

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2023-234

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President at the request of the Mayor

Date of Introduction: April 11, 2023

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, F

Date of Analysis: April 13, 2023

Type of Action: Authorization to execute medical examiner service agreement

Bill Summary: The bill authorizes a Cooperative Agreement between the City of Jacksonville and Columbia County for Medical Examiner services and reimbursement. The Medical Examiner will review the fees annually no later than June of each year and if fees do not cover the services rendered then Columbia County will be provided with a ninety (90) day notice of any increase in fees. The Medical Examiner's Office will provide oversight of the contract/agreement.

Background Information: The purpose of this legislation is to address the reimbursement of Medical Examiner's fees for autopsy services performed for Columbia County. The District IV Medical Examiner has been appointed by the Florida Governor to serve the three-county area of Nassau, Clay, and Duval Counties and serves adjacent counties that have requested to use District IV's services on a contractual basis. Jacksonville has allocated the annual salary for the Medical Examiner's Office and Columbia County will reimburse the City for the value of the District IV Medical Examiner's autopsy services it receives. The reimbursement reflects the fees as defined by Ordinance 2017-0370-E and will be in effect for five years from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2028.

Policy Impact Area: District IV Medical Examiner services and reimbursement

Fiscal Impact: The City will be reimbursed for the cost of services provided pursuant to a fee schedule, estimated at a total of approximately \$300,000.

Analyst: Clements