carson City, Churchill County, Douglas County, Esmeralda County, Eureka County, Humboldt County, Lander County, Lassen County, Modoc County, Nye County, and Plumas County for forensic pathology services provided by the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office for a period of up to five years effective retroactively on July 1, 2023.

### **Washoe County Strategic Objectives supported by this item:**

Innovative Services  
Vulnerable Populations  
Fiscal Sustainability

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

May 24, 2022 – Board approval of updated fee schedule for forensic pathology services  
August 17, 2021 – Board approval of agreements for forensic pathology services with multiple California counties  
March 23, 2021 – Board approval of agreements for forensic pathology services with multiple Nevada and California counties

**AGENDA ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_**

January 26, 2021 – Board approval of agreements for forensic pathology services with Plumas County, California and the Nevada Department of Corrections  
December 8, 2020 – Board approval of agreements for forensic pathology services with multiple Nevada and California counties  
December 10, 2019 – Board approval of updated fee schedule for forensic pathology services  
January 8, 2019 – Board approval of agreement for forensic pathology services with Carson City, Nevada  
November 27, 2018 – Board approval of agreement for forensic pathology services with Tehama County, California  
December 12, 2017 – Board approval of agreement for forensic pathology services with Sierra County, California  
September 12, 2017 – Board approval of agreements for forensic pathology services with multiple Nevada and California counties  
June 27, 2017 – Board approval of agreements for forensic pathology services with multiple Nevada and California counties  
March 14, 2017 – Board approval of updated fee schedule for forensic pathology services  
April 8, 2014 – Board approval of agreements for forensic pathology services with multiple Nevada and California counties  
March 11, 2014 – Board approval of agreement with the Nevada Department of Corrections for forensic pathology services  
July 2008 – Board approval of agreements for forensic pathology services with multiple Nevada and California counties

## **BACKGROUND**

The Regional Medical Examiner's Office provides forensic autopsies, medical examinations, and medicolegal consultations to nineteen agencies outside of Washoe County. Since 2008, formal interlocal agreements have been created between Washoe County and these counties/agencies. The agreements were renewed in 2014, 2017, and 2020. In May 2022, the Board approved a new fee schedule for the services covered by these agreements, which went into effect in July 2022.

These agreements are retroactively effective on July 1, 2023 due to the time necessary for all parties to review and agree to terms.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The Regional Medical Examiner's Office anticipates revenues generated by all interlocal agreements to exceed \$1.6 million in Fiscal Year 2024. It should be noted that this is not new revenue. This is continuing revenue that has already been budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024 and beyond. Revenues received from these agreements will be deposited to C153010-460341|Medical Examiner Fees.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the agreements between Washoe County and Alpine County, Carson City, Churchill County, Douglas County, Esmeralda County, Eureka County, Humboldt County, Lander County, Lassen County, Modoc County, Nye County, and Plumas County for forensic pathology services provided by the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office for a period of up to five years effective retroactively on July 1, 2023 with an estimated annual revenue of [\$1.6 million].

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve agreements between Washoe County and Alpine County, Carson City, Churchill County, Douglas County, Esmeralda County, Eureka County, Humboldt County, Lander County, Lassen County, Modoc County, Nye County, and Plumas County for forensic pathology services provided by the Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office for a period of up to five years effective retroactively on July 1, 2023 with an estimated annual revenue of [\$1.6 million]."