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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: March 18, 2015

To: Dr. Gregory Hess  
Chief Medical Examiner

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator 

Re: **Forensic Science and/or Medical Examiner Fees**

It has been approximately two years since we have made any fee adjustments for your office's services to other counties, including fees paid for autopsies within Pima County.

Given the severe County budget impacts anticipated as a result of significant State cost shifts to the County, I have asked all departments to submit a two-percent decrement budget adjustment for Fiscal Year 2015/16. This simply means reducing expenses and/or General Fund reliance by two percent.

In the case of your office, I understand it would be difficult to reduce expenses, since most of your costs are embedded in personnel. However, I would suggest that you have an alternative, which is to raise general autopsy fees by four percent. This would be more than equivalent to a two-percent decrement budget adjustment.

I would appreciate your review and consideration of such a fee increase.

CHH/mjk

c: Tom Burke, Director, Finance and Risk Management  
Robert Johnson, Budget Manager, Finance and Risk Management  
Michael Racy, Racy Associates, Inc.