JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST

TO:

Board of Commissioners

Mark McCauley, County Administrator

FROM:

James Kennedy, Prosecuting Attorney

DATE:

October 7, 2024

RE:

Upcoming Changes to Coroner Position Required by Recent Legislation

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

The Legislature has revised the statute addressing county coroners. The BoCC and the Prosecuting Attorney decided to implement the revised statute by keeping the Prosecuting Attorney as the Coroner. However, recently, the Washington Attorney General's Office wrote an opinion saying it was illegal for lawyers to be coroners under the new legislation.

ANALYSIS:

The PAO believes the county should comply with the AGO opinion. The Prosecuting Attorney would like to have a workshop with the BoCC to discuss options.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

Conduct the workshop.

DEPARTMENT CONTACT:

James Kennedy, Prosecuting Attorney.

REVIEWED BY:

Mark McCauley, County Administrator

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