



Office of the County Executive Monroe County Legislature

June 9, 2025

To The Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614

OFFICIAL FILE COPY	
No.	250208
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County	
Committee Assignment	
HUMAN SERVICES	-L
WAYS & MEANS	

Subject: Amend the Schedule of Job Titles by Salary Group for the Department of Public Health, as described and contained in the 2025 Monroe County Budget; Authorize the Position of Deputy Medical Examiner; Amend and Increase the Contracts for the Provision of Forensic Pathology Services; Amend the Operating Budget of the Department of Public Health

Honorable Legislators:

We recommend that Your Honorable Body amend the schedule of job titles by salary group for the Department of Public Health, as described and contained in the 2025 Monroe County budget; authorize the position of Deputy Medical Examiner; amend and increase the contracts for the provision of forensic pathology services to the Office of the Medical Examiner; and amend the 2025 operating budget of the Department of Public Health.

In response to ongoing recruitment and retention challenges of Medical Examiner positions stemming from national competition for qualified staff and local compensation levels that have been below prevailing market rates for similarly situated forensic pathology positions, we are recommending an amendment to the schedule of job titles by salary group for the Department of Public Health as follows:

- Amend the Management and Professional salary schedule to include new pay group 43;
- Upgrade the position of Medical Examiner, from Group 33 to Group 43;
- Authorize the position of Deputy Medical Examiner, Group 32; and
- Upgrade three (3) positions of Associate Medical Examiner, from Group 29 to Group 30.

Making the Medical Examiner's office more competitive in recruitment and retention will facilitate the timely and efficient processing of the roughly 4,000 cases received annually. Improving caseloads and case processing times will allow the Medical Examiner's office to pursue national accreditation, which would further assist in recruitment and retention, and which would also enhance the office's operational standards and public trust.

To further increase efficiency and ensure the timely processing of cases, we also recommend that Your Honorable Body amend Resolution 294 of 2020, as amended by Resolution 418 of 2021, as amended by Resolution 228 of 2023, to authorize the use of the forensic pathologists listed in Attachment A "and any other qualified forensic pathologists," and to increase the contracts with the individuals listed in Attachment A, from a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$200,000 to a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$400,000 for the provision of forensic pathology services to the Monroe County Office of the Medical Examiner on an as needed basis, for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

The cost of these recommended actions is an allowable and responsible use of the County's opioid settlement trust fund. We recommend that the budget for the Department of Public Health, Office of the Medical Examiner be amended to utilize opioid settlement funds for these purposes.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Amend the schedule of job titles by salary group for the Department of Public Health to:
 - Amend the Management and Professional salary schedule to include new pay group 43;
 - Upgrade the position of Medical Examiner, from Group 33 to Group 43; Authorize the position of Deputy Medical Examiner, Group 32; and
 - Upgrade three (3) positions of Associate Medical Examiner, from Group 29 to Group 30.
2. Amend Resolution 294 of 2020, as amended by Resolution 418 of 2021, Resolution 97 of 2023, and Resolution 228 of 2023 to authorize the use of the forensic pathologists listed in Attachment A "and any other qualified forensic pathologists," and to increase the contracts with the individuals listed in Attachment A, from a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$200,000 to a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$400,000 for the provision of forensic pathology services to the Monroe County Office of the Medical Examiner on an as needed basis, for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
3. Amend the 2025 operating budget of the Department of Public Health to appropriate opioid settlement trust funds in the amount of \$380,000 into general fund 9001, funds center 5804010000, Forensic Pathology / Administration.

This action is a type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(26) ("routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment") and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Funding for these contracts and position changes will be available in the 2025 operating budget of the Department of Public Health, general fund 9001, funds center 5804010000, Forensic Pathology / Administration once the appropriation of opioid settlement trust funds is authorized. No additional net County support is required in the current Monroe County budget.

We recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Respectfully Submitted,



Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive



Yversha Román
Monroe County Legislature
President



Michael Yudelson
Majority Leader
District 13



Steve Brew
Republican Leader
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