



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 20-967, **Version:** 1

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** Sheriff

**Agenda Section:** Consent

**SUBJECT:**

Agreement for Autopsy Services with Neil Kushner, M.D.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the Personal Services Agreement between Neil Kushner, M.D. and the County of Humboldt (Attachment 1) to provide autopsy services for fiscal year (FY) 2020-21; and
2. Authorize the Chair of the Board to sign the agreement and all amendments, extensions or revisions for the term of the agreement.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

General Fund

**DISCUSSION:**

The Humboldt County Coroner's Office partners with providers to ensure that autopsies are performed as needed. Currently Dr. Kushner is the only local provider willing to provide general autopsies. The Coroner's office has two out-of-county providers to provide forensic autopsies. Dr. Kushner has worked reliably with the county for years.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

The compensation to Dr. Kushner for his services is \$700.00 per autopsy, \$200.00 per external exam and written report of findings, \$100.00 for chart reviews, \$50.00 per telephone consultation, and \$150.00 per hour for court testimony and preparation. Funding for these services was budgeted in the amount of \$90,000.00 through the Coroner's Office annual budget 1100-221400 and there will be no additional impact to the General Fund.

**STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:**

This action supports your Board's Strategic Framework by facilitating public/private partnerships to solve problems .

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board could choose not to approve this contract, but that is not advised as this is an established relationship and there are currently no other local providers that will do this work.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Personal Services Agreement with Neil Kushner, M.D.

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: 7/31/2018

File No.: 18-973