



# Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

**12A**  
Agenda Item #

**Requested Meeting Date:** 04/13/2021

**Title of Item:** Autopsy Services

<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA	<b>Action Requested:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested	
<input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA		<input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY		<input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*

<b>Submitted by:</b> Sheriff Dan Guida	<b>Department:</b> Sheriff's Office
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<b>Presenter (Name and Title):</b> Sheriff Dan Guida	<b>Estimated Time Needed:</b> 5 minutes
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**Summary of Issue:**

2020 review of River Valley Forensic Services performed for Aitkin County.

**Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:**

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

**Financial Impact:**

Is there a cost associated with this request?  Yes  No

What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$

Is this budgeted?  Yes  No *Please Explain:*

February 8, 2021

Sheriff Dan Guida  
218 1<sup>st</sup> St NW  
Aitkin, MN 56431

Re: Medical Examiner statistics for 2020.

Dear Sheriff Guida,

This letter will provide a summary of the medical examiner statistics for 2020.

A total of 72 deaths were reported. Of this number, 36 were accepted as medical examiner cases with the remaining 36 released with the private physician responsible for signing the death certificate. Examinations performed on the accepted medical examiner cases were as follows:

Complete autopsy with toxicology-21  
External examination with toxicology-4  
Death certificate signed without examination-11  
Total cases accepted-36

A breakdown of all reported cases by manner included:

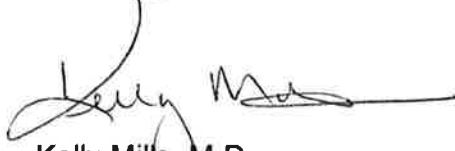
Natural -52  
Accident-16  
Suicide-4  
Homicide-0  
Undetermined-0  
Pending-0

As of 2/8/2021, there were a total of 191 cremation approvals and 51 terminal registrations from the County.

Aitkin County had a slight increase in the number of cases signed by the medical examiner with a specific increase in the number of accidents including motor vehicles and overdoses increased in numbers as compared to 2019.

If you should have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Mills", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kelly Mills, M.D.  
Medical Examiner