

Item Title: Approve Memorandum of Understanding Regarding the Bureau of Forensic Services and Human Resources Administration

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners approves the Memorandum of Understanding between Wake County, the Wake County Bureau of Forensic Services, and the District Attorney of the Tenth Judicial District, County of Wake.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners approves Memoranda of Understanding with other governmental entities. In this case, the MOU includes the District Attorney.

Background: During the 2024 Legislative session, the Board of Commissioners authorized staff to pursue a local bill to modify State legislation related to the City-County Bureau of Identification (CCBI). Those efforts were successful with the passage of SL2024-20 in late June. The bill took effect July 1, 2024.

Effective December 1, 2024, CCBI will be re-titled as the Bureau of Forensic Services (BFS).

Passage of the session law necessitates the updating of various agreements, including a 1986 MOU for personnel administration at the Bureau. County staff have worked with stakeholders to draft a new MOU, which has been approved by the County Manager and District Attorney. Staff recommend the Board approve the MOU.

Strategic Plan: This action supports routine County operations.

Fiscal Impact: This action has no financial impact.

Additional Information:

Since 1986, there has been a MOU between the County, City of Raleigh, and District Attorney laying out certain responsibilities related to the Bureau. County staff have worked with stakeholders to craft a new MOU that aligns with the new legislation and current practices.

The new MOU stipulates:

- Wake County Human Resources will continue to perform most personnel administration for BFS,
- BFS will continue to follow County policy for HR administration related to payroll, leave, discipline, general employment and most other personnel matters,
- Disciplinary appeals to a BFS Director decision related to conduct or job performance affecting an employee's credibility as a witness will be appealed

directly to the District Attorney. The DA will make a recommendation to the County Manager, whose decision will be final.

Attachments:

1. Memorandum of Understanding
2. Session Law 2024-20