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**ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

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April 9, 2025

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 9:16-a, I, authorize the New Hampshire Department of Justice to transfer funds in the amount of \$175,000, for the purpose of funding projected autopsy expenses through the end of Fiscal Year 2025, effective upon approvals of the Fiscal Committee of the General Court and Governor and Executive Council through June 30, 2025. No additional funds are requested for this item. 100% General Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted in account #02-20-20-202010-10330000, Department of Justice, Medical Examiner Operations, Chief Medical Examiner as follows:

Class & Object	Class Title	FY 2025 Current Adjusted Authorized	Requested Action	FY 2025 Revised Adjusted Authorized
Expenditures				
010-500100	PERSONAL SERVICES PERM CLASSIFIED	\$97,467	\$0	\$97,467
014-500134	PERSONAL SERVICES UNCLASSIFIED	\$124,116	\$0	\$124,116
015-500137	PERSONAL SERVICES UNCLASSIFIED	\$829,814	\$0	\$829,814
018-500106	OVERTIME	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
020-500200	CURRENT EXPENSES	\$21,350	\$0	\$21,350
022-500255	RENTS-LEASES OTHER THAN STATE	\$144,307	\$0	\$144,307
027-582703	TRANSFERS TO DOIT	\$56,280	\$0	\$56,280
030-500301	EQUIPMENT NEW REPLACEMENT	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000

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037-500174	TECHNOLOGY-HARDWARE	\$3,200	\$0	\$3,200
038-500175	TECHNOLOGY-SOFTWARE	\$47,422	\$0	\$47,422
039-500188	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$13,600	\$0	\$13,600
040-501587	INDIRECT COSTS	\$15,038	\$0	\$15,038
042-500620	ADDITIONAL FRINGE BENEFITS	\$13,315	\$0	\$13,315
050-500109	PART TME SALARIES	\$36,477	\$0	\$36,477
059-500117	PERSONAL SERVICES-FULL TIME TEMP	\$220,410	-\$175,000	\$45,410
060-500601	BENEFITS	\$499,674	\$0	\$499,674
070-500704	IN STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
080-500713	OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSE	\$6,910	\$0	\$6,910
089-501543	TRANSFER TO DAS MAINT. FUND	\$2,034	\$0	\$2,034
234-500783	AUTOPSY EXPENSE	\$980,264	\$175,000	\$1,155,264
	Total:	\$3,121,678	\$0	\$3,121,678
Revenue				
000-404884-16	FEDERAL FUNDS	\$237,978	\$0	\$237,978
009-407079-12	AGENCY INCOME	\$102,324	\$0	\$102,324
00D-488595-69	INTERAGENCY TRANSFER-FED FUNDS	\$64,407	\$0	\$64,407
00S-000010	GENERAL FUNDS	\$2,716,969	\$0	\$2,716,969
	Total:	\$3,121,678	\$0	\$3,121,678

EXPLANATION

Pursuant to RSA 611-B:1, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) is responsible for determining the cause and manner of sudden, unexpected or unnatural deaths falling under its jurisdiction. In August of 2024, the OCME welcomed a third pathologist which increased the number of internal autopsies performed. In addition, costs to transport bodies, from the scene of death to the morgue in Concord New Hampshire, have increased significantly. The transfer of \$175,000, from expenditure class 059, Full Time Temporary to Class 234, Autopsy expense, will allow the OCME to continue its statutory obligations for the State of New Hampshire.

Changes to budget lines are as follows:

A portion of funds in class 059, Full Time Temporary, were originally budgeted for a temporary fourth pathologist but adding one additional pathologist is sufficient at this time. Therefore, transferring funds to class 234, Autopsy Expense.

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The funds in class 234, Autopsy Expense, funds all autopsy related expenses which include, but are not limited to, morgue space, laboratory costs, and transportation of bodies to be autopsied from scene of death to the morgue.

The following information is provided in accordance with the Budget Officer's instructional memorandum dated April 17, 1985.

Justification:

- 1) Does the transfer involve continuing programs or one-time projects? *Continuing program.*
- 2) Is this transfer required to maintain existing program level, or will it increase the program level? *Maintain existing program level.*
- 3) Cite any requirements which make this program mandatory. *This program is mandatory pursuant to RSA 611-B:11.*
- 4) Identify the source of the funds on all accounts listed on this transfer. *100% General Funds*
- 5) Will there be any effect on revenue if this transfer is approved or disapproved? *No*
- 6) Are funds expected to lapse if this transfer is not approved? *Yes*
- 7) Are personnel services involved? *No*

Please let me know if you have any questions concerning this request. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Formella
Attorney General

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