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**Sponsor:** Safety and Justice and County Manager's Office

**Meeting Date:** 11/23/2021

**Title:** Reappointment of the Ramsey County Medical Examiner and  
Amendment to Agreement for Forensic Services

**File Number:** 2021-641

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**Background and Rationale:**

The agreement and appointment of Kelly Mills, M. D. as Ramsey County Medical Examiner will expire on December 31, 2021. The County Manager is requesting the board to approve the amendment and to reappoint Dr. Mills as the County Medical Examiner for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. The amendment includes a rate increase of 2.5 percent per the terms of the agreement and all remaining terms of the agreement will remain in effect.

Minnesota State Statute 390.005 requires Ramsey County to maintain and operate a public morgue and the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners to appoint a qualified Medical Examiner for a term not longer than four years. The Medical Examiner serves as the appointed public official with administrative control of a mandated system of death investigation. Dr. Kelly M. Mills, M.D. satisfies the qualifications, certifications and licensing requirements to serve as a Medical Examiner for Ramsey County.

River Valley Forensic Services, PA. is an incorporated professional association of Dr. Kelly Mills and three forensic pathologists, who all maintain the required qualifications for Medical Examiner services. Dr. Mills will be responsible for investigations, autopsies, toxicological and laboratory analysis for Ramsey County. Dr. Mills is also responsible for the work of non-medical personnel employed by the county and assigned to the Medical Examiner's Office.

**Recommendation:**

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Reappoint Kelly Mills, M.D. as the Medical Examiner of Ramsey County from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.
2. Approve the amendment with Kelly Mills, 3486 Crosslough Trail, Rosemount, MN, 55068, DBA River Valley Forensic Services, PA, for a one-year period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, with up to two annual renewals by Ramsey County Board-approved amendment, in an amount of \$827,067 per year.
3. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the amendment.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Ortega, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

By:   
Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board