

RESOLUTION NO. 26-____ It was moved by Commissioner ____ and duly seconded by Commissioner ____ to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Dr. Kelly Lear, Arapahoe County Coroner, has tendered her resignation effective as of July 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 of Article XIV of the Colorado Constitution and Section 30-11-117 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, the Board of County Commissioner must appoint a person to fill the vacancy of office; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to appoint Dr. Casey Bitting to fill the vacancy in the Office of the Coroner until after the next general election; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Casey Bitting is a medical doctor and is a certified forensic pathologist and will be performing post-mortem examinations of the bodies of deceased persons; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledges that pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-2-102 the salary of the Arapahoe County Coroner is set at \$131,701.00, and that pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-2-108 a board of county commissioners may provide additional salary to a county coroner who performs post-mortem examinations, which additional compensation is to be paid from the county treasury; and

WHEREAS, the salary of the coroner, as county elected official, cannot be increased or decreased during the term of office to which she has been appointed or elected, and said salary must be established prior to the appointment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners acknowledges that as Coroner, Dr. Casey Bitting may perform additional examinations in addition to her constitutional and statutory duties to Arapahoe County, and are desirous to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding regarding these additional examinations and work and the use of County facilities and equipment to that end.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Arapahoe County that pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 of Article XIV of the Colorado Constitution and Section 30-11-117 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, hereby appoint Dr. Casey Bitting as Arapahoe County Coroner, in and for the County of Arapahoe, State of Colorado, for the remainder of the term expiring on the 12th day of January, 2027, to fill a vacancy in the office of the Arapahoe County Coroner created by the resignation of Dr. Kelly Lear, such appointment to be effective as of 12:01 a.m. on July 2, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Arapahoe County that the salary of Dr. Casey Bitting, Arapahoe County Coroner, for her appointment beginning July 2, 2026 and ending January 12, 2027 shall be \$355,000.00 per year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Arapahoe County to authorize the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners to sign a Memorandum of Understanding, by and between the Board of County Commissioners of Arapahoe County, and Dr. Casey Bitting, Arapahoe County Coroner in a form as approved by the County Attorney.

The vote was: Commissioner Baker, __; Commissioner Campbell, __; Commissioner Fields, __; Commissioner Summey, __; Commissioner Warren-Gully, __.

The Chair declared the motion carried and so ordered.