

State of Texas
County of Webb

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Professional Services Contract
Locum Tenens

This contract is made and entered into by and between COUNTY OF WEBB (COUNTY), a political subdivision of the State of Texas, acting by and through its Commissioners Court and Dr. Siegfried Pueblitz, M.D. ("CONTRACTOR") a licensed Medical Doctor.

The Purpose of this Contract is to provide the professional services of a Deputy Medical Examiner for Webb County.

Now therefore it is mutually agreed between Webb County and Dr. Siegfried Pueblitz, M.D. as follows:

1. **Scope of Service.** CONTRACTOR shall provide the COUNTY with the specialized services of a Deputy Medical Examiner as found in Exhibit A.
2. **Performance.** For the performance of the work by CONTRACTOR, the COUNTY agrees to pay CONTRACTOR for all services listed in Exhibit A and as stated in this contract CONTRACTOR shall:
 - a. Maintain a Work Schedule that coincides with the normal business hours of the WEBB COUNTY Medical Examiner's Office.
 - b. Sign all reports and autopsy's produced by CONTRACTOR
3. **Term.** The term of this contract shall be effective **November 06, 2022** through **November 14, 2022**. The work is to be performed for the Webb County Medical Examiner's Office as specified in this contract.
4. **Compensation.** Compensation to the CONTRACTOR will be on a daily basis at the satisfactory completion of the services. The contract work shall be a fixed daily price of **\$ 2,000 per day calculated as (\$250 dollars per hour at 8 hours per day), and the county will not reimburse lodging and meals.** As such CONTRACTOR will have the sole discretion to set a schedule to meet productivity goals while not exceeding the amount in this paragraph.
5. **Billing/Invoicing.** At the end of this contract, work performed will be outlined in an invoice stating the performance being billed and a general description of work performed.
6. **Termination.** The County may terminate the performance of this contract in whole or in part with a ten (10) day advance written notice to CONTRACTOR. The effective date is 10 days after notice is sent. COUNTY agrees to pay CONTRACTOR for all services approved by the last date of services that were completed prior to the effective date of such notice. CONTRACTOR may terminate this contract with 10 days written notice to the COUNTY. Notice is effective when delivered by hand, us mail return receipt requested or an email that is designated below. A courtesy copy shall be sent to the Webb County Civil Legal Division:

<p>Webb County Attention: Webb County Judge 1110 Houston 3rd Fl Laredo, Texas 78040</p> <p>Webb County Civil Legal Division Attention: Locum Tenens Contract 1000 Houston St. 2nd Fl Laredo, Texas 78040</p>	<p>Dr. Siegfried Pueblitz, M.D. Mid-Valley Pathology 900 Bryan Rd. Mission, TX 78572 956-323-1317 office; 956-645-5624 cell spueblitz@hotmail.com</p>
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7. **Indemnification.** CONTRACTOR agrees that the indemnity provided for in this paragraph shall not apply to any liability resulting from the sole negligence of COUNTY, its officers, agents, employees or separate contractors, and in the event of joint and concurrent negligence of both the CONTRACTOR and COUNTY, responsibility, if any, shall be apportioned comparatively in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, without waiving any governmental immunity available to the COUNTY under Texas law and without waiving any defenses of the parties under Texas law. The provisions of this paragraph are solely for the benefit of the parties hereto and are not intended to create or grant any rights, contractual or otherwise, to any other person or entity.

8. **Jurisdiction/Venue.** This contract is made subject to the charter, orders and/or ordinances of the COUNTY, as amended, and all applicable laws of the State of Texas. This contract is performable in Webb County, Texas, and venue for any legal action under this contract shall lie exclusively in Webb County, Texas; State District Court. In construing this contract, the laws and court decisions of the State of Texas shall control.

9. **Work Product Waiver.** All of CONTRACTOR's work product shall remain the property of the COUNTY, however, CONTRACTOR shall be permitted to retain copies of documented services provided to the Webb County Medical Examiner's Office. By execution of this contract and in consideration of the fee for services to be paid under the contract, CONTRACTOR hereby conveys, transfers and assigns to COUNTY all rights to work performed. CONTRACTOR shall retain all records relating to this contract for three (3) years following termination, during which time COUNTY reserves the right to audit such records at its election.

