



**Office of the
Dane County Medical Examiner**

Vincent Tranchida, MD
Chief Medical Examiner



Date: February 12, 2020

To: Personnel and Finance Committee

From: Dr. Vincent Tranchida
Dane County Medical Examiner

Subject: Granting an Exception to Dane County Ordinance 20.16 Prohibiting Travel to States that discriminate.

Dane County Ordinance (DCO) 20.16 prohibits travel to states that have enacted a law that has the effect of voiding protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Dane County Ordinance 20.16(3)(c) and 20.21 provide the Personnel and Finance Committee to grant exceptions to this prohibition.

This memo requests the Personnel and Finance Committee grant an exception to DCO 20.16 to allow the Dane County Medical Examiner staff to attend a specialized Human Remains Detection (HRD) K9 Water training event in Wall Doxy, Mississippi.

The Medical Examiner's Office has a cadaver dog and previously received permission from the County Board in order to travel to Indiana (another previously prohibited state) in order to take ownership of the dog and attend a handler's training. This requested exemption would allow Barry Irmen, Director of Operations, to attend this K9 training for this cadaver dog.

This specialized training is not offered often and the instructors for this specific training are well respected in the field of HRD K9 water training. As is the case with many similar resources the caliber of instructors in a certain discipline can be very important to overall success. This training is being provided by the National Network of Canine Detection Services a non-profit organization in Mississippi. This training is very appropriate as Dane County has over 26,000 acres of recreational water. The cadaver dog is an important part of the Medical Examiner's Office in its efforts to locate human remains from water environments, shorelines, or clandestine sites of disposal.

The training would take place on March 29, 2020 through April 3, 2020.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please let me know if you have any questions.