



Dr. Howard I. Cooper

Lake County Coroner

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Mortui Vivus Docent

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Dear Matt and RuthAnne,

Covid-19 has certainly affected our office greatly. Unfortunately, we have set record death numbers for 5 of the last 6 months. May was the largest increase with almost 60% more cases. That being said, there are items that we need to purchase to make working in a Covid environment safe for all our employees.

The CDC has recommended that autopsies are not to be performed on Covid positive decedents, unless absolutely necessary. We know that the virus stays viable after death and we certainly want to limit the exposure to our deputies, our autopsy tech, and our pathologists. This is especially true when we cut open the head and the virus is aerosolized.

We are requesting an emergency procurement of the Lodox exero-dr, for the health and safety of my employees. This is a very specialized forensic machine and there are no other specific options available.

This machine will give us images that our pathologists can use for evaluation, without the Covid exposure. As an example, we have had multiple car crash victims, that were Covid positive, where this machine would have been a perfect alternative to an autopsy.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at anytime.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Dr. Howard I. Cooper