10. **Independent Contractor.** In performing services under this contract, the relationship between County and CONTRACTOR is that of an independent contractor. CONTRACTOR shall exercise independent judgment in performing duties under this contract and is solely responsible for setting working hours, scheduling or prioritizing the work flow and determining how the work is to be prepared. No term or provision of this contract shall be construed as making CONTRACTOR the agent, servant or employee of COUNTY, or making CONTRACTOR or any of its employees eligible for the fringe benefits, such as retirement, insurance and worker's compensation, which COUNTY provides its employees.

11. **Prohibition against Assignment.** There shall be no assignment or transfer of this Contract without the prior written consent of both parties hereto.
12. **Waiver.** The failure on the part of any party to exercise or to delay in exercising, and no course of dealing with respect to any right hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof; nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right hereunder preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right. The remedies provided herein are cumulative and not exclusive of any remedies provided by law or in equity, except as expressly set forth herein.
13. **Severability.** Each paragraph and provision hereof is severable from the entire Contract and if any provision is declared invalid, the remaining provisions shall nevertheless remain in effect.
14. **Headings.** The headings used herein are for convenience of reference only and shall not constitute a part hereof or affect the construction or interpretation hereof.
15. **Terminology and Definitions.** All personal pronouns used herein, whether used in the masculine, feminine, or neutral, shall include all other genders; the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular.
16. **Rule of Construction.** The parties hereto acknowledge that each party and its legal counsel have reviewed and revised this contract, and the parties hereby agree that the normal rule of construction to the effect that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not be employed in the interpretation of this contract or any amendments or exhibits hereto.
17. **Immunity.** Webb County does not waive or relinquish any immunity or defense on behalf of themselves, their trustees, commissioners, council members, officers, employees and agents as a result of the execution of this Contract and performance of the functions and obligations described herein.
18. **Legal Compliance.** The parties hereto agree to comply fully with all applicable federal, state and local statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations in connection with the services contemplated under this contract. In the event that any of the parties hereto are required by law or regulation to perform any act inconsistent with this contract, or to cease performing any act required by this contract, this contract shall be deemed to have been modified to conform to the requirements of such law, regulation or rule.
19. **Entire Agreement.** This Contract incorporates all the agreements, covenants, and understandings between the parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof, and all such covenants, agreements, and understandings have been merged into this written Contract. No other prior agreement or understandings, verbal or otherwise, of the parties or their agents shall be valid or enforceable unless signed by both parties and attached hereto and/or embodied herein.

20. **Amendment.** No changes to this Contract shall be made except upon written agreement of both parties.
21. **Confidentiality.** Any confidential information provided to or developed by Contractor in the performance of this Contract shall be kept confidential, unless otherwise provided by law, and shall not be made available to any individual or organization without the prior written approval of the County. This contract is subject to the Texas Public Information Act in accordance with Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.
22. **Counterparts.** This Contract may be executed in any number of and by the different parties hereto on separate counterparts, each of which when so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same document.
23. **Terminology and Definitions.** All personal pronouns used herein, whether used in the masculine, feminine, or neutral, shall include all other genders; the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular.
24. **Insurance.** Commercial General Liability insurance at minimum combined single limits of \$1,000,000 per-occurrence and \$2,000,000 general aggregate for bodily injury and property damage, which coverage shall include products/completed operations (\$1,000,000 products/completed operations aggregate), and XCU (Explosion, Collapse, Underground) hazards. Coverage must be written on an occurrence form. Contractual Liability must be maintained covering the Contractors obligations contained in the contract.
 - a. Commercial Automobile Liability insurance at minimum combined single limits of 1,000,000 per-occurrence for bodily injury and property damage, including owned, non-owned, and hired car coverage.
 - b. Errors & Omissions coverage may not be required for all services. If The Webb County deems such coverage necessary, the following conditions will apply:
 - i. Professional Liability with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 or higher, depending on the type, size, and scope of services.
 - ii. This coverage must be maintained for at least two (2) years after the project is completed. If coverage is written on a claims-made basis, a policy retroactive date equivalent to the inception date of the contract (or earlier) must be maintained during the full term the contract.

