



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

June 10, 2014

The Honorable
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street – Fourth Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

RE: Medical Examiner's Office- Transfer of Funds

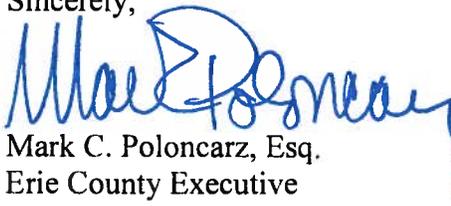
Honorable Members:

The attached resolution requests authorization to appropriate funds within the Health Department Division of the Public Health Lab. The additional funding is required in order to cover higher than budgeted expenses in account 516020 Professional Services Contracts and Fees. The increased cost resulted from the utilization of a contract physician to cover a shortage in staff due to the resignation of the former Chief Medical Examiner.

Funds are available through vacancy savings in account 500000, Full Time Salaries.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, please contact Dr. Gale Burstein in the Department of Health. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,



Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/bqs
Enclosure

cc: Gale R. Burstein, MD, MPH, FAAP

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Health
Re: Public Health Lab - Transfer of Funds
Date: June 10, 2014

SUMMARY

The attached resolution requests authorization to appropriate funds within the Health Department Division of the Medical Examiner. The additional funding is required in order to cover higher than budgeted expense in account 516020 Professional Services Contracts and Fees. The increased cost resulted from the utilization of a contract physician to preform autopsies and related work that would otherwise have been performed by the former Chief Medical Examiner. Funds are available through vacancy savings in the Full Time Salary line.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Vacancy savings from the unfilled Associate Chief Medical Examiner position will be utilized to fund the contract expense account.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

This transfer of funds must be made in order to cover unanticipated expenditures in the Medical Examiner's Division Account 516020 Professional Services Contracts and Fees for the balance 2014.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the departure of Dr. Diane Vertes, the Medical Examiner's Office has been short one Medical Examiner. In order to perform examinations in a timely fashion, the services of a fee-for-service pathologist have been solicited. This has led to a shortfall in the professional services account and a surplus in the full time salaries account due to the vacancy.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Failure to approve the above transfer will result in a \$58,000 shortfall in Account 516020 and an inability to complete autopsies in a timely fashion.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Health Department will take the appropriate steps necessary to transfer the funds into the proper accounts.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

RE: Medical Examiner's Office
- Transfer of Funds

WHEREAS, insufficient funds exist to pay for fee-for-service pathologist services;
and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health has analyzed its objects of expense and has determined that in that in Account 516020 Professional Services Contracts and Fees expenditures will exceed appropriations by \$58,000; and

WHEREAS, a transfer of funds must be made in order to fulfill our commitments to the provide timely pathological examinations of the deceased; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds are available in Account 500000 Full Time Staff to accommodate this request.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby approve the following transactions within the accounts of the Department of Health:

Health Department Medical Examiner's Office - Fund Center 12740

<u>Expense</u>	Increase/(Decrease)
Account 500000 Full Time Salaries	\$ (58,000)
Account 516020 Professional Services Contracts and Fees	<u>\$58,000</u>
Total Expense	\$ 0

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the County Executive, the Office of the Comptroller, the Division of Budget and Management, the Department of Law, and to the and to Dr. Gale R. Burstein, Commissioner in the Erie County Department of Health, 9th Floor, Rath Building.