



ED KELLEY
COUNTY CHAIR

May 14, 2018

DEBORAH DENYS
VICE CHAIR
DISTRICT 3

Via Email and U.S. Mail

JOYCE M. CUSACK
AT-LARGE

Seminole County Government

PAT PATTERSON
DISTRICT 1

Ms. Nicole Guillet, County Manager

BILLIE WHEELER
DISTRICT 2

1101 East 1st Street

HEATHER POST
DISTRICT 4

Sanford, FL 32771

DR. FRED LOWRY
DISTRICT 5

Re: New Medical Examiner Facility

JAMES T. DINNEEN
COUNTY MANAGER

Dear Ms. Guillet,

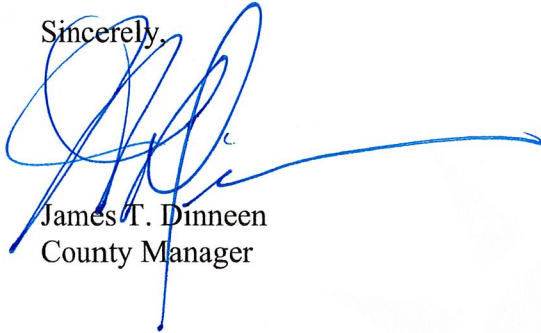
Over the last 4 years we have met with Seminole County staff and most recently on December 7, 2017, in reference to the need for a new Medical Examiner facility due to the increasing caseload for both Districts. A letter was sent to you on December 18, 2017, with a request to partner with us in funding the design and construction of a \$13.3 million (Funding split - Volusia 54% and Seminole 46%), 22,000 square foot facility that would meet the needs for both districts and a commitment to provide medical examiner services for Seminole County for the next 10 years. In addition, we requested the terms of the current compensation be increased from \$2,200 for each death certification to \$2,650 effective October 1, 2018, and the \$30 service fee from funeral homes be increased to \$50. You requested a 60 day extension which was granted; however, at the end of that extension, your office indicated that you were in negotiation with the District Five Medical Examiner's Office.

For FY 2018, we are projecting a 16% increase (62 cases) in caseload for Seminole and an 11% increase (92 cases) for Volusia for an overall increase of 13% or 154 cases for both districts. The current facility is over capacity with the number of decedents and the workspace for our staff is substantially less than adequate to the point that we can no longer delay providing a remedy to the situation. The citizens of both districts deserve more for their loved ones as well as the staff that provide

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these services. We are therefore advising you that effective October 1, 2018, Volusia County will no longer provide medical examiner services to Seminole County (District 24). Over the next several months, my staff is available to work with you to assist in transitioning you to another medical examiner provider.

Sincerely,



James T. Dinneen
County Manager

JTD/pb/mdk

cc: Members of the Volusia County Council
George Recktenwald, Deputy County Manager
Donna de Peyster, Deputy County Manager
Daniel D. Eckert, County Attorney
Michael Moore, Assistant County Attorney
Terry Sanders, Public Protection Department Director
Pat Bythwood, Public Protection Deputy Director
Mark Swanson, Public Protection Deputy Director
Dr. Sara Zydowicz, Medical Examiner
Olivette Carter, Seminole County Community Services Director
Tammy Bong, Budget and Administrative Services Director