PLEASE NOTE: The required limits may be satisfied by any combination of primary, excess, or umbrella liability insurances, provided the primary policy complies with the above requirements

and the excess umbrella is following-form. The Contractor may maintain reasonable and customary deductibles, subject to approval by the Webb County.

- a. Any Subcontractor(s) hired by the Contractor shall maintain insurance coverage equal to that required of the Contractor. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to assure compliance with this provision. The Webb County accepts no responsibility arising from the conduct, or lack of conduct, of the Subcontractor.
- b. A Comprehensive General Liability insurance form may be used in lieu of a Commercial General Liability insurance form. In this event, coverage must be written on an occurrence basis, at limits of \$1,000,000 each-occurrence, combined single limit, and coverage must include a broad form Comprehensive General Liability Endorsement, products/completed operations, XCU hazards, and contractual liability.

All insurance must be written on forms filed with and approved by the Texas Department of Insurance. Certificates of Insurance shall be prepared and executed by the insurance company or its authorized agent and shall contain provisions representing and warranting the following:

- a. Sets forth all endorsements and insurance coverages according to requirements and instructions contained herein.
- b. Shall specifically set forth the notice-of-cancellation or termination provisions to the Webb County.

25. **Disclosure.** CONTRACTOR is required to immediately or timely, as the case may be, disclose to Webb County and Appropriate Texas State Agency the following:

- a. If any Person who is an employee or director of CONTRACTOR is required to register as a lobbyist under Texas Government Code Chapter 305, at any time during the term hereof, CONTRACTOR shall provide Webb County and the appropriate State Agency timely copies of all reports filed with the Texas Ethics Commission as required by Chapter 305;
- b. If any Person who is an employee, subcontractor, or director of CONTRACTOR is or becomes an elected official (i.e., an elected or appointed state official or member of the judiciary, or a United States congressman or senator), during the term hereof;
- c. Report any actions or citations by federal, state, or local governmental agencies that may affect CONTRACTOR licensure status or its ability to provide Services hereunder.

WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

By: [Signature]
TANO TIJERINA
WEBB COUNTY JUDGE

[Signature]
Dr. Siegfried Pueblitz M.D.
M.D.
Professional Service Provider



ATTESTED:
[Signature]
MARGIE RAMIREZ IBARRA
WEBB COUNTY CLERK
DATE _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
Jorge L. Trevino, Jr.
WEBB COUNTY ASSISTANT CIVIL
DIVISION ATTORNEY*

***By law, the Webb County Civil Division Office may only advise or approve contracts or legal documents on behalf of its clients. It may not advise or approve a contract or legal document on behalf of other parties. Our review of this document was conducted solely from the legal perspective of our client. Our approval of this document was offered solely for the benefit of our client. Other parties should not rely on this approval, and should seek review and approval of their own respective attorney(s).**

Exhibit A



CERTIFIED
FEBRUARY 06 2020
By Webb County
Civil Service Commission

Deputy Medical Examiner Medical Examiner

JOB SUMMARY

This position is responsible for the investigation or supervision of investigation for all types of deaths. Performs medicolegal investigations, autopsies and examinations and orders analytical testing to determine accurate cause and manner of death including investigation within the jurisdiction of the Webb County Medical Examiner in accordance with Articles 49.0 and 49.25, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Texas Family Code and the Texas Health and Safety Codes, including those cases contracted with other counties outside of Webb.

