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June 13, 2025

Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida
Marion • Lake • Hernando • Citrus • Sumter

Mounir Bouyounes
County Administrator
Marion County Administration
601 SE 25th Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

Re: Medical Examiner Services

Dear Mr. Bouyounes,

Thank you for your letter dated June 9, 2025. I appreciate the opportunity to offer my perspective on this important matter, as the services provided by the Medical Examiner's Office directly support the work of the Public Defender's Office in the Fifth Judicial Circuit. A professional, consistent, and centrally located medical examiner is essential to ensuring that justice is served for all parties.

I fully support the points outlined in State Attorney Bill Gladson's June 10 letter and agree with his assessment of Dr. Barbara Wolf's leadership and the vital role her office plays. Like Mr. Gladson, I have full confidence in Dr. Wolf's ability to continue delivering excellent service, even with the proposed reassignment to District 24. My support is based on her proven professionalism and commitment to the circuit.

Moreover, I believe the selected location at the intersection of U.S. 301 and CR 42 is ideally situated. It offers a geographically central position for the five counties we serve and ensures equitable access for all stakeholders involved in the judicial process.

Should you need any additional input from my office, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Graves
Public Defender, Fifth Circuit