MAJOR DUTIES

- Conducts post-mortem examinations to determine cause and manner of death.
- Orders appropriate analytical testing.
- Collects specimens and evidentiary materials and requests testing.
- Dictates findings upon completion of post-mortem examinations.
- Prepares written opinion reports regarding case findings, including the interpretation, findings.
- Signs official death certificate.
- Promptly reviews and signs Medical Examiner reports.
- Responds to scenes when necessary or requested.
- Assists in the recovery of decedents.
- Provides family conferences in person and by telephone to family members of the deceased to increase level of understanding of causes of death, manner of death, physiologic and psychological mechanisms involved.
- Responsible for assisting with the review of all medical investigator reports to assure accuracy.
- Provides expert forensic pathology witness testimony in Local and State court proceedings to include testimony in out-of-county autopsy cases.
- Confers with attorneys, law enforcement, physicians, family members and general public, as required.
- Performs any other duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED BY THE POSITION

- Medicolegal investigation of death techniques.
- Modern forensic pathology methods and techniques.
- Standard autopsy room protocols.
- Rules and collection of evidence.

- Federal, State, Local and County applicable laws, rules, regulations and guidelines.
- Budgeting development, process and maintenance.
- Policies, practices, procedures and terminology of assigned function.
- Principle and procedures of record keeping.
- Business English, spelling and arithmetic.
- Skill in: Using and caring of autopsy room equipment, photography equipment and microscope.
- Holding inquests, and documenting results of application of forensic pathology, toxicology, histology, and other medical-legal procedures.
- Explaining complicated technical problems in simple non-technical language.
- Problem-solving and decision-making.
- Dealing effectively and professionally with distraught, upset, or potentially volatile family members or situations.
- Interpret, follow and enforce written rules, policies, procedures, codes, ordinances and regulations. Work independently.
- Deal with death-related environment daily and unpleasant odors associated with autopsies.

SUPERVISORY CONTROLS

Serves as Inquest Authority under direction of Chief Medical Examiner.

GUIDELINES

- Guidelines include rules and collection of evidence and compliance with Federal, State, Local and County applicable laws, rules, regulations and guidelines.
- The work consists of varied administrative, supervisory, and management duties. The variety of duties contributes to the complexity of the position.

CONTACTS

- Contacts are investigators, law enforcement, physicians, family members, attorneys and general public.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS/ WORK ENVIRONMENT

- Physical requirements include the ability to lift/carry up to 75-100 pounds and maneuvering cadavers unassisted in excess of 200 pounds.
- Requires visual acuity, speech and hearing, hand and eye coordination, and manual dexterity necessary to operate laboratory equipment and basic office equipment and computer.
- Subject to standing, walking, sitting, repetitive motion, reaching, climbing stairs, bending, stooping, kneeling, crouching, crawling, pushing, pulling, balancing, client/customer contact, squatting to perform the essential functions.
- At times requires driving and exposure to outdoor conditions.
- Subject to various biological/infectious, chemical, mechanical, electrical, explosive and radiation hazards in indoors/outdoors work, and exposure to fumes, noxious odors and toxic wastes.

SUPERVISORY AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Plan, direct, and coordinate the work activities of managerial and support staff.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

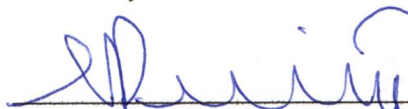
- Graduation from an accredited college of medicine and a postgraduate training program in anatomic pathology and one (1) year of training in forensic pathology at an approved ACGME program.
- Licensed to practice as a medical doctor in the State of Texas issued by the Texas Medical Board. Certified in anatomic or anatomic/clinic pathology by the American Board of Pathology. Board Eligible or Certified in forensic pathology.

OTHER REQUIREMENT/INFORMATION

- Must possess a valid and current driver's license.
- Drug and Alcohol Policy applies to this job. Pre-employment drug/alcohol testing, Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) and criminal background checks are required.
- This position *is not covered* under Civil Service; however, all other Webb County policies apply.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The undersigned have read, discussed and understand the full meaning of this job description and agree to abide by all terms and conditions herein expressed or implied.


Employee's Signature Siegfried Pueblitz, M.D. 09/30/22
Print Name Date

Supervisor's Signature Print Name Date